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WEST METRO FIRE-RESCUE DISTRICT

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West Metro Fire-Rescue District Live Fire Training at Bass Lake Road Apartments

In order to survive, firefighters must be able to think critically and clearly and solve problems quickly, under extreme stress. This can be especially difficult in an actual fire, so the West Metro Fire-Rescue District conducts live fire training for their firefighters: buildings are purposely set on fire to give our firefighters and officers' opportunities to develop their skills. The overall goal of this training is to instill good habits in firefighters through repeated exposure. Most often, we conduct live fire training in burn buildings, which are structures built to be intentionally burned for firefighter training. When given the opportunity we will also burn in acquired structures like the Bass Lake Road Apartments.

With a lot of hard work by many WMFRD firefighters and support from the City of New Hope and the neighborhood we were given one of these opportunities on Saturday, June 7, 2008. Beginning at 9:00 in the morning crews worked throughout the day and into the next morning conducting interior fire operations, demolition of the building and maintaining a fire watch for the safety of the residents.

More than 40 firefighters exercised their skills in hose lays, fire suppression, tactics, ventilation, overhaul, incident command, safety, pump operations, and accountability. This experience was only possible with the support of the WMFRD Auxiliary, WMFRD Explorers, New Hope Police Reserves, the City of New Hope and residents, who enjoyed the event throughout the day.

About West Metro Fire-Rescue District

West Metro Fire-Rescue District provides fire services to the communities of Crystal and New Hope through a joint powers agreement. Organized July 6, 1998 after over six years of study, discussions, consultant's reports and special legislation, the District provides an efficient delivery system eliminating duplication while reducing and stabilizing future budget costs. A board of directors appointed by each City Council governs the Fire District.

West Metro Fire-Rescue District is committed to providing quality fire and safety services and security to the people, businesses and the environment within the district in an efficient and cost effective manner. We pledge to respond in a timely manner, provide competent well-trained personnel, treat our customers with respect and provide a sense of value for our service.

West Metro Fire-Rescue District provides emergency response to fire situations, specialized rescue and emergency medical support. We also provide fire prevention services through constant inspections and public fire safety education across the District.

