

A FBID: 82210 State: MN Incident Date: MM 10 DD 09 YYYY 2016 Station: 07 Incident Number: SPFD161009034770 Exposure: 0 **NFIRS-1 Basic**

B Location Type Street address Intersection In front of Rear of Adjacent to Directions US National Grid

Check this box to indicate that the address for this incident is provided on the Wildland Fire Module in Section B, "Alternative Location Specification." Use only for wildland fires.

Number/Mapost: 612 Prefix: WELLS Street or Highway: SAINT PAUL City: SAINT PAUL State: MN Zip Code: 55130 Census Tract: 0315 - 00

Cross Street, Directions or National Grid, as applicable

C Incident Type 111 Building fire

D Aid Given or Received

1 Mutual aid received
2 Automatic aid received
3 Mutual aid given
4 Automatic aid given
5 Other aid given
N None

E1 Dates and Times (Midnight is 0000)

Alarm: Month 10, Day 09, Year 2016, Hour 00, Min 36, Sec 35
Arrival: Month 10, Day 09, Year 2016, Hour 00, Min 43, Sec 22
Controlled: []
Last Unit Cleared: Month 10, Day 09, Year 2016, Hour 03, Min 52, Sec 07

E2 Shifts and Alarms

Local Option: A, 1, D3
Shift or Phase: [], Alarms: [], District: []

E3 Special Studies

Local Option: [], Special Study ID#: [], Special Study Value: []

F Actions Taken

11 Extinguishment by fire service personnel
12 Salvage & overhaul
51 Ventilate

G1 Resources

Check this box and test this block if an Apparatus or Personnel Module is used.

Apparatus: Suppression 11, EMS 1, Other 2; Personnel: 0, 0, 0

G2 Estimated Dollar Losses and Values

LOSSES: Property \$ 68,800; Contents \$ 0; PRE-INCIDENT VALUE: Property \$ [], Contents \$ []

Completed Modules

Fire-2
 Structure Fire-3
Civilian Fire Cas.-4
Fire Service Cas.-5
EMS-6
HazMat-7
WildLand Fire-8
 Apparatus-9
 Personnel-10
Arson-11

H1 Casualties None

Death	Injury
Fire Service: 0	0
Civilian: 0	0

H2 Detector

1 Required for confined fires. Detector alerted occupants
2 Detector did not alert occupants
u Unknown

H3 Hazardous Materials Release

0 Special HazMat actions required or spill >= 55 gal.
1 Natural gas: slow leak, no evac. or HazMat actions
2 Propane gas - Less than a 21 lb. tank
3 Gasoline - vehicle fuel tank or portable container
4 Kerosene - fuel-burning equipment/portable storage
5 Diesel fuel/fuel oil - vehicle fuel tank/portable
6 Household/office solvent or chemical spill
7 Motor oil - from engine or portable container
8 Paint - spills less than 55 gallons
N None

Mixed Use Property

00 Mixed use, other
10 Assembly use
20 Educational use
33 Medical use
40 Residential use
51 Row of stores
53 Enclosed mall
58 Business and residential use
59 Office use
60 Industrial use
63 Military use
65 Farm use
NN Not mixed use

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B Property Details

B1 1 Not Residential
Estimate number of residential living units in building of origin whether or not all units became involved

B2 1 Buildings not involved
Number of buildings involved

B3 Acres burned (outside fires) None Less than one acre

C On-Site Materials or Products None
Complete if there were any significant amounts of commercial, industrial, energy, or agricultural products or materials on the property, whether or not they became involved

Enter up to three codes. Check one box for each code entered.

On-site material (1) [] []

On-site material (2) [] []

On-site material (3) [] []

On-Site Materials Storage Use

1 Bulk storage or warehousing
2 Processing or manufacturing
3 Packaged goods for sale
4 Repair or service
N None
U Undetermined

1 Bulk storage or warehousing
2 Processing or manufacturing
3 Packaged goods for sale
4 Repair or service
N None
U Undetermined

1 Bulk storage or warehousing
2 Processing or manufacturing
3 Packaged goods for sale
4 Repair or service
N None
U Undetermined

D Ignition

D1 03 Interior stairway or ramp
Area of fire origin

D2 60 Heat from other open flame or smoking materials, other
Heat Source

D3 65 Flammable liquid/gas - uncontained
Item first ignited

D4 20 Flammable or combustible liquid, other
Type of material first ignited

Check box if fire spread was confined to object of origin.

Required only if item first ignited code is 00 or <70

E1 Cause of Ignition
Check this box if this is an exposure report

0 Cause, other (System generated code only, not used for data entry)

1 Intentional

2 Unintentional

3 Failure of equipment or heat source

4 Act of nature

5 Cause under investigation

U Cause undetermined after investigation

E2 Factors Contributing to Ignition

14 Flammable liquid or gas spilled

Factor contributing to ignition (1) []

Factor contributing to ignition (2) []

E3 Human Factors Contributing to Ignition
Check all applicable boxes None

1 Asleep

2 Possibly impaired by alcohol or drugs

3 Unattended or unsupervised person

4 Possibly mentally disabled

5 Physically disabled

6 Multiple persons involved

7 Age was a factor

N None

Estimated age of person involved []

1 Male 2 Female

F1 Equipment Involved in Ignition

None If equipment was not involved, skip to Section G

Equipment Involved Brand []

Serial []

Model []

Year []

F2 Equipment Power Source

Equipment Power Source []

F3 Equipment Portability

1 Portable

2 Stationary

Portable equipment, normally can be moved by one or two persons, is designed to be used in multiple locations, and requires no tools to install.

G Fire Suppression Factors None

Enter up to three codes.

Fire suppression factor (1) []

Fire suppression factor (2) []

Fire suppression factor (3) []

H1 Mobile Property Involved

1 Not involved in ignition, but burned

2 Involved in ignition, but did not itself burn

3 Involved in ignition and burned

Mobile property model []

License Plate Number [] State [] VIN []

H2 Mobile Property Type and Make

Mobile property type []

Mobile property make []

Year []

Local Use
Pre-Fire Plan Available

Some of the information presented in this report may be based upon reports from other agencies:

Arson report attached

Police report attached

Coroner report attached

Other reports attached

1 Structure Type <small>If fire was in an enclosed building or a portable/mobile structure, complete the rest of this form.</small> Structure type, other 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed building 2 Fixed portable or mobile structure 3 Open structure 4 Air-supported structure 5 Tent 6 Open platform 7 Underground structure work area 70 Testing 8 Connective structure	2 Building Status 0 Building status, other 1 Under construction 2 In normal use 3 Idle, not routinely used 4 Under major renovation 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vacant and secured 6 Vacant and unsecured 7 Being demolished U Undetermined	3 Building Height <small>Count the roof as part of the highest story.</small> Total number of stories at or above grade <input type="text" value="1"/> <small>Total number of stories below grade</small> <input type="text" value="1"/>	4 Main Floor Size <small>Total square feet</small> <input type="text" value="40"/> BY <input type="text" value="25"/> <small>Length in feet Width in feet</small> OR
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J1 Fire Origin <input type="text" value="1"/> Below Grade <small>Story of fire origin</small> J2 Fire Spread <small>If fire spread was confined to object of origin, do not check a box (ref. Block D5, Fire Module).</small> 1 Confined to object of origin 2 Confined to room of origin 3 Confined to floor of origin 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Confined to building of origin 5 Beyond building of origin	J3 Number of Stories Damaged by Flame <small>Count the roof as part of the highest story.</small> Number of stories w/minor damage (1 to 24% flame damage) <input type="text"/> Number of stories w/significant damage (25 to 49% flame damage) <input type="text"/> Number of stories w/heavy damage (50 to 74% flame damage) <input type="text"/> Number of stories w/extreme damage (75 to 100% flame damage) <input type="text" value="1"/>	K Type of Material Contributing Most to Flame Spread <small>Check if no flame spread OR if same as Material First Ignited (Block D4, Fire Module) OR if unable to determine.</small> K1 <input type="text" value="10"/> Structural component or finish, other <small>Item contributing most to flame spread</small> K2 <input type="text" value="60"/> Wood or paper, processed, other <small>Type of material contributing most to flame spread</small> <small>Required only if item contributing code is 00 or <70</small>
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L1 Presence of Detectors <small>(In area of the fire)</small> 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present N None present U Undetermined L2 Detector Type 0 Detector type, other 1 Smoke 2 Heat 3 Combination smoke and heat in a single unit 4 Sprinkler, water flow detection 5 More than one type present U <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undetermined	L3 Detector Power Supply 0 Detector power supply, other 1 Battery only 2 Hardwire only 3 Plug-in 4 Hardwire with battery backup 5 Plug-in with battery backup 6 Mechanical 7 Multiple detectors and power supplies U <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undetermined L4 Detector Operation 1 Fire too small to activate detector 2 Detector operated 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Detector failed to operate U Undetermined	L5 Detector Effectiveness <small>Required if detector operated</small> 1 Detector alerted occupants, occupants responded 2 Detector alerted occupants, occupants failed to respond 3 There were no occupants 4 Detector failed to alert occupants U Undetermined L6 Detector Failure Reason <small>Required if detector failed to operate</small> 0 Detector failure reason, other 1 Power failure, hardwired det. shut off, disconnect 2 Improper installation or placement of detector 3 Defective detector 4 Lack of maintenance, includes not cleaning 5 Battery missing or disconnected 6 Battery discharged or dead U <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undetermined
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M1 Presence of Automatic Extinguishing System 1 Present 2 Partial System Present N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None Present U Undetermined M2 Type of Automatic Extinguishing System <small>Required if fire was within designed range of AES</small> 0 Special hazard system, other 1 Wet-pipe sprinkler system 2 Dry-pipe sprinkler system 3 Other sprinkler system 4 Dry chemical system 5 Foam system 6 Halogen-type system 7 Carbon dioxide system U Undetermined	M3 Operation of Automatic Extinguishing System <small>Required if fire was within designed range</small> 0 Operation of AES, other 1 System operated and was effective 2 System operated and was not effective 3 Fire too small to activate system 4 System did not operate U Undetermined M3 Number of Sprinkler Heads Operating <small>Required if system operated</small> <input type="text"/> <small>Number of sprinkler heads operating</small>	M5 Reason for Automatic Extinguishing System Failure <small>Required if system failed or not effective</small> 0 Reason system not effective, other 1 System shut off 2 Not enough agent discharged to control the fire 3 Agent discharged, but did not reach the fire 4 Inappropriate system for the type of fire 5 Fire not in area protected by the system 6 System components damaged 7 Lack of maintenance, including corrosion or heads painted 8 Manual intervention defeated the system U Undetermined
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J Property Use Structures		
419	X 1 or 2 family dwelling	
311	24-hour care Nursing homes, 4 or more persons	
241	Adult education center, college classroom	
162	Bar or nightclub	
464	Barracks, dormitory	
439	Boarding/rooming house, residential hotels	
599	Business office	
131	Church, mosque, synagogue, temple, chapel	
341	Clinic, clinic-type infirmary	629 Laboratory or science laboratory
342	Doctor, dentist or oral surgeon office	819 Livestock, poultry storage
615	Electric-generating plant	700 Manufacturing, processing
213	Elementary school, including kindergarten	579 Motor vehicle or boat sales, services, repair
519	Food and beverage sales, grocery store	429 Multifamily dwelling
215	High school/junior high school/middle school	882 Parking garage, general vehicle
331	Hospital - medical or psychiatric	459 Residential board and care
449	Hotel/motel, commercial	161 Restaurant or cafeteria
539	Household goods, sales, repairs	571 Service station, gas station
361	Jail, prison (not juvenile)	891 Warehouse
Outside		
981	Construction site	984 Industrial plant yard - area
655	Crops or orchard	946 Lake, river, stream
919	Dump, sanitary landfill	931 Open land or field
689	Forest, timberland, woodland	807 Outside material storage area
938	Graded and cared-for plots of land	124 Playground
961	Highway or divided highway	951 Railroad right-of-way
		962 Residential street, road or residential driveway
		980 Street, other
		936 Vacant lot

Look up and enter a Property Use code and description only if you have NOT checked a Property Use Box.

Property Use Code: **419**
Property Use Description: **1 or 2 family dwelling**

K1 Person/Entity Involved

Local Option: **Business Name (if Applicable)**: _____ Area Code: _____ Phone Number: _____

Check this box if same address as Incident Location (Section B). Then skip the three duplicate address lines.

Mr., Ms., Mrs.: _____ First Name: _____ MI: _____ Last Name: _____ Suffix: _____

Number: _____ Prefix: _____ Street or Highway: _____ Street Type: _____ Suffix: _____

Post Office Box: _____ Apt./Suite/Room: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

K2 Owner Same as person involved? Then check this box and skip the rest of this block.

Local Option: **Business Name (if Applicable)**: _____ Area Code: **763** Phone Number: **755** - **1542**

Check this box if same address as Incident Location (Section B). Then skip the three duplicate address lines.

Mr., Ms., Mrs.: _____ First Name: **MARJORIE** MI: **E** Last Name: **KISCH** Suffix: _____

Number: **510** Prefix: _____ Street or Highway: **115TH** Street Type: **AVE** Suffix: **NW**

Post Office Box: _____ Apt./Suite/Room: _____ City: **COON RAPIDS**

State: **MN** Zip Code: **55448**

M Authorization

7225	Daniel Moriarty	DC	C3	10	10	2016
Officer in charge ID	Signature	Position or rank	Assignment	Month	Day	Year
7225	Daniel Moriarty	DC	C3	10	10	2016
Member Making report ID	Signature	Position or rank	Assignment	Month	Day	Year

L Remarks

Local Option:

ENGINE #17'S CREW WAS INITIALLY SENT ALONE FOR SMOKE IN THE AREA. ENGINE #17'S CREW FOUND A DWELLING FIRE AT 812 WELLS AND CALLED FOR A FULL ASSIGNMENT OF FIRE COMPANIES TO RESPOND.

ENGINE #17'S CREW PULLED A PRE-CONNECTED HOSE LINE. SQUAD #1'S CREW PULLED A BACK-UP HOSE LINE. ENGINE #4'S CREW SECURED A WATER SUPPLY. LADDER #7'S CREW WAS ASSIGNED PRIMARY SEARCH RESPONSIBILITIES. ENGINE #7'S CREW WAS INITIALLY R.I.T. I ASSUMED COMMAND AND DISTRICT CHIEF #1 ASSUMED SAFETY COMMAND. LADDER #22'S CREW TOOK OVER FOR ENGINE #7'S CREW AS R.I.T. BECAUSE ENGINE #7'S CREW WAS REASSIGNED. SQUAD #2'S CREW WAS TASKED TO SECOND FLOOR EXTENSION. MEDIC #22'S CREW AND ENGINE #9'S CREW REMAINED STAGED FOR THE INCIDENT.

THE MAIN BODY OF THE FIRE WAS QUICKLY EXTINGUISHED WITH EXTENSIVE OVERHAUL NEEDED TO FULLY EXTINGUISH THE FIRE. PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SEARCHES WERE DONE ON ALL FLOORS WITH AN ALL CLEAR FOUND. UTILITIES SECURED AND BOARD-UP CALLED. THIS WAS A VACANT HOME. NO INJURIES REPORTED. FIRE INVESTIGATOR BLANK ON SCENE FOR ORIGIN AND CAUSE INVESTIGATION.

Saint Paul Fire Department FIRE INCIDENT DISPOSITION



INCIDENT NUMBER:	16-34770	DATE OF INCIDENT: 10-09-2016	
TIME OF INCIDENT:	0038 Hours	POLICE CASE #: 16-207-131	
INVESTIGATOR(s):	J. Blank		
INCIDENT ADDRESS:	612 Wells Street, Saint Paul, MN 55130		
OCCUPANT NAME:	Unoccupied	PHONE: n/a	
OWNER NAME:	Marjorie E. Kisch	PHONE: 763-755-1542	
ADDRESS OF OWNER:	510 115th Ave Northwest, Coon Rapids, MN 55448		
PROPERTY DAMAGED:	Single Family Dwelling	AREA OF ORIGIN: Basement Staircase	
DAMAGE ESTIMATE:	Building \$68,800	Vehicle \$	Other (Describe) \$
VALUE:	Building \$68,800	Vehicle \$	Other (Describe) \$
Damage Estimate CONTENTS ONLY:	\$0		
INJURY/DEATH (if yes, explain)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
SMOKE DETECTOR, SPRINKLER, and CARBON MONOXIDE INFORMATION:	Smoke Detector Present: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown Detector Functioning: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown Sprinkler System Present: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown Sprinkler Heads activated: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes # <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown C.O Detector Present: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		
FIRE CAUSE CLASSIFICATION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accidental <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile/Incendiary <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incendiary <input type="checkbox"/> Child (under 10 years old) <input type="checkbox"/> Natural <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined <input type="checkbox"/> Under Investigation		
SYNOPSIS:	The Fire Department was called to a report of a smoke odor and smoke in the area. Firefighters discovered smoke coming from the roof of a vacant dwelling and balanced the assignment. Firefighters found fire on the first floor, basement stairs, and the stairs leading to the second floor burned out. The basement door was found unlocked. There were no witnesses to interview. The ignition source was probably an open flamed device. The first fuel ignited was possibly an ignitable liquid. The action that brought these items together was an intentional human act. The classification of fire cause is incendiary.		
DISPOSITION:	<input type="checkbox"/> E-mail only <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Scene until approved <input type="checkbox"/> DO NOT DEMOLISH until approved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scene Released <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Analysis of Evidence Pending <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report to Follow		

FIRE INVESTIGATION REPORT

INCIDENT NO: 16-34770 DATE: 10/09/2016 TIME: 0038 HOURS
ADDRESS: 612 WELLS STREET INSURANCE CO: UNKNOWN
DAMAGE ESTIMATE: \$68,800 CN#: 16-207-131

SYNOPSIS: On Sunday, October 9, 2016, at approximately 0038 hours, the Saint Paul Fire Department responded to a report of smoke in the area. Firefighters arrived and found smoke coming from the eaves of a dwelling and called for additional resources for a dwelling fire. The location of the incident was 612 Wells Street. Upon the arrival of the fire department, firefighters stretched hand-lines and extinguished the fire. Upon my arrival, fire extinguishment and search and rescue were underway. The origin the fire appeared to be on the basement staircase leading to the first floor kitchen. The classification of fire cause is incendiary.

PEOPLE: Property Owner, MARJORIE E. KISCH, 510 115th Avenue Northwest, Coon Rapids, MN 55448, 763-755-1542.

Witness/9-1-1 Caller,

BACKGROUND: I received notification of the fire via the Communications Center at approximately 0048 hours. I responded to the incident scene and arrived at approximately 0053 hours. Engine #17 was the first arriving fire department vehicle. At the time of my arrival, fire extinguishment and search and rescue were underway. At the time of the fire, the visibility was clear, the temperature was approximately 39° F, and the winds were calm.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: The fire damaged structure is a 1 1/2 story single-family dwelling. The foundation is sand stone. The exterior walls are covered with asbestos siding. The structure has a pitched roof covered with asphalt shingles. The interior walls were covered with plaster and lath. The structure measures approximately 20 feet wide by 50 feet deep. The structure faces north and the structure runs north to south.

EXTERIOR EXAMINATION: Visual examination of the north side of structure revealed heavy smoke venting from the front door which was determined to be opened by firefighters.

Observations of the east side of the structure revealed smoke venting from the roofline from the second floor extending all the way to the rear the structure. The gas meter was on the east side of the structure and was found in the open position and turned off by firefighters. The gas meter appeared in good condition and showed no signs of smoke or fire damage.

Inspection of the south side of structure showed heavy smoke venting from a first floor and a second floor window. The electric meter was located on the south side of the structure and appeared in good condition with no signs of smoke or fire damage. The conduit that ran from the

electric meter upwards towards the weather-head appeared in good condition with no signs of smoke or fire damage. There was a wooden Bilco type door built over a descending staircase that led to the basement door. The basement door knob appeared to have damage to it before I witnessed a firefighter kick in the door without first checking to see if the door was locked.

Examination of the west side of the structure revealed heavy smoke venting from the rear porch door. This door was forced open by firefighters during fire suppression efforts. Fire was visible on the west side of the structure along the lower roofline towards the rear. Later in the fire event there was fire visible along the roofline where the second floor wall met the lower roofline peak. Observations of the upper roofline revealed heavy smoke pushing from the eaves.

INTERIOR EXAMINATION: I made my initial entry into the structure through the front door which was located on the north side of the structure. Inspection of the door lock revealed that the door was found in the locked position and it was determined through questioning that firefighters had kicked in the door to gain access. Located to the south, beyond the front foyer, was a room that led towards the kitchen at the back of the house. Fire damage was visible on the south wall of this room indicating the fire had vented from the kitchen into this room. There was no furniture in this room however there were signs of some remodeling work being done.

A front room located to the east of the front door was empty with the exception of beer cans strewn about on the floor. Also located on the floor were paint rollers and other items indicative of some remodel work. There was no furniture in this room. This room suffered no fire damage but did suffer extensive smoke damage from the ceiling level down to the floor level.

Inspection of the kitchen which was located on the first floor in the southwest corner of the structure revealed heavy fire damage. The door along the west wall of the kitchen was found in the closed and locked position by first responding firefighters. The door was forced open by firefighters to gain access to the kitchen fire. Observations of the ceiling beams revealed heavier fire damage located on the north end of the room as compared to the south end of the room.

Examining the lower portions of the kitchen cabinets located on the west side of the room revealed minor heat damage and the lower portions of the walls on the east side of the room showed heavy fire damage. Inspection of the stove indicated that although it suffered fire damage to the very upper portion of the stove that was in line with a heat layer, the lower portion of the stove and the burners all suffered uniform damage that was inconsistent with the origin of the fire. All of the knobs on the stove were found in the off position and the plastic knobs were still intact.

Observations of the refrigerator, which was located closer to the north end of the room, found that it had suffered heavy fire damage on its north side as compared to its south.

A staircase that went to the second floor was located on the east side of the kitchen. The staircase suffered heavy fire damage consistent with a layer of hot gas and flame impinging upon the open staircase opening. At the level of the hot gas layer, the stairs were burned out leading towards the second floor.

A doorway which was located along the east wall, closest to the north, led to a staircase which accessed the basement. This basement staircase ran from north to south along the east wall of the structure. The area in and around the doorway, leading to the staircase, suffered heavy fire damage. There was an area of inconsistent fire damage that was well below the floor level at the top of the staircase where hot gases and flames would have exited the kitchen door and risen up towards the second floor. This area of inconsistent fire damage extended down the staircase to approximately the third step above the basement floor below. There were also irregular burn patterns on the risers between the stair treads that was localized in the middle of the riser. Located towards the area where the stairs have a turn and start to head towards the west there was a metal can that was collected as evidence. In the area of the irregular fire damage on the stair risers there was no fire damage to the walls or other areas of the stair risers.

Access to the second floor was gained through an exterior ground ladder located on the west side of the structure due to the staircase being burned out from the fire. Inspection of the second floor revealed no fire damage but extensive smoke damage from the ceiling level all the way to the floor. The second floor was void of any furniture. The staircase that led to the second floor was located along the east wall of the structure, closest to the south end, and was burned out approximately two steps down from the second floor landing. Firefighters performed extensive overhaul in the ceiling and void space on the second floor to check for hidden fire that had traveled within the walls from the floor below.

Observations of the basement were made through the rear access Bilco door. Inspection of the door leading to the interior of the basement showed signs of forced entry on its exterior that appeared to be in addition to the door being kicked in by a firefighter. Examination of the door handle lock appeared to show that the door was in the unlocked position when it was kicked in. The door handle turned freely and the thumb lock button was in the unlocked position and when the thumb lock button was turned the handle would not rotate.

The stairs that led from the basement level towards the first floor level along the east wall of the basement closest to the south wall of the structure contained a large amount of fire debris. Smoke damage was visible along the basement wall extending from the floor above down to approximately six feet above the basement floor. Inspection of the basement stairs showed signs of fire damage along the handrail and wall that extended approximately two feet below the ceiling level of the basement.

After removing debris from the staircase there were signs of fire damage that continued down the stair treads approximately six feet below the ceiling with no corresponding damage to the wall or railing. Located in this area of fire damage was a container similar in shape to a metal bottle of charcoal lighter fluid. A photoionization detector determined that the container had contained a possible ignitable liquid and this container was gathered as evidence for testing at a lab.

Inspection of the rest of the basement showed no signs of fire damage and light to moderate smoke damage throughout. Observations of the water heater and furnace showed no signs of smoke or fire damage. Inspection of the clothes washer and dryer showed no signs of smoke or fire damage and appeared in good condition. Inspection of the electric panel showed no signs of smoke or fire damage on the exterior or interior of the panel. Observations of the wires leading to the electric panel from above showed no signs of smoke or fire damage or arcing. Numerous circuit breakers showed signs that they had tripped. The following circuit breakers had tripped: One, three, five, six, seven, nine, 10, 11, and 14. The main panel breaker switch was turned off by firefighters during fire suppression efforts. Not all of the breakers located in the panel were labeled on the door, but most of them referred to kitchen lighting and first floor outlets and second floor lighting.

INTERVIEWS: No interviews were conducted due the fact there was no one on scene to interview.

PHOTOGRAPHS/SKETCH: Digital photographs were taken.

EVIDENCE: The following piece of evidence was collected and packaged at the scene. This item was then transported back to the Saint Paul Fire Department headquarters building and placed inside the Fire Investigation's locked evidence locker. Saint Paul Police Sergeant CANDICE JONES was then notified of the evidence collected.

Item #1 - Square shaped and burned metal can recovered from the basement stairs

CONCLUSION: After examination of the fire scene and fire patterns of both movement and intensity observed my conclusion is this fire originated on the basement stairs. The ignition source was probably an open flamed device. The first fuel ignited was probably an ignitable liquid. The action that brought these items together was due to an intentional human act. The classification of fire cause is incendiary. This report will be forwarded to the Saint Paul Police Department. This concludes my investigation and report.

J. Blank, Fire Investigator, A Shift, 10/24/2016

JB/su

