



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Portage Department
of Public Safety
Fire Division
Battalion Chief Foley
269-329-4491

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 26, 2014
Incident No. 3659

The Portage Department of Public Safety received a report from an employee of the Hogan Insurance Agency, located at 304 Gladys, that smoke was coming from the ceiling and attic at the business.

First arriving fire units reported smoke coming from the roof vents and from the eaves of the structure. Initial contact with the occupants reported that they heard some popping noise coming from the area of the restroom near the main office area. When the restroom door was opened, flames could be seen in the restroom ventilation fan located in the ceiling. An employee tried to extinguish the fire with an extinguisher while others called 911.

The fire appears to have started in the area of the fan and spread to the trusses and insulation in the attic. Firefighters pulled both a drop ceiling and a drywall ceiling near the fire area to extinguish the fire. Additional area ceiling was pulled to check for fire extension and to allow firefighters to gain access to remove burned and smoldering blown insulation.

No injuries were reported. Damage estimates are \$25,000.00 to contents and \$30,000.00 to the structure. Portage firefighters received assistance at the scene from Texas and Oshtemo Fire Departments. Station coverage was provided by Oshtemo and Comstock Fire Departments.

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