

62210 MN 07 28 2014 14 14-0022898 000 NFIRS -1 Basic

B Location* 611 SNELLING AVE N SAINT PAUL MN 55104

C Incident Type * 111 Building fire

D Aid Given or Received* 1 Mutual aid received 2 Automatic aid recv. 3 Mutual aid given 4 Automatic aid given 5 Other aid given N None

F Actions Taken * 11 Extinguishment by fire 51 Ventilate 12 Salvage & overhaul

G1 Resources * 1 Apparatus 0003 2 Personnel 0013

G2 Estimated Dollar Losses & Values Property \$ 194,000 Contents \$ 218,000

H1* Casualties None H3 Hazardous Materials Release 1 Natural Gas 2 Propane gas 3 Gasoline 4 Kerosene 5 Diesel fuel/fuel oil 6 Household solvents 7 Motor oil 8 Paint 0 Other

I Mixed Use Property NN Not Mixed 10 Assembly use 20 Education use 33 Medical use 40 Residential use 51 Row of stores 53 Enclosed mall 58 Bus. & Residential 59 Office use 60 Industrial use 63 Military use 65 Farm use 00 Other mixed use

J Property Use* Structures 131 Church, place of worship 161 Restaurant or cafeteria 162 Bar/Tavern or nightclub 213 Elementary school or kindergarten 215 High school or junior high 241 College, adult education 311 Care facility for the aged 331 Hospital Outside 124 Playground or park 655 Crops or orchard 669 Forest (timberland) 807 Outdoor storage area 919 Dump or sanitary landfill 931 Open land or field

A 62210 FDID *	MN State *	07 MM	28 DD	2014 YYYY	14 Station	14-0022898 Incident Number *	000 Exposure *	☐ Delete ☐ Change ☐ No Activity	NFIRS -2 Fire
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B Property Details B1 0002 ☐ Not Residential Estimated Number of residential living units in building of origin whether or not all units became involved B2 001 ☐ Buildings not involved Number of buildings involved B3 ☒ None Acres burned (outside fires) ☐ 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 or more boxes for each code entered. NNN None On-site material (1) On-site material (2) On-site material (3) 1 ☐ Bulk storage or warehousing 2 ☐ Processing or manufacturing 3 ☐ Packaged goods for sale 4 ☐ Repair or service 1 ☐ Bulk storage or warehousing 2 ☐ Processing or manufacturing 3 ☐ Packaged goods for sale 4 ☐ Repair or service 1 ☐ Bulk storage or warehousing 2 ☐ Processing or manufacturing 3 ☐ Packaged goods for sale 4 ☐ Repair or service
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D Ignition D1 24 Cooking area, kitchen Area of fire origin * D2 13 Electrical arcing Heat source * D3 81 Electrical wire, cable Item first ignited * 1 ☐ Check Box if fire spread was confined to object of origin D4 41 Plastic Type of material first ignited Required only if item first ignited code is 00 or <70	E1 Cause of Ignition ☐ Check box if this is an exposure report. Skip to section G 1 ☐ Intentional 2 ☐ Unintentional 3 ☒ Failure of equipment or heat source 4 ☐ Act of nature 5 ☐ Cause under investigation U ☐ Cause undetermined after investigation	E3 Human Factors Contributing To Ignition Check all applicable boxes 1 ☐ Asleep None ☐ 2 ☐ Possibly impaired by alcohol or drugs 3 ☐ Unattended person 4 ☐ Possibly mental disabled 5 ☐ Physically Disabled 6 ☐ Multiple persons involved 7 ☐ Age was a factor Estimated age of person involved 1 ☐ Male 2 ☐ Female
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F1 Equipment Involved In Ignition ☐ None If Equipment was not involved, Skip to Section G 656 Refrigerator, Equipment Involved Brand Model Serial # Year	F2 Equipment Power 11 Electrical Equipment Power Source F3 Equipment Portability 1 ☒ Portable 2 ☐ Stationary Portable equipment normally can be moved by one person, is designed to be use in multiple locations, and requires no tools to install.	G Fire Suppression Factors Enter up to three codes. ☐ None Fire suppression factor (1) Fire suppression factor (2) Fire suppression factor (3)
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H1 Mobile Property Involved ☐ None 1 ☐ Not involved in ignition, but burned 2 ☐ Involved in ignition, but did not burn 3 ☐ Involved in ignition and burned	H2 Mobile Property Type & Make Mobile property type Mobile property make Mobile property model Year License Plate Number State VIN Number	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 ☐
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I1 Structure Type * If fire was in enclosed building or a portable/mobile structure complete the rest of this form 1 ☒ Enclosed Building 2 ☐ Portable/mobile structure 3 ☐ Open structure 4 ☐ Air supported structure 5 ☐ Tent 6 ☐ Open platform (e.g. piers) 7 ☐ Underground structure (work areas) 8 ☐ Connective structure (e.g. fences) 0 ☐ Other type of structure		I2 Building Status * 1 ☐ Under construction 2 ☒ Occupied & operating 3 ☐ Idle, not routinely used 4 ☐ Under major renovation 5 ☐ Vacant and secured 6 ☐ Vacant and unsecured 7 ☐ Being demolished 0 ☐ Other U ☐ Undetermined		I3 Building * Height Count the ROOF as part of the highest story 002 Total number of stories at or above grade 001 Total number of stories below grade		I4 Main Floor Size* NFIRS-3 Structure Fire 001 , 888 Total square feet OR , BY , Length in feet Width in feet	
J1 Fire Origin * 002 ☐ Below Grade Story of fire origin		J3 Number of Stories Damaged By Flame Count the ROOF as part of the highest story Number of stories w/ minor damage (1 to 24% flame damage) Number of stories w/ significant damage (25 to 49% flame damage) Number of stories w/ heavy damage (50 to 74% flame damage) Number of stories w/ extreme damage (75 to 100% flame damage)		K Material Contributing Most To Flame Spread ☐ Check if no flame spread OR same as material first ignited OR unable to determine Skip To Section L K1 Item contributing most to flame spread K2 Type of material contributing most of flame spread Required only if item contributing code is 00 or <70			
J2 Fire Spread * 1 ☐ Confined to object of origin 2 ☐ Confined to room of origin 3 ☒ Confined to floor of origin 4 ☐ Confined to building of origin 5 ☐ Beyond building of origin		L1 Presence of Detectors * (In area of the fire) N ☐ None Present Skip to section M 1 ☒ Present U ☐ Undetermined		L3 Detector Power Supply 1 ☐ Battery only 2 ☐ Hardwire only 3 ☐ Plug in 4 ☐ Hardwire with battery 5 ☐ Plug in with battery 6 ☐ Mechanical 7 ☐ Multiple detectors & power supplies 0 ☐ Other _____ U ☒ Undetermined			
L2 Detector Type 1 ☐ Smoke 2 ☐ Heat 3 ☐ Combination smoke - heat 4 ☐ Sprinkler, water flow detection 5 ☐ More than 1 type present 0 ☐ Other _____ U ☐ Undetermined		L4 Detector Operation 1 ☐ Fire too small to activate 2 ☒ Operated (Complete Section L5) 3 ☐ Failed to Operate (Complete Section L6) U ☐ Undetermined		L5 Detector Effectiveness Required if detector operated 1 ☐ Alerted Occupants, occupants responded 2 ☐ Occupants failed to respond 3 ☐ There were no occupants 4 ☐ Failed to alert occupants U ☒ Undetermined L6 Detector Failure Reason Required if detector failed to operate 1 ☐ Power failure, shutoff or disconnect 2 ☐ Improper installation or placement 3 ☐ Defective 4 ☐ Lack of maintenance, includes cleaning 5 ☐ Battery missing or disconnected 6 ☐ Battery discharged or dead 0 ☐ Other _____ U ☐ Undetermined			
M1 Presence of Automatic Extinguishment System * N ☐ None Present 1 ☐ Present Complete rest of Section M		M3 Automatic Extinguishment System Operation Required if fire was within designed range 1 ☐ Operated & effective (Go to M4) 2 ☐ Operated & not effective (M4) 3 ☐ Fire too small to activate 4 ☐ Failed to operate (Go to M5) 0 ☐ Other U ☐ Undetermined		M5 Automatic Extinguishment System Failure Reason Required if system failed 1 ☐ System shut off 2 ☐ Not enough agent discharged 3 ☐ Agent discharged but did not reach fire 4 ☐ Wrong type of system 5 ☐ Fire not in area protected 6 ☐ System components damaged 7 ☐ Lack of maintenance 8 ☐ Manual Intervention 0 ☐ Other _____ U ☐ Undetermined NFIRS-3 Revision 01/19/99			
M2 Type of Automatic Extinguishment System * Required if fire was within designed range of AES 1 ☐ Wet pipe sprinkler 2 ☐ Dry pipe sprinkler 3 ☐ Other sprinkler system 4 ☐ Dry chemical system 5 ☐ Foam system 6 ☐ Halogen type system 7 ☐ Carbon dioxide (CO ₂) system 0 ☐ Other special hazard system U ☐ Undetermined		M4 Number of Sprinkler Heads Operating Required if system operated Number of sprinkler heads operating					

K1 Person/Entity Involved ☐ Local Option ☐ Business name (if applicable) ☐ 651 - ☐ 403 - ☐ 0053 Area Code Phone Number

☒ Check This Box if same address as incident location. Then skip the three duplicate address lines.

☐ Mr., Ms., Mrs. First Name ☐ MARIO ☐ D MI ☐ LOPEZ ☐ Suffix

☐ Number ☐ 611 ☐ SNELLING ☐ AVE ☐ N Prefix Street or Highway Street Type Suffix

☐ Post Office Box ☐ SAINT PAUL Apt./Suite/Room City

☐ MN ☐ 55104 - ☐ State Zip Code

☐ More people involved? Check this box and attach Supplemental Forms (NFIRS-1S) as necessary

K2 Owner ☐ Same as person involved? Then check this box and skip The rest of this section. ☐ Business name (if Applicable) ☐ - ☐ - ☐ Area Code Phone Number

☐ Check this box if same address as incident location. Then skip the three duplicate address lines.

☐ Mr., Ms., Mrs. First Name ☐ ERIC ☐ MI ☐ NEWMAN ☐ Suffix

☐ Number ☐ 3109 ☐ W ☐ 50TH ☐ ST ☐ Suffix Prefix Street or Highway Street Type Suffix

☐ Post Office Box ☐ 218 ☐ MINNEAPOLIS Apt./Suite/Room City

☐ MN ☐ 55409 - ☐ State Zip Code

L Remarks ☐ Local Option

FIRE COMPANIES WERE DISPATCHED FOR A REPORT OF A DWELLING FIRE. CREWS PULLED ATTACK LINES, OBTAINED WATER SUPPLIES, AND CONDUCTED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SEARCHES. THEY THEN VENTILATED THE STRUCTURE AND CHECKED FOR EXTENSION. THE FIRE WAS IN THE SECOND FLOOR KITCHEN AND REAR PORCH AREA OF AN UP/DOWN DUPLEX.

CREWS SHUT OFF METERS. RED CROSS WAS DECLINED BY THREE ADULTS. THEY WERE GIVEN AN AFTER-THE-FIRE BROCHURE. BOARD-UP WAS CALLED FOR NINE WINDOWS AND TWO DOORS. A TOW WAS CALLED FOR LADDER #18 RESERVE RIG.

FIRE INVESTIGATOR BLANK ON SCENE.

L Authorization

☐ 1544 ☐ HAWKINSON, FAWN L ☐ 150 ☐ C1 ☐ 07 ☐ 29 ☐ 2014 Officer in charge ID Signature Position or rank Assignment Month Day Year

☐ Check Box if same as Officer in charge. ☒ 1544 ☐ HAWKINSON, FAWN L ☐ 150 ☐ C1 ☐ 07 ☐ 29 ☐ 2014 Member making report ID Signature Position or rank Assignment Month Day Year

Saint Paul Fire Department

FIRE INCIDENT DISPOSITION



INCIDENT NUMBER:	14-22898	DATE OF INCIDENT: 07-28-2014																					
TIME OF INCIDENT:	2315 Hours	POLICE CASE #: N/A																					
INVESTIGATOR(s):	Blank, J																						
INCIDENT ADDRESS:	611 Snelling Avenue North, Upper, Saint Paul, MN 55104																						
OCCUPANT NAME:	Mario DeJesus Matute Lopez	PHONE: 651-403-0053																					
OWNER NAME:	Eric Newman	PHONE: None Listed																					
ADDRESS OF OWNER:	3109 West 50th Street, Unit #218, Minneapolis, MN 55410																						
PROPERTY DAMAGED:	Duplex	AREA OF ORIGIN: Upper Unit Refrigerator																					
DAMAGE ESTIMATE:	Building \$194,000	Vehicle \$	Other (Describe) \$																				
VALUE:	Building \$387,000	Vehicle \$	Other (Describe) \$																				
Damage Estimate CONTENTS ONLY:	\$218,000																						
INJURY/DEATH (if yes, explain)	☒ No ☐ Yes																						
SMOKE DETECTOR, SPRINKLER, and CARBON MONOXIDE INFORMATION:	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Smoke Detector Present:</td> <td>☒ Yes</td> <td>☐ No</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detector Functioning:</td> <td>☒ Yes</td> <td>☐ No</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sprinkler System Present:</td> <td>☐ Yes</td> <td>☒ No</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sprinkler Heads activated:</td> <td>☐ Yes #</td> <td>☒ No</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.O Detector Present:</td> <td>☐ Yes</td> <td>☐ No</td> <td>☒ Unknown</td> </tr> </table>			Smoke Detector Present:	☒ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unknown	Detector Functioning:	☒ Yes	☐ No	☐ Unknown	Sprinkler System Present:	☐ Yes	☒ No	☐ Unknown	Sprinkler Heads activated:	☐ Yes #	☒ No	☐ Unknown	C.O Detector Present:	☐ Yes	☐ No	☒ Unknown
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SYNOPSIS:	The Fire Department was called to a report of a dwelling fire. Firefighters arrived to find heavy fire in the rear of the upstairs unit of an up/down duplex. The occupants of the upstairs unit reported awakening to smoke detectors going off and they saw flames in the kitchen and in the rear porch area. The occupants deny any problems with their refrigerator. The ignition source was an electrical malfunction within the base of the refrigerator. The first fuel ignited was insulation around the electrical wiring at the base of the refrigerator. The action that brought these items together is an electrical short. The classification of fire cause is accidental.																						
DISPOSITION:	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> ☐ E-mail only ☐ DO NOT DEMOLISH until approved ☐ Analysis of Evidence Pending </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> ☐ Hold Scene until approved ☒ Scene Released ☒ Report to Follow </td> </tr> </table>			☐ E-mail only ☐ DO NOT DEMOLISH until approved ☐ Analysis of Evidence Pending	☐ Hold Scene until approved ☒ Scene Released ☒ Report to Follow																		
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FIRE INVESTIGATION REPORT

INCIDENT NO: 14-22898 DATE: 07/28/2014 TIME: 2315 HOURS

ADDRESS: 609/611 SNELLING AVENUE INSURANCE CO: UNKNOWN

DAMAGE ESTIMATE: \$412,000

SYNOPSIS: On Monday, July 28, 2014, at approximately 2315 hours, the Saint Paul Fire Department responded to a report of a dwelling fire. The location of the incident was 609/611 Snelling Avenue. Upon the fire department's arrival, fire suppression personnel stretched hose lines and extinguished the fire. Upon my arrival, fire extinguishment and search and rescue were underway. The origin of the fire appeared to be in the base of the refrigerator. The classification of fire cause is accidental.

PEOPLE: Property Owner, RENAE C REED, 8440 West Main Street, Winona, Minnesota, 55987, 507-689-2519.

Occupant, MARIO DEJESUS MATUTE LOPEX, 611 Snelling Avenue North, Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55104, 651-403-0053, DOB 12/24/1970.

Occupant, MARIO PINEDA, 611 Snelling Avenue North, Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55104, 651-403-0053, DOB 12/16/1981.

Occupant, MARIO (UNKNOWN LAST NAME), 611 Snelling Avenue North, Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55104, 651-403-0053.

Occupant, RENEE REDD, 609 Snelling Avenue North, Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55104, 507-689-2519.

BACKGROUND: I received notification of the fire via the Communications Center at approximately 2315 hours. I responded to the incident scene and arrived at approximately 2324 hours. Squad #2 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 55 degrees Fahrenheit, and the winds were calm.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: The fire-damaged structure is a two story, up/down duplex. The foundation is a concrete slab. The exterior walls were covered with stucco. The structure has a pitched roof covered with asphalt shingles. The interior walls were covered in some places with plaster and lath and other areas in dry wall. The structure measures approximately 25 feet wide by 40 feet deep. The front of the structure faces east and the structure runs east to west.

EXTERIOR EXAMINATION: Visual inspection of the east side of the structure revealed no smoke or fire damage. The 609 entrance which goes to the first floor, is located to the south of the 611 entrance, which goes to the second floor. The gas meter was located near the southeast corner and appeared in good condition with no smoke or fire damage found. The south and north sides of the structure suffered no smoke or fire damage.

Observations of the west side of the structure revealed smoke and fire damage to the wooden porch located on the second floor belonging to the 611 unit. The fire damage extended from the floor level of the west wall upwards into the soffit at the roofline. The damage to the soffit was most severe in the area located above the window that was located closest to the south wall of the structure. The railing that went around the porch for the second floor suffered the most damage along the south side where it connected to the structure.

Examination of the west wall showed a vector pattern that indicated the heaviest burning occurred along the west wall to the north of the window. There were numerous pots and pans located on the deck flooring. Examination of the second floor deck flooring from below did not show any signs of heavy charring or complete burn through. The electric meters, located on the northwest side of the building, appeared in good condition and showed no signs of smoke or fire damage. The electric weather head and drop down conduit appeared in good condition with no smoke or fire damage.

INTERIOR EXAMINATION: Visual inspection of the 609 first floor unit revealed light smoke damage throughout. Inspection of the kitchen stove and refrigerator showed no signs of smoke or fire damage coming from these appliances. Both the front and back doors had been forced open by firefighters.

Examination of the stairs that lead to the basement level showed light smoke damage and no fire damage. The basement suffered light smoke damage throughout. Inspection of the water heater and furnace did not show any signs of smoke or fire damage coming from these appliances. The two clothes washers and dryers showed no signs of smoke or fire damage coming from them.

Observations of the electric panels revealed that the panel to the left had all of the breakers turned off by firefighters. The electric panel to the right had all of the breakers turned off by firefighters. Neither electrical panel showed signs of smoke or fire damage.

The second floor hallway experienced heavy smoke damage from the ceiling level down to approximately the one foot level above the floor with moderate smoke damage continuing to the floor level.

Inspection of the rear interior staircase going from the first floor to the second floor showed moderate smoke damage but no fire damage. Examination of the front staircase that went from the second floor and discharged to the north side of the exterior showed heavy smoke damage from the ceiling level down to approximately the two foot level with moderate smoke damage continuing to floor level.

The front living room, bathroom, and bedroom suffered heavy smoke damage from the ceiling down to approximately the three-foot level and lighter smoke damage down to the floor.

Inspection of the kitchen located on the west end of the second floor revealed fire and smoke damage. The south wall of the kitchen suffered fire damage that became more severe moving from the east toward the west wall. The vector pattern of fire damage along the south wall indicated the fire traveled from lower down along the west wall and upward and to the east along the south wall. The east wall of the kitchen suffered heavy smoke and heat damage from the ceiling level down to approximately the two-foot level above the floor level.

Examination of the stove located along the east wall showed that there was no smoke or fire damage coming from this appliance.

The refrigerator showed a vector pattern on the rear of the unit that matched a vector pattern that was located on the west wall of the kitchen. Below the refrigerator there were burn marks on the laminate flooring. This was the lowest level of burning in the kitchen. The interior of the refrigerator was examined and showed no evidence of smoke or fire damage. Vector burn patterns located on the exterior of the refrigerator showed that the fire may have traveled from the area of the window located to the south of the refrigerator towards the north. Inspection of the bottom of the refrigerator showed no smoke or fire damage.

To rule out the refrigerator as the point of origin for the fire, the rear metal panel that covers the compressor and electrical inlet to the refrigerator was partially removed. Inspection of the interior space located behind the cover plate revealed burning on the interior of the refrigerator and splattering of metal around where the electrical cord is attached to the unit. In addition, there was charring to the insulation of the electrical cord, to the interior insulation, and charring to the interior of the cover plate. The location of the refrigerator against the west wall of the kitchen matches up with the heaviest damage on the exterior of the west wall of the kitchen.

INTERVIEWS: Occupant, MARIO DEJESUS MATUTE LOPEX, stated in person on Monday, July 28, 2014:

- I rent the upstairs unit at 611 Snelling with my two friends.
- We were sleeping when we woke up to the smoke detector going off.

- We saw fire out on the rear deck.
- We have a cigarette butt can outside on the rear deck.
- We haven't had any problems with our refrigerator.
- We haven't had any unusual electrical problems in the house.

Witness, Captain Engine #23, stated in person on Monday, July 28, 2014:

- When we came into the rear of the house, we saw fire coming from the back of the refrigerator.
- The colors of the flames were green and red.

PHOTOGRAPHS/SKETCH: Digital photographs were taken.

EVIDENCE: No evidence was collected.

CONCLUSION: After examination of the fire scene and fire patterns of both movement and intensity observed, my conclusion is this fire originated in the northwest corner of the kitchen in the base of the refrigerator. The ignition source was an electrical malfunction. The first fuel ignited was combustable materials around the electrical wiring. The action that brought these items together was probably an electrical short. The classification of fire cause is accidental. This concludes my report and investigation.

J. Blank, Fire Investigator, A Shift, 08/12/2014

JB/su