

*Shelby County Fire Department
Headquarters
1075 Mullins Station Rd. Bldg. "C", 2nd floor
Memphis, TN 38134*



******* EVENT NOTIFICATION *******

Event Date: Wednesday April 16th, 2014

At 7 minutes after 5PM Wednesday afternoon, a kitchen fire was dispatched from the fire alarm office of the Shelby County Fire Department through the 9-1-1 emergency lines. The caller was stating that he had fallen asleep while food was cooking on his stove and that his home (in the five thousand block of Gertrude in Southeast Shelby County) was burning. A full residential structure fire assignment was initiated and three engine companies from un-incorporated Shelby County and one from Memphis Fire were started towards the emergency. In all nearly two dozen fire fighters would reach the scene.

Upon arrival six minutes later, fire fighters from SCFD engine 63 reported heavy smoke and fire from the back of the house and as fire fighters disembarked from the pumper, pre-connected attack hoses were deployed to begin the attack on the flames. Fire fighters were told by the homeowner that no one was left inside the house. Other engine companies arrived and deployed their attack teams around the back of the home where high temperature gasses from the fire were accumulating and as one team advanced into the fire from the front door, the kitchen area of the house "flashed over" rolling orange flames out through the kitchen windows and back patio area of the house.

At that point efforts to advance further on to the seat of the fire re-commenced in earnest and the flames were aggressively brought under control. Damage to the 3,472 square foot house is very heavy although active fire did not breach the roof of the home. There are no injuries as a result of this fire.



Brent W. Perkins, PIO/GIS

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