



SALEM FIRE-EMS NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – June 26, 2013

LIGHTNING CAUSES STRUCTURE FIRE AT 504 CRAIG AVE.

The Salem Fire & EMS Department responded to a structure fire at 504 Craig Ave. this afternoon, at approximately 3:10 p.m. There were two residents at home at the time of the fire, but both were able to escape without injury.

The first units arrived within five minutes of receiving the call and found heavy smoke coming from the building. Crews were able to contain the fire to the basement within 10 minutes of their arrival, but the house did sustain fire and smoke damage.

Approximately 18 personnel from the Salem Fire & EMS Department and Salem Rescue Squad (Engine 1, Engine 2, Engine 3, Tower 1, Squad 1 & Medic 802) responded to the call.

The Salem Fire Marshal's Office has ruled the fire accidental, and determined that it was caused by a lightning strike from one of this afternoon's thunderstorms. A damage estimate is not available at this time, due to the extensive damage done to the home's electrical system.

Contact:

Deputy Chief John Prillaman
Salem Fire & EMS Department
216 South Broad Street
(540) 375-3080
jprillaman@salemva.gov

Mike Stevens
City of Salem
Communications Director
(540)375-4112 - office
(540)353-2041 - cell
mstevens@salemva.gov