

DERRY FIRE DEPARTMENT



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Excellence through Professionalism, Integrity, and Compassion

For immediate release:

Carbon Monoxide sends two to local hospital, Derry, New Hampshire

Type and Description of Incident / Fire:

A concerned family member who was checking on the two individuals found the two victims to be experiencing symptoms consistent with carbon monoxide poisoning. The family member reported finding one patient slumped over and a second acting unusual. She alerted the Derry Police Department.

At approximately 8:45 pm, the Derry Fire Communications Center received a request from the Derry Police Department to evaluate two patients for possible carbon monoxide. Ladder 4, Engine 1, Medic 1 and Car 1 were dispatched.

Ladder 4 responded from Hampstead Road Station and arrived on scene within five minutes. The arriving firefighters confirmed there were two patients, so a second medic unit was requested from Island Pond Station.

The firefighters then donned protective breathing equipment to search the residence for more possible victims. During the search, levels of carbon monoxide reaching nearly 300 ppm were observed.

Both victims were evaluated and found to have elevated levels of carbon monoxide in their blood. Advanced life support care was provided to both patients and both were transported to a local hospital with recoverable injuries.

The sources of the carbon monoxide were determined to be two kerosene fuel burning heaters that were being used during a construction process to allow drying. The two victims had been working in the area of these heaters. There were no Carbon Monoxide detectors found in the residence.

Injuries To Fire and Non-Fire Personnel:

Two civilians were evaluated by emergency medical services, treated and transported.

There were no injuries to fire department members.

Additional Remarks:

The most common symptoms of Carbon Monoxide poisoning are headache, flushed skin, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. Carbon Monoxide symptoms are often described as "flu-like."

The community is reminded to use caution when using fuel burning heaters in a confined place. Some of these heaters use up oxygen quickly and generate carbon monoxide vapors. There should always be a source of fresh air when fuel-air heaters are used, and carbon monoxide detectors should be utilized.

Incident #	2019 - 4844	Time of Alarm	8:46 p.m.
Date of Incident:	<u>12/23/2019</u>	Time "Under Control"	<u>9:23 p.m.</u>
Incident Address:	<u>8 Fox Hollow Rd</u>	Recall of Alarm	<u>9:57 p.m.</u>
Fire Officer Submitting Release: BC Shawn Haggart		Date:	11/17/2019
Signature of Fire Officer: _____			

Chief of Department – Michael J. Gagnon

