

A 162210   IMN   105	d DD YYYY		NFIRS-1	
FDID State Inciden		160516015695 0 Der Exposure	Basic	
X Street address Intersection In front of Rear of Adjacent to	SAINT PAUL	Jiand Fire Census Tract 0324   AVE   Street Type   MN   55104   -   State Zip Code	- 00 W Suffix	
C Incident Type  111 Building fire  D Ald Given or Received  Mutual aid received  Automatic aid received  Mutual aid given  Automatic aid given  Cher aid given  N X None	dates are the Alarm 05 Anni Date. Arrival 05 Their State Controlled	h Day Year Hour Min Sec Malways required 16 2016 02:39:46  AL required, unless canceled or old not arrive 2016 02:43:12  ROLLED optional, except for wildland fires 1988 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 1	dnight is 9000	
F Actions Taken    11   Extinguishment by fire service personnel				
Fire Service Cas,-5 Civ	Casualties  Death Injury e 0 0 0 rvice rilian 0 0  Detector  Required for confined figs. Detector alerted occupants  Detector did not alert occupants  Unknown	H3 Hazardous Materials Release  Special HazMat actions required or spill >= 55 gal.  Natural gas: slow leak, no evac, or HazMat actions  Propane gas - Less than a 21 lb. tank  Gasoline - vehicle fuel tank or portable container  Kerosene - fuel-burning equipment/portable storage  Diesel fuel/fuel oil - vehicle fuel tank/portable  Household/office solvent or chemical spill  Motor oil - from engine or portable container  Paint - spills less than 55 gallons  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	

A 62210 MN 05 16 2016 08  FDID State Incident Date Station	SPFD160516015695   0	NFIRS-2 Fire		
B Property Details	C On-Site Materials or Products None Complete if there were any significant industrial, energy, or agricultural products property, whether or not they became	ucts or materials on the		
B1 2 Not Residential  Estimate number of residential living units in building at origin whether or not all units in breame irretired  B2 1 Buildings not involved  Number of buildings involved	Enter up to three codes. Check one box for each code entered.  On-site material (1)	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		
B3	On-site material (2)  On-site material (3)	1 Bulk storage or warehousing 2 Processing or manufacturing 3 Packaged goods for sela 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 E	1 Cause of Ignition	E3 Human Factors Contributing to Ignition		
D1 05 Entranceway, lobby	Check this box if this is an exposure report  Cause, other (System generated code only, not used for data entry)	Check all app\(\bar{c}\)cable boxes None		
D2 UU Undetermined  Heat Source  D3 99 Multiple items first ignited  Undetermined	Intentionat Unintentional Failure of equipment or heat source Act of nature	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 X None Estimated age of person involved 1 Male 2 Female		
F1 Equipment Involved in Ignition F2 Equip	ment Power Source G Fire Supp	pression Factors		
Fire quipment was not involved, skip to Soction G   Equipment Power Source   Equipment Power Source   Fire suppression factor (1)   Fire suppression factor (2)				
1 Not involved in ignition, but burned 2 Involved in ignition, but did not itself burn 3 Involved in ignition and burned  Mobile property and Mobile property model  Year	Police report attached	s report may be based upon reports from other agencies:		

	08   SPFD160516015695   0	NFIRS-3 Structure Fire
1   Structure Type       2   Building State	us   3 Building Height s, other cition   1	4 Main Floor Size
1	er of Stories Damaged by Flame oof as part of the highest story.  Number of stories windner damage (1 to 24% flame damage)  Number of stories wisquificant damag (25 to 49% flame damage)  Humber of stories wisquificant damag (50 to 74% flame damage)  Number of stories wisquificant damag (75 to 100% flame damage)	K Type of Material Contributing Most to Flame Spread Check fro Ilame spread OR if same as Material First Ignited (Block D4, Fire Models) OR If unable to determine. K1 20   Furniture, utensils, other Item contributing most to flame spread K2 70   Fabric, textile, fur, other Type of material contributing Required only if item contributing code is 00 or <70
L1 Presence of Detectors (In area of the fee) 1 X Present N None present U Undetermined L2 Detector Type 0 Detector type, other 1 X Smoke 2 Heat 3 Combination smoke and heat in a single unit 4 Sprinkler, water flow detection 5 More than one type present U 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 Undetermined L4 Detector Operation 1 Fire too small to activate detector 2 × Detector operated 3 Detector failed to operate U Undetermined	L5 Detector Effectiveness Required if detector operated 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 Required ideleter failed to operate 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 Undetermined
M1 Presence of Automatic Extinguishing System  1 Present 2 Partial System Present N None Present U Undetermined  M2 Type of Automatic Extinguishing System Require if fire was within designed range of ARS 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  Required if far was within designed range 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  Required if system operated    Number of sprinkler heads operating	M6 Reason for Automatic Extinguishing System Failure Required if system laided or not effective, other System shut off Not enough agent discharged to control the fire Agent discharged, but did not reach the fire Inappropriate system for the type of fire Fire not in area protected by the system System components damaged Lack of maintenance, including corrosion or heads painted Manual intervention defeated the system Undetermined

J Property Use Structures  419 × 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, chapet  Outside  981 Construction site  655 Crops or orchard	341 Clinic, clinic-type infirmary 342 Doctor, dentist or oral surgeon office 615 Electric-generating plant 213 Elementary school, including kindergarten 519 Food and beverage sales, grocery store 215 High school/gunior high school/middle school 331 Hospital - medical or psychiatric 449 Hotel/motel, commercial 539 Household goods, sales, ropairs 361 Jali, prison (not juvenile) 984 Industrial plant yard - area 486 Lake, river, stroam 997 Outside material storage area	629 Laboratory or science laboratory 619 Livestock, poultry storage 700 Manufacturing, processing 659 Motor vehicle or boat sales, services, repair 428 Multifamily dwelling 682 Parking garage, general vehicle 459 Residential board and care 161 Restaurant or cafeteria 6571 Service station, gas station 881 Warehouse 980 Street, offner 936 Vacant lot  Look up and soiter a Property Use 419
919 Dump, sentfary landfill 669 Forest, timberland, woodland 938 Graded and cared-for plots of land 661 Highway or divided highway	951 Railroad right-of-way 962 Residential street, road or residential driveway	description only if you have NOT checked in Preparty Use Box. I or 2 family dwelling Property Use Description
K1 Person/Entity Involved  Local Option Check this bow it same addings as incident Location (Section B). Then sky the three dupticate address lines,	STEVE   Busine 65 Name (If Applicable)	THOA Lest Name  Area Gode Phone Number  Surfix  Surfix  Street Type Surfix
K2 Owner  Same as person involved? Then check this box and ship the real of this block.  Check this box if same address as incident Localion (Section B). Then ship the three duplicate address lines,	Business Hame (if Applicable)    PETER	VANG Lett Name  Lett Type  Suffix  Street Type  Suffix
4885 Michael Gaede Do	n or rank Assignment Month Day	2016     Year   2016     Year

#### L Remarks

FIRE AND RESCUE CREWS WERE DISPATCHED TO A DWELLING FIRE. THE DWELLING WAS A SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING THAT HAD BEEN CONVERTED INTO AN UP AND DOWN DUPLEX. THE FIRST ARRIVING COMPANY, ENGINE #18, FOUND HEAVY FIRE COMING FROM THE FRONT PORCH AND EXTENDING INTO THE FIRST AND SECOND FLOOR UNITS, BACK-UP FIRE INVESTIGATOR JENKINS BELIEVES THAT THE FIRE STARTED ON THE FRONT PORCH AREA.

FIRE CREWS MADE A QUICK HIT ON THE FLAMES ON THE EXTERIOR ON THE NORTHWEST CORNER AND THEN MADE AN INTERIOR ATTACK. THE FIRE ON FLOORS 1 AND 2 WERE QUICKLY EXTINGUISHED. SEARCHES WERE COMPLETED AND NO VICTIMS WERE FOUND. THERE WAS AN EXTENSIVE AMOUNT OF OVERHAUL NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT ALL FIRE WAS EXTINGUISHED FROM CONCEALED SPACES. THE FIRE DID NOT EXTEND INTO THE ATTIC.

# Saint Paul Fire Department FIRE INCIDENT DISPOSITION



INCIDENT NUMBER:	16-15695	DATE OF INCIDENT: 5/16/2016	
TIME OF INCIDENT:	0239 hours	POLICE CASE #:	
INVESTIGATOR(s):	G. Jenkins		
INCIDENT ADDRESS:	666 Minnehaha Avenue West	t, 55104	
OCCUPANT NAME:	Steve Thoa DOB 06/03/1964	PHONE: 651-235-9840	
OWNER NAME:	Peter Vang	cer Vang PHONE: 651-238-2859	
ADDRESS OF OWNER:	2092 Orange Avenue East, Saint Paul, MN 55119		
PROPERTY DAMAGED:	Duplex AREA OF ORIGIN: Porch		
DAMAGE ESTIMATE:	Building \$40,000	Vehicle \$	Other (Describe) \$
VALUE:	Building \$52,800	Vehicle \$	Other (Describe) \$
Damage Estimate CONTENTS ONLY:	\$10,000		
INJURY/DEATH (if yes, explain)	⊠ No □ Yes		
SMOKE DETECTOR, SPRINKLER, and CARBON MONOXIDE INFORMATION:	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		
FIRE CAUSE CLASSIFICATION:	Accidental Juvenile/Incendiary Incendiary Child (under 10 years old) Natural Vindetermined Under Investigation		
SYNOPSIS:	The fire department was called to a report of a dwelling fire. Crews arrived to find fire showing from the northwest corner of the porch. The residents in the home awoke to the sound of the smoke alarms and a smoke filled house. The residents fled the home and made sure everyone was safe. The fire originated on the porch in the area of a television, PlayStation 4, and a space heater. All of these items were plugged into a power strip and the resident is unsure if the electrical equipment was on, but he was sure the heater was off. The other residents in the home stated that he sometimes forgets to turn the heater off. There was a problem with the outlets on the porch, one was not operational, but this outlet was not in the area of fire origin. With all known causes ruled out, this fire has been ruled undetermined/under investigation.		
DISPOSITION:	☐ E-mail only ☐ Hold Scene until approved ☐ DO NOT DEMOLISH until approved ☐ Scene Released ☐ Analysis of Evidence Pending ☐ Report to Follow		

#### FIRE INVESTIGATION REPORT

INCIDENT NO: 16-15695

DATE: 05/16/2016

TIME: 0237 HOURS

ADDRESS: 666 MINNEHAHA AVENUE WEST

INSURANCE CO: UNKNOWN

DAMAGE ESTIMATE: \$50,000

CN#: 16-094-995

**SYNOPSIS:** On Monday, May 16, 2016, at approximately 0237 hours, the Saint Paul Fire Department was called to a report of a dwelling fire. The location of the incident was 666 Minnehaha Avenue West. Upon the fire department's arrival, Engine #18's crew found what appeared to be fire shown from the northeast corner of the dwelling's porch. Crews extinguished the fire and performed overhaul. Investigation revealed the fire appeared to have started in the northeast corner of the porch. The first materials ignited were common household furnishings. The ignition source was unknown. The classification of fire cause is undetermined.

PEOPLE: Property Owner, PETER VANG, 2092 Orange Avenue East, Saint Paul, 55102, 651-238-2859.

Occupant, STEVUE THOA, 666 Minnehaha Avenue West, 651-235-9840, DOB 06/03/1964.

Occupant, VANG THAO, 666 Minnehaha Avenue West, 651-424-9112, DOB 03/27/1988.

Occupant, SENG THAO, 666 Minnehaha Avenue West, 651-363-5282, DOB 01/31/1990.

Occupant, PANOU YANG, 666 Minnehaha Avenue West, 651-363-5256, DOB 06/21/1994.

Occupant/Juvenile,

Occupant/Juvenile,

**BACKGROUND:** I received notification of the fire via the Communications Center at approximately 0244 hours. I responded to the incident scene and arrived at approximately 0256 hours. Fire extinguishment was still underway upon my arrival. The occupants were all out of the structure, and no injuries were reported. Weather conditions were fair skies with northwest winds at approximately 9 mph. The air temperature was approximately 45° Fahrenheit.

**PROPERTY DESCRIPTION**: The structure is a one and a half story, single-family dwelling of wood framed construction with aluminum siding. The house measures approximately 30 feet wide by 60 feet deep. The address side faces north and the house runs north to south.

Fire Investigation Report 666 Minnehaha Avenue West Page Two

### **EXTERIOR EXAMINATION**: Visual inspection of the exterior found:

**North**: This is where the majority of the fire damage was located. On the first floor, there were two double windows hung on either side of an entry door. On the second floor, there were three small windows. The fire was located in the northwest corner of the porch, on the first floor. The fire broke the windows and extended up the outside of the building causing charring and burning of the soffit, siding, and moldings around the windows. There was smoke damage above the entry door along with some minor charring. The window located to the east sustained heavy smoke damage above and was broke away due to the heat of the fire.

East: There were two large double hung windows on the first floor. There was no fire or smoke damage around or above these windows. The second floor has one double hung window with no damage around it as well. Toward the back of this side was an access door for the first floor. There was heavy smoke damage above this door. The gas meter is located on this side of the building toward the front of the house.

**South:** There are three windows along the first floor and a large amount of trash on this side of the house. The occupants also keep three small ducks and chickens in a pen in this area. There was also an exterior stairway that led to the second floor for the resident that lives in the second unit. There is an access door to the second unit located at the top of the stairway. There was no apparent fire or smoke damage on this side of the home.

West: Along the first floor there are three windows and an entrance door that lead to a stair well, which is used to access the second floor. The second floor has several smaller windows. There is fire damage toward the front of the building that wrapped around to this side from the north side of the building. It is mostly heat damage from the intensity of the fire that extended up to the second floor and burned away the soffits and damaged the siding.

## **INTERIOR EXAMINATION**: Visual inspection of the interior revealed:

Front Porch: The area of origin was located in this area in the northwest corner. The porch was split into two sides. The side to the west was used as a sleeping room. There was a couch along the south wall, an entertainment center in the northwest corner that had a television, a PlayStation 4, a DVD player, and a space heater next to it. The room was divided by a sheet hung from the ceiling. The porch to the east was used for miscellaneous storage, such as, fishing equipment. The fire was located in this room and there was heavy charring to the west. The ceiling was burned away throughout the entire area. The walls were also had heavily charred and contained fire damage. The door to the interior of the structure was charred on the porch side and was intact.

Fire Investigation Report 666 Minnehaha Avenue West Page Three

Living Room: There was a burned out couch on the south wall and a small corner cupboard in the northwest corner of the room. This room was used as a sleeping room for two of the children in the house. There was evidence of blankets and sleeping materials on the floor. The room also contained several burned out chairs along the wall. There was heavy fire damage in this room. Most of the plaster had calcified and in several spots had fallen from the walls. The furnishings in this room had mostly burned away, leaving just the frames. There were some bedding materials on the floor.

**Front Bedroom:** This room had a couch along the eastern wall made up as a bed. There was also a make shift bed made up on the floor. There was a closet that ran along the southern part of the room. The northern half of the room was taken up by mostly baby accessories, such as; a crib, diapers, formula, clothes, and toys. There was smoke damage to most of the things in this room, but very little charring. The smoke demarcation line was half way down the wall.

**Back Bedroom**: This room had a double bed along the southern wall with a large television in front of the bed. There was a table that acted as a desk on the eastern wall. A closet was located in the northern part of this room. There was no charring or direct fire damage in this room. There was a good deal of smoke damage and the smoke demarcation line was half way down the wall.

**Kitchen:** The kitchen contained a small table in the southern part of the room. The sink, stove, and cabinets ran along the northern wall. There was trash on the floor along with empty bottles of soda and empty cans of beer. There was smoke damage throughout this room, with the smoke demarcation line about three quarters of the way down the wall.

**Back Entry and Bathroom**: The entry area in the back of the house was full of trash and storage items. The house keeping in this room was poor. The bathroom was located to the east of the rear entry and had toiletries lying on the floor and was unkempt. The shower, toilet, and sink were all on the northern wall. There was smoke damage throughout this room.

**Basement:** The washer and dryer were kept in this room. The residents also kept a chicken in the basement.

**Second floor:** This unit was not furnished very well. There was only a bed and several chairs. It was well kept. There was light smoke damage throughout the apartment. In the northeast ceiling corner there was some minor extension from the fire on the first floor. The damage was held to the attic area and knee walls in the northeast bedroom.

Fire Investigation Report 666 Minnehaha Avenue West Page Four

**INTERVIEWS:** Occupant, STEVUE THOA, was interviewed at the scene on Monday, May 16, 2016, and he stated:

- I was awakened by the smoke detector sounding.
- I went around and woke everyone up and got them out of the house.

Occupant, VANG THAO, was interviewed at the scene on Monday, May 16, 2016, and he stated:

- I stored a TV, PlayStation, DVD player, a space heater on the porch where the fire started.
- I had them plugged into a plug strip.
- I have had problems with the outlets in this part of the house
- Most of the time I stay with my girlfriend.
- I am 100 percent sure that the space heater was off.
- I am not having any problems with anyone and no one is mad at me.
- My brother, SENG and I, used to be members of the Asian Crips but we are no longer active with the gang.

Occupant/Juvenile, `and she stated:

was interviewed at the scene on Monday, May 16, 2016,

- I awoke up to the sound of the smoke detector.
- My brother, VANG, sometimes forgets to turn his space heater off.

PHOTOGRAPHS/SKETCH: Digital photographs were taken.

**EVIDENCE**: No evidence was collected. All possible evidence was left on scene for examination by an insurance company representative.

Fire Investigation Report 666 Minnehaha Avenue West Page Five

**CONCLUSION:** After examination of the fire scene and the interviews conducted, and fire patterns of both movement and intensity observed it is my opinion the fire began in the northeast corner of the front porch. There is one possible fire cause that cannot be eliminated which is an electrical malfunction. Due to the degree of damage to the electrical wiring in the area of origin and the damage to the electrical components, it is not possible to completely eliminate an electrical malfunction as a possible ignition source. For these reasons, the ignition source and the first materials ignited cannot be determined. The classification of fire cause is undetermined with the most probable cause accidental. This concludes my investigation and report.

G. Jenkins, Back-up Fire Investigator, B Shift, 5/17/2016

GJ/su

3.25.16