

## **Joplin Fire Department**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PRESS RELEASE

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## Joplin Fire Department Responds to a Reported Fire at Messenger Towers

At 7:35 AM, today, June 11, the Joplin 911 center received a report of a fire located on the  $11^{th}$  floor of Messenger Towers, a 14-story apartment building located at 102 E.  $2^{nd}$  Street. On arrival, firefighters made their way to the  $11^{th}$  floor, finding smoke conditions throughout the floor and very dense smoke conditions in the apartment that was on fire. A second alarm was requested, bringing additional resources to the scene as fire personnel worked to evacuate residents on the  $10^{th} - 14^{th}$  floors. The fire was contained quickly, and due to smoke, residents were evacuated from the structure.

METS ambulance responded with several units and assisted residents as they were removed from the structure. There were a few residents evaluated on scene; however, no one was transported to the hospital for further treatment.

Joplin Police Department also assisted with crowd control and traffic control near the incident.

The Joplin Fire Marshal was contacted and investigated the cause and origin of the fire. The fire appears to have started in the kitchen of an  $11^{th}$  floor apartment and has been ruled accidental. The American Red Cross was contacted to work with management of the apartment building to assist with displacement. Joplin Fire units cleared the scene at 9:30 AM.