



Massachusetts State Police Report of Investigation



Case Number: 2010-117-1293	Controlling Case Number:
Author:	Created On: 08/03/2010
Lead Investigator: VARKAS Mark P	Assisted by: Tprs Berteletti, Fagan, Dennis Driscoll State Gas Insp, MSP CSS, Norfolk FDPD
Team: South	
Agency Assist:	K-9:

Date of Incident 07/30/2010	Time of Incident 12:26 PM (approximate)
Requested By:	Requested On:
Organization Norfolk Fire Department	Date 07/30/2010
Representative Chief Bushnell	Time 14:15 PM
Email Address	

Case Type (codes) F60 Fire - Accidental - Fatal
Warrant None
Property Type Residential

Technical Assistance None
Other

Street Address 27/28 Wildwood Rd.
City / Town Norfolk
State MA
Zip Code

Case Status C8 Closed Completed
Approved By
Approved On
Adult(s) Charged <input type="checkbox"/> 0
Juv. Charged <input type="checkbox"/> 0
Comments Residential propane fueled explosion. A total of eight parties transported to hospital including two fire fighters. Three civilians transported by life flight. One fatality at this time. Investigation into cause of explosion/fire continues. No

indication that this incident is incendiary in nature . Fire site was a residential structure under construction.

People Allowed to Edit this Document: [Supervisors]

Created: 08/03/2010 06:10 PM by Mark P Varkas

Revision History 09/16/2010 12:32 PM by CN=Paul T Zipper/OU=MSP/O=DFS

11/16/2010 13:35 STEWART Jeanne changed Case Status from O1 Open Active I to C8 Closed Completed.

Attach external file(s) here:

Fire Investigation Summary Report

Case Number: 2010-117-1293
Controlling Case Number: None
Case Type: F60 Fire - Accidental - Fatal

Report Creator: Mark P Varkas
Lead Investigator(s): Mark P VARKAS Team: South

FIU Requested By: Chief Bushnell from Norfolk Fire Department
FIU Requested On:

Date and Time of Incident: 07/30/2010 at approximately 12:26 PM
Address/ Location of Incident: 27/28 Wildwood Rd. Norfolk, MA

Property Investigated

Type of Investigation: Fire
Type of Property: Residential

Protection Systems :

Smoke Detector: Operational

Comments: One and one half story wood framed , two unit, residential structure . Structure consisted of two condominium units . The exterior of the structure consisted of vinyl siding and an asphalt shingled roof . Unit #27 had a one car garage and unit #28 had a two car garage , at side A. The unit designated as # 27 Wildwood Rd . was occupied by the owner/occupant, Mary Beth Jackson , at the time of this incident . The unit designated as # 28 Wildwood Rd . was in its final stages of construction as finish work was taking place . # 28 was in the process of being sold , with a move in date of late August. There were workers from Deno Electric and Prevett Heating and Cooling in #28 at the time of the incident . Thomas Di Placido was also in #28.

Fire Source

Cause of Fire: Accidental
Ignition: Unable to state a definitive ignition source .
Material Ignited: Vapors from liquid propane , this incident involved a propane fueled explosion .
Explanation:

On Friday, July 30, 2010 at approx. 1226 hours the Norfolk Police and Fire Departments received numerous reports of an explosion on Winterberry Way. It was later learned that the actual address is 27/28 Wildwood Rd. It should further be noted that most of the calls reporting the incident were placed via cell phones, the initial call would go to the State Police Communications Section in Framingham and then be transferred to Norfolk Fire/Police. The site is an ongoing construction project, where an over fifty five condominium complex is being constructed. The project has been underway for sometime and many of the condo units have been sold and are occupied. Each residential structure houses two condominiums.

On the same date at approx. 1415 hours I received a call from the State Police Fire and Explosion Investigation Section. It was at this time that I became aware of this incident. I further learned that State Fire Marshal Coan was on scene and was requesting that I respond in order to assist Norfolk Fire and Police in the origin and cause aspect of the investigation. While travelling to the scene I called both Trps. Berteletti and Fagan, also of the State Police Fire and Explosion Investigation Section and I asked them to respond to the scene.

Upon my arrival on scene I noted that there was a large contingency of emergency vehicles on scene. I further noted that the residential structure in question, #27/28 Wildwood Rd. had sustained severe damage as the result of an explosion. #28 Wildwood Rd. was reduced to a field of debris that had been scattered over a large area and in the basement. I further observed that #27 Wildwood Rd. remained intact

Fire Investigation Summary Report

except for the section where the units were attached. It appeared that the damage had occurred above the area of the basement foundation that separated the two units.

I had a brief conversation with Det. Fletcher, Norfolk PD and with Fire Fighter Yunker, Norfolk FD, who were leaving the scene and travelling to Boston in an effort to interview the three most severely injured parties who had been life flighted to Boston hospitals. I later learned that the Det. Fletcher and Fire Fighter Yunker were unable to converse with them on this date, due to the severity of their injuries. They did conduct interviews of other parties that sustained injuries as a result of the incident.

I met with Fire Marshal Coan and with Chief Bushnell of the Norfolk Fire Department. Chief Bushnell was one of the first responders to arrive on scene along with Sgt. Heinz of Norfolk PD. The Chief informed me that their initial observations were heavy black smoke coming from the basement. The Chief indicated that he did observe fire in the area of the two gas meters toward side C of the structure. Chief Bushnell told me that he instructed Sgt. Heinz of the Norfolk Police to shut the propane off at the tank. The Chief told me that he observed that roofing shingles were burning, which would explain the black smoke. The Chief further indicated that with limited staffing the Fire Department had to administer immediate medical attention to the critically injured patients and to suppress the fire in and around the basement. Chief Bushnell informed me that it appeared that the heaviest fire damage in terms of charring involved assemblies for the floor, ceiling and wood framing for the basement. The Chief informed me that one party was in the basement, buried in debris, and that it took over an hour to extricate this individual. The Chief did state that as Fire Fighters were in the basement debris, fire was extending toward them.

Fire Marshal Coan advised me that there were two pieces of heavy equipment clearing debris from the area. I approached the operators of the heavy equipment and was assured that they were not on scene prior to the explosion and were asked to assist after the fact in clearing some of the debris from the basement. The equipment operators were identified as Rich Anderson and a Gary Lewicki of RE Anderson Trucking Corp. I asked them to stop clearing the debris as I wanted any debris removal to be conducted under my direction.

It should be noted that as well as the numerous fire personal on scene, as this was a multiple alarm fire/explosion there were representatives of the town of Norfolk present. This included the Norfolk Building Commissioner, Bob Bullock, Paul Steeves, the Norfolk Gas Inspector and Ron Bain, the Norfolk Wiring Inspector. Representatives from Energy USA Propane Inc. were also on scene which included W. Kent Corson and Jim Runey. Energy USA Propane Inc. is responsible for installing the one thousand pound underground propane tank that fuels the two unit condominium structure. They are also responsible for running the underground lines from the tank to the meters that were located at side C of the structure. It should be noted that each double unit on the site has its own underground propane tank. Also present was a Paul Prevett of Prevett Heating and Cooling. Mr. Prevett was responsible for placing the furnace, (Amana), in the basement and for the air conditioning unit as well as running the duct work throughout the basement. Mr. Prevett was not on site at the time of the incident. He did have two workers on site at the time of the incident. A Jerry Smolinsky of Smolinsky Brothers Plumbing was also present at this time. Smolinsky Brothers was responsible for running the steel pipes that carry the propane from the stub in the foundation throughout the basement to all of the appliances in the unit which included the furnace, hot water heater, first floor stove and first floor direct vent fireplace. All of these appliances are powered by propane and electricity. Smolinsky Brothers would be responsible for running the piping to the gas valve in the furnace. It should be noted that I spoke with all of these representatives on several occasions during the course of this investigation. I found each of them to be helpful and concerned about the well being of the injured. Eric Jones and David Doll from OSHA were also present and assisting.

Upon the arrival of Tprs. Berteletti and Fagan we discussed a plan with Chief Bushnell as to how to proceed with the investigation. I was in the process of locating a phone number for the State Office of Investigations as I wanted a State Gas Inspector to respond to the scene. I was told by Paul Steeves that he had talked to Dennis Driscoll, a State Gas Inspector, and Paul Steeves informed me that Dennis Driscoll was responding.

As mentioned earlier in my report it appeared that there was a severe explosion. As I looked at the

Fire Investigation Summary Report

debris field I noted minimal fire damage to, for the most part, the first floor and roof framing that had gone airborne and then either landed in the basement or around the foundation of the home. It appeared that the structure had been cut in half. I believed that this was the case as the cement foundation that separated the two units acted as a firewall. The damage to the basement/cement walls was unremarkable except for an area at side C in the area of the meters and to an area at side D. The wooden sill board was intact except for these two areas where there was evidence of fire damage. The damage was high and did not extend upward from lower in the basement. I was of the opinion that once the first floor and attic area landed back in the basement it initially smothered the majority of existing fire. The debris field in the basement did reignite shortly after the arrival of the first in fire fighters.

A closer examination of the two meters at side C of the home revealed the regulator and piping before the meter was damaged and the piping had broken. I was of the opinion that the regulator and piping was broken by falling debris after the explosion. The damage would have prevented propane from passing through the meter. The meter for #27 read 200 cubic feet of propane had travelled through the meter prior to the explosion. The meter for #28 read 900 cubic feet of propane had travelled through the meter. I felt that this was significant as #28 was not occupied and both meters had been set at zero on the same date in June. Once the regulator and piping had broken away from the meter no more propane would have registered at the meter. It is conceivable that there was a significant leak in the basement. This damage would also explain the fire damage in the corner of the basement in close proximity to the meters. If ignited the propane flowing from the pipe would act as a torch until the valve was shut off at the tank. It should further be noted that the gas cocks for each meter were in the open position.

Trs. Berteletti and Fagan entered the basement and directed the heavy equipment in removing debris. The goal was to locate the propane fueled appliances in the home/basement as we were of the opinion that this was a propane fueled explosion. The plan was to leave the appliances in place, photograph them and make observations. It should be noted that all of the appliances in question were located in the basement. Included were the first floor stove and first floor fireplace. These appliances were not fire damaged. The damage to these items was caused from going airborne and landing in the basement. The hot water heater was located in the basement on its side against the side D wall. The fire damage to the hot water heater was unremarkable. The gas cock was found to be in the open position. According to Dennis Driscoll the hot water heater is power vented with a sealed combustion chamber which would make it flame/vapor ignition resistant. I believe that the natural gas to propane conversion on the hot water heater is done off site. It took quite sometime to locate the furnace. The workers on site told us the general location of where it should have been. Dennis Driscoll climbed into the basement and located the furnace. The furnace was buried in debris which for the most part consisted of the first floor bathroom. The furnace sustained significant fire damage as the exterior was discolored and distorted. I joined Dennis Driscoll in the basement. We removed the now distorted metal panel which housed the gas valve and electrical wiring. There was fire damage inside the panel as the gas valve sustained substantial melting. All of the electrical insulation had burnt away exposing bare wires. The plastic wire nuts had also melted/burnt away. My initial thought was that this area located inside the furnace/metal box would have been protected if a fire had extended to the box as opposed to the fire originating inside the furnace. I also was of the opinion that once the first floor bathroom area landed on top of the furnace this would have further protected it from fire damage. Dennis Driscoll showed me that the union that feeds into the gas valve was loose to the touch. I did touch the union and it was loose to the touch. I did not feel that the union would have become that loose as a result of the explosion. The gas cock to the furnace was found to be in the open position.

Under the direction of Dennis Driscoll, the gas lines leading from the propane tank to the broken pipe just before the meters was pressure tested by Energy USA Propane. There were no leaks observed during this testing. It should be noted that we were not able to pressure test the propane feeds in the basement as the steel pipes were found to be broken. I did not observe that the connections had become loose as I noted that the pipes had broken. There was at least one pipe where I observed one end of the pipe still screwed into the other, even though the pipe had broken just at the threads.

A sniff test was done at the underground tank by opening the valve at the shroud. I did smell what I believe to be propane as a result of this sniff test.

Fire Investigation Summary Report

On this date I had the opportunity to speak with Pat Brogan, Prevett Heating and Cooling. Mr. Brogan told me that he had been in the basement earlier in the morning. He did tell me that the electricians were in the basement, but he did not know what they were working on. He did tell me that he and Billy Prevett had been working on the AC unit located on the exterior at side C. He told me that they were in the process of pressure checking and purging the AC unit. He stated that he left in order to get some supplies and he got a call about the incident and returned to the scene. He did tell me that he had done the conversion, natural gas to propane, on the furnace, approx. one month ago. He also stated that he was scheduled to fire up the furnace later in the day on this date, when the electricians finished wiring the furnace. It should be noted that the cooling system for the AC unit rests on top of the furnace and they share the same fan and duct work.

I also spoke to William Prevett. He told me that he was not sure what the electricians were doing in the basement as he had been pressure testing and purging the AC unit outside at side C. He indicated that at the time of the explosion he was on the first floor walking across the kitchen. Mr. Prevett was treated and released from the hospital.

This investigation did observe pressure testing equipment at side C of the home in the area of the AC unit. We also located a pink freon tank behind the home at side B.

At Dennis Driscoll's suggestion I secured the items that had broken off of the feeds just before the meter. These items included the secondary stage regulator, a ball valve type gas cock, a section of pipe, an O ring for the regulator, a nipple and a spring. These items were secured in a paper evidence bag. On Monday, August 2, I gave these items to Eric Jones from OSHA.

This Officer had a discussion with Chief Bushnell relative to securing the scene until we were satisfied that this was an accident and that no criminal activity had occurred. Chief Bushnell secured the site overnight and a fence was erected around the site.

On Monday, August 2, at approx. 0900 hours this Officer returned to the scene re the continuance of this investigation. I met with Attorney Nannicelli, representing the property owner, Thomas Di Placido. Mr. Nannicelli gave me verbal consent in order that I could continue my investigation. As expected there were private investigators and representatives of insurance companies on scene. This included Tom Klem, from Tom Klem and Assoc. who was retained by the property owners insurance company. Also, representing Energy USA Propane was a Craig Williams from Canney Brook Forensic Engineers. This Officer will not mention all parties that were present. I did have a sign in sheet which is available upon request.

I was further joined by Chief Bushnell, Lt. Stewart of the State Police Fire and Explosion Investigation Section and by Dennis Driscoll. We initially took all parties present through the scene and showed them what we had done on Friday, July 30. We also told them of our observations. All present were given the opportunity to take photographs.

It was at this time that the electrical panel was located. The panel was located under debris on the exterior at side D. The panel was intact, was free of fire damage and was marked. With the assistance of Ron Bain, Norfolk Wiring Inspector, we located the circuit that was marked heat and it was found to be in the tripped position.

Due to the fact that not one person had mentioned smelling propane I called John Drugan, a State Police Chemist, who handles arson and related evidence. I asked John Drugan if I obtained a sample from the propane tank if it was possible to analyze same for the presence of an odorant. At that point I asked Chief Bushnell to have a Haz. Mat. team respond in an effort to take a sample from the propane tank. This was done under the direction of Chief McMorrow of the Wrentham Fire Department. The Haz. Mat. team was unable to take their own readings and I secured three samples which I brought to John Drugan on Tuesday, August 3rd. After learning that liquid samples had been secured from the one thousand pound tank on site to be submitted to an independent lab for analysis for odorant it was decided that John Drugan would not conduct any testing. John Drugan will retain the samples in the event there is a request for them.

Fire Investigation Summary Report

Under the direction of Dennis Driscoll the propane lines were marked on the ground which led from the under ground tank to the home. A bar hole test was conducted in the area of the tank and the lines and there was no evidence of propane in the earth.

It should be noted that this Officer had further conversations with Paul Prevett and with Jerry Smolinsky during the course of this day. They both remained helpful and concerned for the well being of Thomas Di Placido, who remained in a [REDACTED]

This investigation had not received any information that led us to believe that the cause of this explosion was anything other than an accident. In discussion with Chief Bushnell and with Lt. Stewart it was decided that we would relinquish control over the scene to Attorney Nannicelli.

This Officer is aware, however, not fully informed, that there was a propane leak discovered in a different area of the construction site on Friday evening, the same date as the incident. Energy USA Propane Inc. was in the process of checking for leaks throughout the construction site as directed by Chief Bushnell. This leak was reported to Chief Bushnell on Tuesday, August 3rd. Ed DeStafano of the State Fire Marshals' Office, Code Compliance Section and Dennis Driscoll responded. Ed DeStafano will author a report relative to this leak. I do not believe that there is any relation to this leak and the incident at 27/28 Wildwood Rd.

On Thursday, August 5 at approx. 0930 hours I went to Rowell Rd. in Wrentham in order to interview a Thomas Moore. Thomas Moore is employed by Prevett Heating and Cooling. Mr. Moore told me that on Friday, July 30th, he was working in Wrentham with a Chris Robinson, Chris Robinson is employed by Smolinsky Brothers Plumbing. Mr. Moore told me that at approx. 1 PM he got a call from Pat Brogan. Pat told him about the explosion in Norfolk and told him to get right over to Norfolk. Tom stated that when he told Chris about the explosion Chris became very nervous and said that Jerry Smolinsky was going to fire him because "I fucked up, I just know it, Jerry is going to fire me." Tom said that Chris was nervous to the point that he could not talk and that Chris did not even remember Toms' name.

On this same date at approx. 1045 hours I arrived at Solitude Rd. in Taunton in order to converse with Chris Robinson. Chris told me that on Wednesday, July 28th, he and Jerry carried the hot water heater into the basement at 28 Wildwood Rd. Chris told me that he installed the water and propane pipes to the hot water heater. He indicated that he livened the propane meter and then went about installing an outside spigot and worked on the kitchen sink. Chris stated that Jerry fired up the hot water heater and that he was not present when Jerry fired up the hot water heater. Jerry told Chris that the temperature was not up and that the hot water heater went out. Jerry had to purge the gas lines at that time. Chris said that this would not include purging the furnace lines and that he never touched the furnace lines. He stated that he left at 3 PM after setting the temperature for the water heater. He did indicate that the gas cock at the meter and at the hot water heater were left open.

At approx. 1110 hours I spoke to Jerry Smolinsky, who was also present at the Taunton site. Jerry did tell me that he had to purge the hot water heater on Wednesday, but he did not touch the furnace. He told me that he had installed the gas valve in the furnace during rough. Moments into this conversation Jerry got a phone call. He exited my van in order to talk on the phone. Moments later he approached on the drivers side of the van. I said to Jerry I know exactly what you are going to say. Jerry said, what? I told him that his lawyer does not want him talking to me anymore. I shook his hand and he walked away.

This Officer is of the belief that the first floor kitchen stove was installed by Ferguson/Daddario. The natural gas/propane conversion was performed by a Tim Petit. I am not aware of when this occurred. According to Eric Jones of OSHA someone from Ferguson/Daddario told him that Mr. Petit would not be cooperating with the investigation. I can state that the gas cock for the stove was found to be in the open position.

This Officer has no information on the fireplace at this time. The gas cock to the fireplace was in the open position.

Fire Investigation Summary Report

The furnace was placed in position by employees of Prevett Heating and Cooling. The cooling system for the AC unit sits on top of the heating unit of the furnace. They share the same blower/fan and duct system. Smolinsky Brothers fed all of the propane lines in the basement. This included installing the gas union and gas valve inside the furnace. The gas cock to the furnace was found in the open position.

Deno Electric is responsible for the electrical in the home which would include wiring the various appliances. Det. Fletcher of the Norfolk Police did have a conversation with Rob Dena on Saturday, July 31st. Mr. Dena told Det. Fletcher that William Nichols was wiring the low voltage thermostat to the furnace on Friday, July 30th. Mr. Dena was at the exterior of the structure at side A attaching a light fixture to the area of the garage door.

At some point Det. Fletcher spoke to David Bethel. Mr. Bethel told Det. Fletcher that at the time of the explosion he was in the kitchen cleaning up as well as plugging and switching the kitchen.

Energy USA Propane Inc. is responsible for the propane tanks and lines up to the foundations of the homes.

On Friday, August 6th a contingency of private investigators and insurance representatives returned to the scene. At this time items of interest were removed from the scene for further analysis. I was not present and I asked Tpr. Peters to be there as a representative of the State Police Fire and Explosion Investigation Section.

It should be noted that on the date of the incident, Tpr. Berteletti did converse with Mary Beth Jackson, who resides at 27 Wildwood Rd. Ms. Jackson stated that she was home at the time of the incident. She was on the computer. She indicated that she did not smell anything and that she did not experience any electrical problems. She stated that she had washed dishes earlier in the morning and had hot water. She had not been using her heat or air conditioning. Most of the rooms in her condominium sustained damage to the ceilings as the pressure from the initial blast coming downward caused the ceilings and insulation to pull down.

It should be noted that this Officer is aware that Paul Steeves, Norfolk Gas Inspector, signed off on the propane lines and appliances on Wednesday, July 28th. Paul Steeves told me that at the time of his inspection there was no one present.

As a result of this joint investigation this Officer is of the opinion that the cause of this event is accidental and related to a propane leak which occurred in the basement, most probably at or within the furnace. This Officer is aware, not fully informed, of the properties of propane. The scene examination revealed that the most severely damaged appliance was the furnace. It appeared that the seat of the explosion occurred at the furnace and that the lowest and heaviest fire damage occurred inside a metal panel which should have been a protected area inside the furnace itself. This was further evidenced by the condition of the cement and metal lally columns in the basement. The columns in close proximity to the furnace sustained the most distortion. It was further found that the union which is affixed to the gas valve inside the furnace was loose to the touch. I do not believe that this union became loose as a result of the explosion as it was located in a protected area. Other unions in the basement had broken as opposed to have come loose.

On or about August 25, 2010 Chief Bushnell received the results of the analysis of the liquid samples that were taken from the underground tank in question. The tests results for the presence of Mercaptan showed less than 1 part per million. Chief Bushnell was alarmed by the analysis and asked Kent Corson of Energy USA Propane to conduct tests on the remaining underground tanks located at Rivers Edge. The majority of the tanks tested for odorant came back with levels less than industry standards. Refer to report of Chief Bushnell relative to the findings. At this point, at the direction of Chief Bushnell, Energy USA Propane took these tanks out of service and installed above ground temporary tanks. Chief Bushnell also alerted the State Fire Marshal's Office relative to his concerns. The State Fire Marshal was concerned that this may be a public safety issue as his office was not sure of the scope of this issue. The Fire Marshal

Fire Investigation Summary Report

contacted the Attorney Generals' Office and meetings took place as to how to proceed with the furtherance of the potential public safety issue.

It should further be noted that Kent Corson also checked the bulk sites of Energy USA Propane and was not satisfied with the amount of odorant found. Energy USA Propane voluntarily stopped distributing their product.

This Officer is not fully informed of all of the sites that were visited for testing as Tim Rodrigue, Division Director for the Division of Fire Safety, coordinated these efforts with the Attorney Generals' Office.

The investigation into the potential public safety issue regarding the lack of odorant is ongoing. For further details relative to the odorant aspect of this investigation refer to Tim Rodrigue and the Attorney General's Office.

On Monday, 9-3-2010 at approx. 1000 hours I returned to the scene as I aware that a contingency of fire investigators and insurance representatives would be on site in order to remove the propane tank in question and secure same. I met with Chief Bushnell, Attorney Nannicelli and with Tom Di Placido Sr. Mr. Di Placido told me that in a conversation with Gary Lewicki, RE Anderson, he learned that Mr. Lewicki spoke to Tom Di Placido on the morning of July 30th and Tom Jr. did not feel good as he told Gary that he was light headed and felt dizzy. Tom Jr. had been in the basement of #28 Wildwood just prior to meeting with Gary Lewicki. I asked Tom Sr. if Gary was on site, which he was. I spoke with Gary Lewicki and he confirmed that he did have this conversation with Tom Jr. He indicated that he met with Tom Jr. sometime around 10 AM in order to find out if Tom Jr. was going to work with him after break. It was at this time that Tom Jr. stated that he was not feeling good. Tom Jr. had been in the basement earlier in the morning sweeping and cleaning the basement.

On Wednesday, 11-3-2010 at approx. 1700 hours this Officer and Chief Bushnell had the opportunity to be present for an interview with Tom Di Placido Jr. The interview took place at the Di Placido residence. Present at this time were Eric Jones from OSHA, Attorney William Dailey - representing Di Placido Development Corp., Attorneys Pat Jones and Tim Kelliher from Cooley, Manion and Jones. Also present were Tom Di Placido's parents. Tom Jr. told us that on the day of the incident he went into the basement of # 28 at approx. 0930 hours. He stated that he was sweeping and cleaning up the basement. He indicated that William Nichols was in the basement at this time. Tom Jr. informed us that as soon as he got into the basement he was struck by a strong odor that he could not describe or identify. He did tell us that it did not smell like propane. He stated that as he swept the debris in the basement the smell got worse and he got a tingling sensation in his nose. He stated that he never spoke to William Nichols about the odor. He could not tell us what Mr. Nichols was doing, as he saw him in different areas of the basement. He did tell us that another person came down into the basement for a short time and then left. He does not know who this person was or what this person was doing. Tom Jr. went on to say that he left the basement at approx. 1000 hours. He stated that he felt light headed and dizzy. At approx. 1130 hours he returned to the basement in order to pick up the piles that he had left behind earlier. He stated that when he got into the basement the smell seemed to be worse. He stated that Mr. Nichols was still in the basement. He could not tell us what Mr. Nichols was doing as he saw him in different areas of the basement. He stated that he was just about to leave the basement and he was standing at the basement stairs when there was a bright light and then a loud bang. He did tell us that at that moment he did see Mr. Nichols walking in front of the furnace.

Pending any forthcoming information that warrants the re opening of this matter, this Officer respectfully requests that this case be closed....

Evidence

Fire Investigation Summary Report

Gathered By: Fire Marshal's Office

Description / Explanation / Comments:

Samples secured from propane tank to be submitted to State Police Lab . to be analyzed for odorant

Photos

Taken By: Other (see comments)

Description / Explanation / Comments:

Tpr. Toomey - State Police Crime Scene Services

K-9

K-9 Not Used

Occupants

See report, See report -- 27/28 Wildwood Rd. Norfolk, MA 00000
DOB: N/A, SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A

Jackson, Mary B. -- 27 Wildwood Rd. Norfolk, MA 00000
DOB: [REDACTED] SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A

Injuries

Nichols, William S., (Deno Electric - Franklin) -- 24 Kanatha St. Blackstone, MA 00000
DOB: [REDACTED] SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A, Injury Status: [REDACTED]

Bethel, David, (Deno Electric - Franklin) -- 221 South St. Foxboro, MA 00000
DOB: [REDACTED] SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A, Injury Status: Injured -- Civilian

Dena, Rob (Deno Electric - Franklin) -- 3 Rosewood Ln. Franklin, MA 00000
DOB: [REDACTED] SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A, Injury Status: Injured -- Civilian

Prevett, William, (Prevett Heating and Cooling - Foxboro) -- Lake St. Norfolk, MA 00000
DOB: [REDACTED] SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A, Injury Status: Injured -- Civilian

Di Placido, Thomas, (Di Placido Contracting Corp . - Franklin) -- 130 Burnt Swamp Rd. Wrentham, MA 00000
DOB: [REDACTED] SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A, Injury Status: Injured -- Civilian

Pyne, David, (Walpole Fire Fighter) -- Walpole Fire Dept. Walpole, MA 00000
DOB: N/A, SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A, Injury Status: Injured -- Fire Fighter

Zajac, John, (Norfolk Fire Fighter) -- Norfolk Fire Dept. Norfolk, MA 00000
DOB: N/A, SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A, Injury Status: Injured -- Fire Fighter

Jackson, Mary B. -- 27 Wildwood Rd. Norfolk, MA 00000
DOB: [REDACTED] SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A, Injury Status: Injured -- Occupant

Fire Investigation Summary Report

Owner

Doing Business As : Village at Rivers Edge Condominiums

Di Placido Contracting Corp ., Di Placido Contracting Corp . -- Earls Wy. Franklin, MA 00000
DOB: N/A, SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A

SM Lorusso, SM Lorusso -- Unknown Address Unknown City , MA 00000
DOB: N/A, SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A

Village at Rivers Edge Condominiums , Owners of Assoc. - Condo owners -- Unknown Address
Norfolk, MA 00000
DOB: N/A, SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A

Reported By

See report, See report -- 27/28 Wildwood Rd. Norfolk, MA 00000
DOB: N/A, SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A

Discovered By

See report, See report -- 27/28 Wildwood Rd. Norfolk, MA 00000
DOB: N/A, SSN: N/A, Phone: N/A

Witnesses

No Known Witnesses