



DALLAS FIRE-RESCUE

•• NEWS RELEASE ••

RELEASED: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 @ 10:15
CONTACT: Jason L. Evans (214) 670-7949 or (469) 323-5881
jason.evans@dallascityhall.com

INCIDENT DATE:	December 13, 2011	INCIDENT TIME:	05:29
INCIDENT LOCATION:	5308 Miller Avenue	OCCUPANCY TYPE:	1-Story Wood-Framed Residential
STRUCTURAL LOSS:	Undetermined	CONTENT LOSS:	Undetermined
TOTAL FIREFIGHTERS:	24	CIVILIAN INJURIES:	1
FIREFIGHTER INJURIES:	0	CIVILIAN FATALITIES:	0
TL HEAVY APPARATUS:	5	TL RESCUE AMBULANCES:	2
ALARMS:	1 st Alarm: 05:29; Out Taps: 06:33		
INCIDENT CAUSE:	Unspecified Electrical Short in the Fixed Wiring		
INCIDENT DESCRIPTION:	<p>At 05:29 Dallas Fire-Rescue responded to a 911 call for a structure fire at 5308 Miller Avenue near Downtown Dallas.</p> <p>When the first responding companies arrived on the scene they reported out with fire coming from the roof of a 1-story home. With all of the occupants of the home already having exited, and the fire quickly escalating beyond control, firefighting efforts quickly moved from an offensive to a defensive attack as heavy fire exposure in the attic caused the majority of the home's roof to collapse. It took roughly an hour before firefighters tapped the fire out.</p> <p>There were five adults in the home at the time the fire started, all of which got out safely. However, there was one, an 85 year-old female, who was taken in stable condition to Baylor Hospital for minor smoke inhalation.</p> <p>Investigators determined that the fire started in the attic, near the rear of the home, due to an unspecified electrical short. Thankfully, the home was equipped with working smoke detectors that warned all the occupants to evacuate. Had it not been for them, there could have been a dramatically different outcome.</p> <p>It is important to note that we are in the middle of the time of year in which we experience the majority of fire deaths. In fact, between the months of November and February is when 56% of fire deaths occur nationally; most of which are the result of a fire started by some sort of electrical malfunction. In addition, 50% of all fire deaths occur in dwellings with faulty smoke detectors or no smoke detectors at all.</p> <p>Dallas Fire-Rescue encourages people to periodically test their smoke detectors to make sure that they are working properly. The easiest way to remember when to change the batteries in your smoke detectors is to change them when you roll your clocks forward and backward in the Spring and Fall seasons. However, if your detectors are susceptible to being activated more than average, you may consider changing them more frequently.</p> <p>If you own a home within the Dallas city limits, and it needs a smoke detector, you can call 311 and request one and DFR will come out and install it free of charge. If you have questions about smoke detectors, you can visit our website at www.dallasfirerescue.com.</p>		