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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 23, 2016

Contact: Deputy Chief On-Duty

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Residential Fire 1365 Grant St

[Beloit, Wisconsin]— On March 23, 2016 the Beloit Fire Department responded to a residential fire at 1365 Grant St. Upon arrival the first due Engine Company found a single family residence with heavy smoke coming from the front and rear of the residence. The occupants were home at the time of the fire and were able to escape. They reported hearing a loud "bang" sound prior to the fire and stated that the house began to fill with smoke. Due to the smoke conditions in the basement and location of the fire multiple fire crews had to be sent into the basement in order to find the fire and extinguish it. Additional fire departments were requested through the MABAS system to help cover on going medical calls in the city during the fire as well as assist at the fire scene.

Both of the occupants suffered smoke inhalation and were transported by ambulance to Beloit Hospital. One of the occupants is in serious condition and was transferred to UW Madison. The other occupant was treated and released from the Beloit ER. The house is unlivable at this time and the occupants are being assisted by the Red Cross.

The cause of the fire was an electrical issue in the basement that ignited surrounding materials. Damage to the home is estimated at \$65,000.

Deputy Chief Joe Murray