

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **MILL STREET FIRE**

On July 4<sup>th</sup> at approximately 3:45 p.m., a five alarm fire broke out at 5 Mill Street, a tri-level building consisting of eight apartments owned by the Beverly YMCA. Beverly Police Officer William Barror, who was off duty at the time, came upon the fire and observed the front of the building to be fully engulfed. He rushed to the rear of the building and found the door to be locked. Barror then forced the door open and entered the burning building helping the first and second floor residents to safety. Barror tried to assist any residents located on the third floor but was turned away by flames and heavy smoke. All residents on the third floor had already evacuated the building. Officer Barror subsequently suffered smoke inhalation and was treated and released from Beverly Hospital. (See attached commendation). All residents were safely evacuated, however some were transported to Beverly Hospital with minor fire related illness or injury. All available Police Officer's were sent to the scene, including Officer's assigned to private details. Chris Lovasco, representing the YMCA, and the American Red Cross were on scene to help displaced residents. It is believed the building is a total loss and will have to be torn down. Two vehicles parked in front of the apartment were completely destroyed and towed from the scene as well. The extreme heat from the fire damaged the siding and roof of the next door apartment building at 9 Mill Street. It also damaged the roof, siding, fence, and air conditioning units at the rear of 28 Beckford Street. The fire is under investigation by the State Fire Marshall's Office and Beverly Fire Department.