



HOLMEN AREA

FIRE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

MEDIA RELEASE – SEPTEMBER 6 RESIDENTIAL BASEMENT FIRE

HOLMEN, WI – The Holmen Area Fire Department (HAFD) self-dispatched at 9:13 a.m. on Sunday, September 6, 2026, after receiving a call on the fire station business line reporting smoke coming from a residence at 1608 Cliffview Drive.

A four-person HAFD engine company arrived within three minutes to find smoke showing from the structure. The incident was quickly upgraded, bringing automatic aid from the Onalaska and La Crosse Fire Departments. Mutual aid from the Galesville Fire Department was also requested.

After an initial first-floor search, firefighters located a basement fire and initiated suppression efforts. Firefighters from HAFD, Onalaska, and La Crosse extinguished the fire, searched the residence, ventilated the structure, and checked for fire extension. The fire was declared under control at 9:39 a.m., with salvage and overhaul operations completed by 10:19 a.m. The last HAFD unit cleared the scene around 12:45 p.m.

The homeowners were not present when the fire was discovered. One family dog was located and safely reunited with its owners. One firefighter was evaluated on scene for a heat-related illness and was not transported.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

Public Safety Reminder: HAFD reminds residents to always call 911 to report fires, medical emergencies, or other emergency situations.

"Our firefighters may be responding to emergencies, training, or conducting inspections and may not be available to answer the station business phone," said Fire Chief Ryan Ostreng. "Calling 911 ensures trained professional dispatchers can quickly assess the situation and dispatch the appropriate emergency resources without delay."

HAFD thanks the La Crosse County Emergency Dispatch Center, Onalaska Fire Department, La Crosse Fire Department, Galesville Fire Department, Emplify Health by Gundersen Ambulance, Holmen Police Department, and Xcel Energy for their assistance.

For more information, please contact Fire Chief Ryan Ostreng at (608) 399-8226 or visit www.holmenfire.com.

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Holmen Area Fire Department proudly services the Village of Holmen and Town of Holland