



BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

357 FORDING ISLAND ROAD
OKATIE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29909



NEWS RELEASE

Immediate Release

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Early morning fire displaces family in Bluffton subdivision

Bluffton, SC (June 14, 2023, 2:00 p.m.) – An early morning fire in the Cypress Ridge subdivision destroyed a home and displaced its residents. The fire broke out at approximately 3:30 a.m. and quickly spread through the home. Five individuals were home at the time but were able to get out before firefighters arrived. One adult female experienced respiratory distress because of smoke inhalation and was transported by ambulance to the hospital. She was treated and released later in the morning. No additional injuries occurred, and the incident remains under investigation. Two vehicles that were parked in front of the house were also destroyed by the fire.

Chief Paul Boulware was on scene for the incident and noted that, “This fire moved quickly through the home. Even though our crews were on the scene within 3 minutes after being dispatched, the fire spread and engulfed the home.” He continued, “Smoke alarms were activated when our firefighters arrived, and thankfully, everyone was able to get out safely.”

Already in 2023, there have been more than 1,100 home fires, according to the U.S. Fire Administration. Smoke alarms were present in three-quarters (74 percent) of reported home fires in 2014–2018, the most recent period for which the National Fire Protection Association provides statistics. Residents are reminded to check smoke alarms at least once per month and replace batteries at a minimum of once each year. Smoke alarms older than ten years should be replaced.

For more information about home fire safety and resources to help prevent fires, please visit the Bluffton Township Fire District website at www.blufftonfd.com. You can also follow @BlufftonFire on social media including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Nextdoor.

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