

BROOME COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK

BINGHAMTON MAKES STOP ON WORKING GARAGE FIRE

by Nicholas Griswold

Photos provided by bystander



Heavy fire showing from the garage which faced Maple Street

Late in the evening at 23:29 hours on Saturday, May 26, 2012, Binghamton Fire Group B was dispatched by Broome County Communications for a reported garage fire at 36 Cypress Street in the city's First Ward. Since Quint 21-2 and Engine 21-1 were on scene of a medivac landing zone at Lourdes Hospital, this alarm brought all other on-duty companies in the city. Enroute Binghamton Police advised that they had fire showing. Fire Ambulance 7123 was the first unit to arrive on scene and advised of heavy fire showing from an attached garage on a two story wood frame and that this call was going to be a house fire.

Car 21 then requested the units on scene of the landing zone to clear up and respond to the fire as soon as possible. Squad 21 and Tower 21 arrived on scene and quickly stretched two handlines. The first line was directed to the garage and knocked down the main body of fire while the second line followed the tower's crew into the two family house where crews checked for extension and searched for any possible residents still inside. Quint 21-3 provided water supply from a hydrant on Cypress Street. Engine 21-4 and Engine 21-1 provided manpower at the scene. Quint 21-2, after clearing the landing zone, was directed back to headquarters to cover the city.



Crews work to overhaul the garage as others check for hot spots inside



Once the fire was knocked down in the garage and the tower's crew had determined there was no major extension into either apartment, major overhaul of the garage and interior walls on the garage side of the house began. Crews worked around a vehicle that was in the garage and a significant amount of belongings in the garage. Most of the interior walls on the garage side of the house had to be pulled to put out hot spots that were smoldering in the insulation. Parts of the garage

Crews continue to work at overhauling the garage.

roof also had to be opened up to gain access to some smoldering areas.

No residents were injured in the fire and neighbors believed the residents of one of the apartments may have been out of town. One Binghamton Police officer received treatment for a laceration to the hand from breaking a window trying to gain access to the structure. The Binghamton Fire Department Fire Marshal's office is conducting the investigation into the fire. Binghamton Police and Superior Ambulance assisted at the scene. All crews had returned to service by 01:47 hours the next morning.

