Saint Paul Fire Department
645 Randolph Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102
(651) 224-7811

Investigation Report

Case

Case Details

Case Number	Lead Investigator	Status	Name
SPFD211024046483	Bever, Thomas	Closed	N/A

Confidentiality	Disposition	Fire Cause
Confidential	Accidental	Careless Disposal Ashes

Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time
10/24/2021	04:40		

Primary Fire Department	Secondary Fire Department	Law Enforcement
Saint Paul Fire Department		Saint Paul Police Department

Case Narrative

Case Background

The fire department was called to the report of a fire in the front porch of the home. Firefighters arrived and found light smoke and flames seen on the A/D corner of the home. Firefighters evacuated the structure, extinguished the fire and conducted overhaul. Command was terminated and the scene was released.

Case Synopsis

Investigation Comments

This report is based on presently known and available facts, data, and information.

Fire

Ignition Sequence

Fire Cause	Area of Origin	Equipment Power Source	Equipment Portability
Careless Disposal Ashes	Structural area, other		

Area of Origin Comments

Heat Source	Material Ignited
Cigarette	Cardboard

Equipment Involved In Ignition	Equipment Make	Equipment Model	Equipment Serial Number

Fire and Smoke Spread Information

Fire Spread Material	Fire Spread Avenue
Confined to building of origin	

Smoke Spread Material	Smoke Spread Avenue

Fire Comments

Weather

Visibility	Relative Humidity (%)	Wind Speed (Mph)	Wind Direction
		4	NE

Temperature (Fahrenheit)	Precipitation	Lightning	Information Obtained From Weather
38.0	0	No	

Weather Comments

Property Details (1 of 1)

Property

N/A

Name

901 Fuller Avenue

Address

Apt/Suite/Room

Saint Paul

City

Ramsey County

County

Minnesota

State

55104

Postal Code

$52,200.00

Pre Fire Value

$10,000.00

Content Loss Value

$45,000.00

Structure Loss Value

Property Description

Area

Structure

Area Type

Urban

Area Description

Area Quality

Structure

Property Use	Structure Occupancy
1 or 2 family dwelling	Occupied

Alarm Type	Smoke Detector Present	Smoke Detector Performance
	Unknown	Unknown

Sprinkler Standpipes	Sprinkler Standpipes Performance
None	Unknown

Structure Length (Ft)	Structure Height (Ft)	Structure Width (Ft)	Number Of Stories	Number Of Units
50		30	2	

Construction Type	Structure Type	Structure Material
Balloon	Type V	StructureMaterial_Wood

Foundation	Exterior Covering	Roof Type	Roof Material
Basement	Wood	Pitched	Asphalt

Interior Exam

Nothing remarkable.

Exterior Exam

The exterior of the home appeared to have newer siding within the last 10 years. Newer roof within the last few years or less.

Alarm and Security Services

Sprinkler Standpipes	Smoke Detectors Present	Smoke Detector Locations	Fire Suppression
None	Unknown		

Doors	Windows	Other Entrances
Closed And Unlocked	Closed And Locked	

Alarm Protection/Security Comments

Utilities

Electrical Status	Electrical Entrance

Fuel Status	Fuel Type	Fuel Company
	Natural	Xcel Energy

Water Status	Water Company
	City of Saint Paul Municipal Water

Telephone Status

Utility Comments

Insurance Information (1 of 1)

Company	Claim Number	Policy Number
Federated Insurance		

Effective Date	Expiration Date
Maximum Coverage For Structure Loss	Maximum Coverage For Content Loss

Insurance Comments

Witness Statement (1 of 3)

Witness Statement

Prince	Raynette	
Last Name	First Name	Middle Name

Owner	
Type	Employer

Interviewed Date	Interviewed By	Interviewed By Other

901 Fuller Ave.	
Street 1	Street 2

Saint Paul	Minnesota	
City	State	PostalCode

Black or African American	12/13/1974	
Race	Date of Birth	Driver's Liscense Number

- I was home at the time of the fire. - I was in my bedroom and heard loud noises and felt that the wall was warm and left the room to call for my son.
- I walked down the stairs and saw the fire coming from the porch. I called for my son to wake him up. I went upstairs to get my cat and cell phone and exited the structure out of the bathroom window on the second floor Charlie "C" side. I yelled for help and my neighbor on the Delta "D" side came out and called 911.

Witness Statement Comments

Witness Statement (2 of 3)

Witness Statement

Prince-Espinoza	Damon	Edward
Last Name	First Name	Middle Name

Occupant	
Type	Employer

Interviewed Date	Interviewed By	Interviewed By Other

901 Fuller Ave.	
Street 1	Street 2

Saint Paul	Minnesota	
City	State	PostalCode

Black or African American	01/31/1994	
Race	Date of Birth	Driver's Liscense Number

- I was home asleep in the basement at the time of the fire. - I heard my mom yelling for help and I came upstairs and saw that the front porch was on fire.
_ I used the coffee pot to carry water to the fire in an attempt to put the fire out.

_ I was smoking earlier on the front porch around 22:00 hours and discarded the cigarette in the recycling bin as I always have. I went to bed and I was awoken by my mom yelling that the house was on fire.

- I went to the kitchen and used the coffee pot to carry water to the fire in an attempt to put the fire out.

- had a hard time breathing and had to be assisted out of the home by my mother as I became over taken by smoke inhalation.

Witness Statement Comments

Witness Statement (3 of 3)

Witness Statement

[redacted]	[redacted]	
Last Name	First Name	Middle Name

Other	
Type	Employer

Interviewed Date	Interviewed By	Interviewed By Other

[redacted]	
Street 1	Street 2

Saint Paul	Minnesota	
City	State	PostalCode

White	[redacted]	
Race	Date of Birth	Driver's Liscense Number

- I was home at the time of the fire. - I was asleep in bed and heard someone yelling for help - I ran outside and saw my neighbor on the back roof of the house yelling for help saying that there was a fire in the front of the house.
- I called 9-1-1.

Witness Statement Comments

Conclusion

Case Conclusion

After examination of the fire scene, observation of fire patterns of both movement and intensity and interviews conducted, it is my opinion the fire began in the A/D corner of the home. The area of origin was the recycling bin that was used to discard smoked cigarettes. The first fuel/material ignited was most likely the cardboard that lined the recycling bin. The ignition source was most likely the improperly discarded smoking material. The oxidant was normal atmospheric air. The action that brought these items together was an improperly discarded cigarette placed in a combustible recycling bin. The classification of fire cause is accidental. This concludes my investigation and report.

Signature

Bever, Thomas		
Lead Investigator	Signature	Date Submitted

Document Attachment List

Photo Log