



Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department Media Information Release

Vienna Police Officer Discovers Fire in Building

On January 17, 2008 at 6:17 P.M. Officer Kenny Smith of the Town of Vienna Police Department was dispatched to the area of the 100 Block of Church Street NW in reference to an unknown audible alarm sounding. Upon his arrival, Officer Smith was able to smell an odor of smoke in the area and found an alarm sounding inside 101 Church Street NW.

Officer Smith entered the building through an unlocked door in an attempt to discover the location of the fire. The building at 101 Church street NW is currently under construction. Officer Smith walked down the steps in to a basement area where he encountered a locked glass door. He was able to observe through the door that the room on the other side was full of smoke. The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department was summoned and responded.

After the arrival of several units from the Fire and Rescue Department, they were able to gain entry in to the room and successfully extinguish the fire. The fire was contained to a shelving unit within the room. Two Fairfax County Fire Marshals were then dispatched to the scene to investigate the origin of the fire. The fire was determined to be accidental in nature. Through further investigation it was determined that the fire probably started when the acid from a battery being stored on a shelf leaked, causing the acid to mix with other chemicals which were also being stored in close proximity. The Hazardous Materials Team from Fairfax County Fire and Rescue responded to the scene of the fire and collected the chemicals and removed them from the building.

**Please contact MPO Bill Murray for further information at
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