



Updated Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Damages Restaurant

At 10:38 am on February 3, 2023, the Faribault Fire Department received a call from Winjum's Resort located at 17759 177th St. W. The caller stated that they went into the restaurant and it appears that there had been a fire sometime last night. The fire was out and they wanted the fire department to come and look at it.

The fire department responded to survey the scene and start an investigation into the cause. Upon our arrival soot was evident on the windows and upon entry we discovered soot throughout the restaurant. The area of origin was identified and we began our investigation.

The Faribault Fire Department worked with the property owner to determine a cause. Due to the extent of damage the State Fire Marshal's Office was contacted to assist with the investigation which is on-going at this time. Preliminary investigation indicates an accidental fire.

Multiple investigators worked on the cause of this fire as with most fires. All investigators agree that the cause of the fire was a 4 foot LED lamp that was installed into an existing fluorescent light fixture without proper retrofitting. This caused fixture parts to overheat igniting the plastic lens and then the ignited materials dropping down onto flammable materials below.

Fire Chief Dustin Dienst commented, "This fire, like all fires that we respond to, is very unfortunate. We are thankful that no one was injured at that the fire did not destroy the building."

Fire Chief Dustin Dienst additionally commented, "Installing that LED lamp into a fluorescent fixture is a mistake that could be made by anyone. Please ensure that you are installing the correct lamp into any light fixture."