

## **Cedar City**

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### **NEWS RELEASE**

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# Apartments in Cedar City are saved by Sprinkler System following Kitchen Fire

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2, 2022

**CEDAR CITY, UT –** At approximately 12:56 p.m. on Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Cedar City Fire Department received a call involving a kitchen fire at an apartment complex located at 163 North 300 West in Cedar City. Upon arrival, no flames or smoke were visible from the exterior, however water was spraying out of the unit due to an activated sprinkler system.

Cedar City Fire Department responded with 1 Battalion Chief, 1 engine, and 1 squad unit with a total of seven firefighters. When investigating, the firefighters found a cooking fire had started on the stove but was now out thanks to an activated sprinkler system that quickly suppressed the flames. Firefighters credit the sprinkler system for saving dozens of lives and preserving multiple apartment units.

"This type of fire could have easily spread to nearby units, displacing tenants and damaging not only this apartment unit, but neighboring ones as well," said Firefighter Chad Barnes. "We are thankful this building had a working sprinkler system that meets code requirements because it ultimately saved lives and property."

Firefighters returned to the property a few days later and the water salvage was nearly complete with tenants moving back in, resuming normal operations.

Cedar City Fire Department encourages all business and property owners to explore installing sprinkler systems, especially if the building is older and was not initially required to do so according to older code. Cost is usually the main factor for property owners to hesitate, but the long-term benefit outweighs the up-front cost should your property ever experience a fire.

"Recovering from an unexpected fire or disaster is always the hardest part of resuming normal operations," said Fire Chief Mike Phillips. "As seen with this apartment fire, do what you can now to prepare for an unfortunate event and your business or property will be able to recover quicker."

For more safety information and updates from Cedar City Fire Department, follow their <u>Facebook page</u> or visit their website at <u>www.CedarCity.org/Fire</u>.

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**About Cedar City, UT -** Cedar City encompasses nearly 35 square miles and is located 250 miles south of Salt Lake City and 52 miles north of St. George on Interstate 15, with a current population of over 35,000 residents. Information regarding the City and the many programs and services provided to the community can be found at <a href="www.CedarCity.org">www.CedarCity.org</a>, as well as via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.