



FIRE & RESCUE

(910) 692-2720

www.southernpines.net/fire

500 West Pennsylvania Avenue

PRESS RELEASE

In the early morning hours of July 4, 2022 (02:49:11) the Southern Pines Fire Department along with our automatic aid partners Aberdeen Fire Department, Cypress Pointe Fire/Rescue, Pinehurst Fire Department, Whispering Pines Fire Department, and Moore County EMS were dispatched to McNish Road in the Talamore Community for a structure fire.

C-Shift was working the last half of their 24-hour shift and responded in the following fire apparatus:

Engine 812

Captain Tim Smith (Life Saving Medal)
Lieutenant Logan DeBerry (Life Saving Medal)
Driver/Operator John Wilson (Heroism Metal)
Firefighter Spencer Fallin (Life Saving Medal)

Engine 822

Lieutenant Asa Bailey (Heroism Metal)
Firefighter Justin Taylor – Part-Time (Heroism Metal)
Firefighter Kaylee Jones (Heroism Metal)
Firefighter Matt Manovsky – Volunteer (Heroism Metal)

While enroute, units were advised by the 911 Center that a male resident was on the phone and had escaped the fire through a rear bedroom door. However, he could not account for his wife, and the last time he had seen her, she was in the living room. The caller also advised the 911 Center that the fire was in the living room.

Upon the arrival of Southern Pines Engine 812, they reported nothing showing from the exterior and the husband was in the front yard. While Firefighter Fallin deployed an attack line to the front door, Captain Smith confirmed with the husband that his wife was still inside the burning house.

As they approached the front door, they could start seeing smoke and fire inside the house. However, the door was locked so Lieutenant DeBerry used forcible entry tools to force the door open and gain access to the house. As they entered the house they encountered heavy fire, high heat, and zero visibility due to the thick smoke conditions in the living room. The fire was extending to the left of the house toward the kitchen and also spreading to the right toward the bedrooms.

Southern Pines Engine 822 Firefighters Jones and Manovsky pulled a second attack line due to the fire conditions and entered the structure with Lieutenant Bailey. Due to being short-staffed, both crews simultaneously conducted fire attack and a primary search for the victim. Engine 822 completed a search of the living room and then conducted a left-hand search toward the kitchen and Engine 812 conducted a right-hand search toward the bedrooms.

During the fire attack and search, Driver/Operator Wilson and Firefighter Taylor established a hydrant connection for water supply and provided additional equipment for ventilation of the heat and smoke.

In the first bedroom that Captain Smith came to, he located an unconscious female lying face down on the floor after it appeared that she had gotten out of bed and was overcome by smoke. Captain Smith called for assistance from Lieutenant DeBerry and Firefighter Fallin who were now in the hallway outside the bedroom. Firefighter Fallin and Lieutenant DeBerry entered the bedroom and worked to

carry the victim outside to safety. Due to the limited visibility Captain Smith lead the crew down the hall by maintaining one hand on the wall and one hand on the firefighters, guiding them to the doorway. The victim was taken to the front yard where she was turned over to Moore County EMS.

Both the male and female patients were treated by Moore County EMS and transported to the hospital.

Crews returned to the house to ensure that the fire was extinguished and there were no other victims.

Other Southern Pines fire apparatus and personnel responding, included:

Ladder 81

Deputy Fire Chief Ted Horvath

Fire Chief Mike Cameron

Firefighter Jay Hough - Volunteer

Assistant Chief Ken Skipper