



Eau Claire Fire & Rescue
News Media Report

Date: 10/06/11 Dispatch Time: 11:24 Incident Number: 11-5950

Location: 1316 N. Hastings Way

Incident type: Fire Hazardous Materials Mass Casualty
 Auto Casualty Other _____

Alarms: 1st Alarm 2nd Alarm 3rd Alarm Special Call

Engine(s) Responding: 2 Rescue/Medical vehicle(s): 1

Command Vehicle(s): 2 Number of Personnel Responding: 10

Injuries: Civilian(s) 0 Firefighter(s): 0

Transported by Ambulance: Yes (number _____) No Where:

Fatalities: Yes (number _____) No

Evacuation: Yes No Comments: B & B Electric Office

Relocation: Yes No Note:

Mutual Aid: Given Received (units) N/A

Business Name: Apria Healthcare

Occupant Information

Name:
Address: 1316 N. Hastings Way
Eau Claire, WI 54703

Phone: 834-7517

Property Owner Information

Name: Same
Address:

Phone:

Structure Type: non-combustible - Retail Area of Origin: Rear of building

Under Investigation: Yes No By Whom:

Probable Cause: Electrical

Damage Estimate: \$3,500.00 (structure & contents)

Narrative – See next page

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Narrative:

At 11:24 hours the Eau Claire Fire Department was dispatched to a vehicle fire with powerlines involved. Engine 10, Engine 8 and Battalion 1 responded. Upon arrival we found a single axle truck with electrical power lines on the top of a vehicle. The lines were energized with arching visible at each tire of the vehicle. The power lines were 7200 volt lines.

Another set of wires were on the shop area of B & B Electric. Xcel Energy was requested as was a ECFD rescue unit (Ambulance). The area was secured and B & B electric was evacuated. The arching continued to get worse on the Apria vehicle and soon caught on fire. Several tires blew with fire moving into the engine compartment and soon advanced to the passenger compartment.

Until the power could be cut off to the downed powerlines, fire fighters used several dry chemical extinguishers to hold the fire from spreading to an adjacent vehicle.

Xcel Energy was on scene shortly after the first-in fire units arrived. Using an Xcel Energy boom truck, power was cut off at the pole by Xcel Energy employees. At this point the fire could be extinguished using water from Engine #10.

The power lines were knocked down when a pick-up truck at B & B Electric struck a guy wire near the shop of their building. This caused two power lines to contact each other. The contact of these lines then caused the lines to arch and break at the point of contact. They fell on the Apria vehicle and the metal structure at B & B Electric.

Damage is estimated at \$3,500.00 to the Apria vehicle. The vehicle was an older unit and is considered a total loss. There was another vehicle that was an exposure to the initial vehicle fire but crews were able to protect it until it could safely be moved.

There were no injuries. A small area did experience a power outage until the power lines could be repaired. The number of affected electrical customers is unknown at this time.

*Officer: Battalion Chief Kim Nessel
Eau Claire Fire Department*