



CITY OF STUART PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Ben Hogarth
Community Services
Phone: (772) 288-5333
bhogarth@ci.stuart.fl.us

CITY OF STUART, 121 SW FLAGLER AVENUE, STUART, FLORIDA 34994
WWW.CITYOFSTUART.US

July 29, 2016

City Investigation of 'Nobile Shoes' Store Fire Ongoing

Stuart, FL – The fire that consumed and led to a total loss of the Nobile Shoes store at 888 Colorado Ave. on July 27th is currently under investigation by City officials.

While the fire was successfully contained to the initial structure, the threat of structural collapse of the remaining building forced City officials to assess additional safety needs for the site and preserve the integrity of the fire scene. "Now that we have secured the site with fencing and warning signs, in addition to closing the adjacent public sidewalk, we can focus on working collaboratively with all parties on our investigation into the cause of the fire," said City Fire Marshal Frank Lasaga. "The next step in the process will be to conduct a physical examination as soon as it is feasible," he added.

Initial damage is estimated around one million dollars and Stuart recognizes the community impact on a business with such a longstanding history in the City. Although one person was injured in the fire, they were taken to a local hospital with non-life threatening burns and discharged later that evening.

Thanks to the quick action by City first responders, there was no loss of life and adjacent businesses were protected from harm. "As for our own Fire-Rescue and Police Department personnel, I thank you for your expertise, and tireless service in the face of danger, and your efforts to prevent this blaze from becoming a conflagration, and to avoid traffic accidents, from the rush-hour traffic. All of your efforts are greatly appreciated by this community," said City Manager Paul Nicoletti.

For more information on this incident, please direct any questions to City of Stuart Fire Department at (772) 288-5360 or by email at fireprevention@ci.stuart.fl.us.

###

