



**E. "BEN" ZAHN III**  
MAYOR

# CITY OF KENNER

## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 6, 2019**

## TWO STRUCTURE FIRES IN LESS THAN 12 HOURS IN KENNER; ALL OCCUPANTS EVACUATED SAFELY

**Kenner, LA.** – Kenner firefighters responded to a pair of structure fires – one Tuesday night on Illinois Avenue and the second on Taylor Street Wednesday morning. There was heavy damage in both fires, but no injuries were reported to either occupants or firefighters.

Dispatchers received a call of a fire in a four-plex in the 2900 block of Illinois shortly before 7 p.m. Tuesday, with a man on scene encouraging people to evacuate the building.

Fire was located in one apartment of the two-story building and was under control within 30 minutes. However, flames were then located in the attic of the building, and additional fire apparatus was sent to the scene. With the help of mutual aid partners, there was a total four pumper trucks, a ladder truck, rescue squad, four chief officers and 21 firefighters battling the blaze. The fire was declared out at 8 p.m.

Kenner Fire Department (KFD) Acting Fire Chief Charles Hudson commended the response from KFD and mutual aid partners as well as the coordination of resources on a dead-end street. "The teams work together well, and were diligent as they were completing the inspection process. Quick action to evacuate fire personnel inspecting the location when the attic ignited protected the lives of firefighters and showed how critical communication is to effective operations."

The second fire was reported shortly after 6 am in a single-family residence in the 400 block of Taylor Street. A caller notified the 911 center that smoke could be seen from a block away.

Flames were visible when KFD arrived. The Third District Volunteer Fire Department also assisted in this call.

Nine pumper trucks, three ladder trucks, a total of four fire supervisors from both fire departments, and approximately 40 firefighters were on scene. The fire was extinguished at 7:43am. Kenner Code Enforcement was also present with Emergency Management to assist with any necessary support. East

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Jefferson EMS supported the fire scene, and assisted with neighboring resident evacuation and helped them back into homes in a true unified effort to support the neighborhood.

Kenner Code Enforcement and Emergency Management were on both scenes, as was East Jefferson EMS. The American Red Cross was contacted for both structure fires, assisting two occupants of two apartments for the first fire and coordinating assistance at the second location.

Mayor Ben Zahn said he is proud of the teamwork between the KFD and the Third District Volunteer Fire Department.

"Teamwork with our mutual aid partners like Third District shows just how strong we are together," Mayor Zahn said. "Our thanks go to Fire Chief Brad Migliore and his department for responding to Kenner when the city needs assistance. We train together and it saves lives, as it did last night and today."

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