



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 11, 2021

CONTACT: Ron Smith  
Fire Chief

Re: Arson Fire, 701 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street

On June 10, 2021 at approximately 5:50 a.m., the City of Rolla Fire & Rescue responded to a report of a structure fire at 701 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Upon arrival, fire crews found moderate fire and smoke coming from an apartment in the rear of the structure. Fire personnel quickly searched the building and assisted one resident from the building. At the same time, fire personnel were able to quickly extinguish the fire and limit the damage to three apartments. Smoke and water damage was extensive.

An initial investigation was opened and fire investigators determined the fire to be suspicious in nature. Due to these findings, the City of Rolla Fire & Rescue Investigation Team, Missouri Division of Fire Safety Fire Investigator, and the City of Rolla Police Department began an investigation of the incident.

Throughout the day, fire investigators were able to pin point the location of the fire's origin and eliminate all possible accidental causes. In addition, through evidence gathered and witness statements, fire investigators identified a person of interest.

A search warrant was initiated through the Missouri State Fire Marshal and additional information was obtained. As a result, contact was made with Jamie Holley, Rolla. Ms. Holley was placed under arrest and transported to the Rolla Police Department. She was interviewed by detectives with the Rolla Police Department and the Missouri State Fire Investigator. During the interview, Ms. Holley, provided information that was consistent with the evidential findings of the fire investigators.

Ms. Holley is charged with - Second Degree Arson and First Degree Burglary. She is being held on a \$50,000 bond and incarcerated in the Phelps County Jail.

As the Fire Chief for the City of Rolla, I am grateful for the work of the newly created City of Rolla Fire Investigation Team. This team is working diligently under the leadership of Jeff Breen, Assistant Fire Chief, to provide a consistent and thorough review of each fire within the City of Rolla. We are thankful after a

quick review of the evidence, following the leads presented, and making an arrest, our citizens are better protected.

The charges for which Ms. Jamie Holley was arrested are merely accusations and are not evidence of guilt. Evidence in support of the charges must be presented before a court of a competent jurisdiction whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

If you have additional information pertaining to this case, please contact the City of Rolla confidential tip line at (573) 364-0111.