



COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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News Release

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House Fire and Explosion

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – At 10:40 p.m. Friday the 25th The Countryside Fire Protection District (CFPD) received a report of a house on fire on Trenton Court in Long Grove in the Royal Mebourne Subdivision. Approximately a minute and a half after the initial call, the dispatch center received numerous reports of an explosion in the area. A second alarm was requested immediately for additional resources from neighboring fire departments to respond. Shortly before the fire and explosion; North Shore Gas was already in the area investigating a report of an odor of natural gas. When fire crews arrived at 10:51 they found the house at 4771 Trenton Ct. leveled by an explosion and on fire. Approximately 50 other houses within a quarter mile radius sustained moderate to severe damage. Some of the homes closest to the explosion were severely damaged, and two people sustained minor injuries and were evaluated and released at the scene. The fire was under control within an hour. CFPD is investigating the cause of the fire and explosion with assistance from the State Fire Marshal's office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) and North Shore Gas Company. Due to the limited capabilities of the domestic water supply, nearly 90,000 gallons of water was hauled to the scene by several fire department tankers.



CFPD was assisted at the scene by 80 firefighters from the Mundelein, Libertyville, Lincolnshire, Wauconda, Lake Zurich, Long Grove, Gurnee, Knollwood, Lake Bluff, Barrington Countryside, Grayslake, Round Lake, Fox Lake, Lake Villa, Buffalo Grove, Lake Forest, North Chicago, Arlington Heights, Waukegan, and Newport Fire Departments. Lake County Sheriff, MESS Canteen and the South Lake County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) also provided support at the scene.

911 dispatch centers all over the northern suburbs were quickly inundated with calls to report the explosion, which rattled homes as far as 20 miles from the incident.

Local building officials are evaluating the damage to the structures. Several area board up companies are on the scene covering damaged doors and windows with plywood and roofs with tarps.

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