





## **PRESS RELEASE**

## Fire at Office Building Contained – 11 Special Needs Children evacuated & reunited with parents

The Warren Police and Fire Department would like to provide a joint update to a building fire which occurred this morning at an office building near 11 Mile and Ryan Rd. 11 special needs children from an adjoining business were evacuated as a precaution and reunited with their parents with assistance from the Warren Police Department and Parks & Recreation Department.

Today (07/30/2024) at approximately 10:38am, the Warren Fire Department was dispatched to the Michigan Head and Neck Institute (3665 e. 11 Mile Rd.) regarding a fire at the location. An employee informed dispatch that there was smoke and flames coming from the ceiling and attic at this business suite inside the office building. The Warren Fire Department was quickly dispatched to the scene and arrived within 4 minutes. The office building also contains a secondary business suite which is occupied by Trumpet Behavioral Health. Trumpet Behavioral Health provides services to adults and children suffering from autism. Prior to the arrival of the Warren Fire Department, staff at Trumpet Behavioral Health had safely evacuated 11 special needs children from the suite for precautionary reasons as smoke was carrying over to Trumpet Behavioral Health.

The Warren Fire Department worked quickly to contain the fire and prevented it from fully destroying the building. Warren Patrol Officers worked diligently to secure the area and manage traffic. The Warren Police Department coordinated with the Warren Parks & Recreation Department an arranged for an air-conditioned bus to arrive on scene so that the special needs children could wait safely and comfortably for their parents to arrive. Staff at Trumpet Behavioral Health together with the Warren Police Department made parental notifications with officers standing by until all children were safely reunited with their parents or guardians. There were no reported injuries with the preliminary cause of the fire being a faulty space heater which tripped an electrical circuit multiple times. The building sustained moderate damage with DTE responding to shut off the electricity to the building.

The coordinated efforts of the Warren Police, Warren Fire, and Warren Parks & Recreation Department proved to be instrumental in minimizing damage to the building and ensuring the safety of everybody involved. In particular, these three Departments took steps to ensure the well-being of the children by making sure all children were safe and comfortable during this undoubtedly face-paced scene. This is yet another example of first responders using whatever resources are necessary to serve the community.

For further information, please contact Warren Police Commissioner Charles Rushton @ 586-574-4803 or 586-823-9845; Fire Commissioner Wilburt McAdams @ 586-340-9628

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