



# Burlington Fire Department

## Office of the City Fire Marshal



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### MEDIA RELEASE

INCIDENT TYPE:	DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT:
Fire	Saturday, September 24 2022 at 19:40 hours
INCIDENT NUMBER:	LOCATION:
	165 Elmwood Ave and 23 Brookes Ave
AUTHOR:	CONTACT #:
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### Narrative

The Burlington Fire Department responded to two structure fires due to heating systems. One on Friday, September 23<sup>th</sup> and one on Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.

On the evening of Friday, September 23<sup>th</sup> at 20:03 hours the Burlington Emergency Communications Center received a phone call for a house fire at 165 Elmwood Ave. The Burlington Fire department responded and arrived on scene to find a pile of books and a blanket on fire on the sidewalk in front of the apartment building and smoke in the living room of a first floor apartment. A concerned citizen saw the fire after the residence had exited the apartment. This citizen removed the books from the apartment and placed them on the sidewalk. Fire Fighters used a water can fire extinguisher to extinguish a small fire found on the inside of the apartment.

Eighteen on-duty Burlington Fire Fighters responded to this event. No civilian's or firefighters were injured.

On the evening of September 29<sup>th</sup> at 19:40 hours, the Burlington Emergency Communications Center received a phone call for a house on fire at 23 Brookes Ave. The Burlington Fire department responded and arrived on scene to find fire on the exterior of the house at the area of the rear porch. Crews were able to quickly extinguish the fire and prevented the fire from reaching the interior of the structure.

Twenty-three on-duty Burlington Fire Fighters responded to this event with seven on standby if the event escalated. No civilian's or firefighters were injured.

Both fires were determined to be accidental. With the onset of cold weather the citizens of Burlington and the rest of Vermont are reminded to make sure their heating systems are in proper working order. Remove any combustible items from around or on heating systems. Dispose of ashes from wood fire places in metal containers and check the ashes for hot coals when emptying the metal can. Wall mount gas heaters become a shelf during the summer months and these items need to be removed when the heater is turned on. All gas or fuel fired heating systems need be

inspected every two years per VT Fire Code. Chimneys for wood fire places and pellet stoves should be cleaned before the heating season starts and during the heating season if needed.

\*END\*