

CHARLESTON

FIRE DEPARTMENT



Fire Sprinkler Controls Fire at Bee Street Lofts

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Charleston, SC (May 21, 2015): On the morning of 05/20/2015, units with the City of Charleston Fire Department were dispatched at 5:56 AM to an automatic fire alarm at 150 Bee Street. Fire department personnel arrived on scene and discovered a small kitchen fire in a fourth floor condominium. The call was upgraded to a possible structure fire bringing additional Charleston Fire Department resources to the scene.

A tenant of the fourth floor condominium awoke to the smell of smoke and discovered her coffee pot on fire in the kitchen. Smoke alarms activated and the occupant exited the condominium into the hallway where she pulled the manual fire alarm system alerting the building occupants to the fire.

A single fire sprinkler head located in the apartment contained the fire in the kitchen area of the apartment. Fire personnel proceeded to finish fire extinguishment and check the area for any fire extension and then controlled the water from the open sprinkler head.



“Without the fire sprinkler system we would have had a substantial event, damaged multiple condominiums, and displaced numerous families,” said Fire Marshal Mike Julazadeh. “The fire sprinkler system was part of the critical life safety components of this building. In this case, a single fire sprinkler head operated and controlled the fire event until the fire department could arrive and mitigate any remaining hazards. Management is working to repair water damage and restore minimal smoke and fire damage.”

The Charleston Fire Department Fire Marshal Division responded to investigate the fire and determined the fire was due to a malfunction of the coffee pot.

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