

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE City of Duluth Fire Department

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DATE: 05/22/2012

NATURE OF INCIDENT: String of arson fires

CASE NO.:

INCIDENT DATE :05/22/2012 INCIDENT TIME: 2:04 A.M.

INCIDENT LOCATION: West Duluth

SUBJECT: Fire crews and Investigators kept busy with three arson fires

BY: Acting Assistant Chief Jarry Keppers

Duluth Fire crews responded to a string of early morning vehicle fires and a garage fire in West Duluth. The fires were in the area of 65th and 66th Ave West and were all within three blocks of each other.

At 2:04 A.M., firefighters responded to a fire where an RV was was fully engulfed in flames and destroyed at 115 S. 65th Avenue West. Fire crews were just finishing up extinguishing this fire at 2:56 A.M. when a second fire involving a pick-up truck with extensive flames was reported one and one half blocks away at 65th and Polk St.

Just minutes later, at 3:04 A.M., Duluth Police responding to the fire reported another larger fire requiring a full structure fire alarm response at the rear of 19 N. 66th Avenue West. This fire destroyed a garage and two cars parked close by it.

The garage fire burned power lines down and the area was without power. Fire crews had to work around the hazardous downed wires. Minnesota Power is working to restore power to the area.

Duluth Police and St Louis County Sheriff's officers worked to locate a possible suspect. Duluth fire investigators also responded to the three fire scenes.