

## Two Alarms on Crossroads Arbor Way

12/28/11 140 W, 3 I - + 8 - 8

The scream of sirens broke the silence in southwest Raleigh late this morning. Two alarms were struck at [1712 Crossroads Arbor Way](#), with Swift Creek 1 arriving at a two-story, wood-frame, sixteen-unit apartment building with 10,656 square-feet. Built 1999. Smoke and fire were showing from the rear of the structure. Crews commenced an interior attack, while aerial apparatus was positioned on two sides. Four sticks in the air! The 11:21 a.m. alarm was controlled at 12:10 p.m. Six apartments were rendered uninhabitable. The cause was determined as fireplace ashes placed in cardboard box and put on a balcony. More incident details forthcoming in the pictures posted by Mike Legeros. He was at ground-level. [See his preliminary photos](#). Also see news coverage from [WRAL](#) (including the aerial photo below), [WTVD](#), [News & Observer](#).



*WRAL photo*





*Mike Legeros photos*

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Great to see the plentiful resources at a fire and they did a great job at containing the fire.

A suggestion; when folks are inside, why not have the aerial devices deployed but in more of an offensive mode (to the roof or to a balcony) versus in defensive mode? It would only take a sec to bring the ladder back and flow water if necessary, but this way while crews are inside the device is being used for egress and actually be in use. Seems RFD only uses aerial devices for water flow, but they have more uses than that.

**Ladders** - 12/28/11 - 21:33

Hey Swift Creek had a great knock down due to an aggressive attack. The ladders...well guess I need to leave that one alone. i am an engine man and of course If feel like they can leave the ladder at the station just give me the man power. But really good job SCVFD.

**Chris** - 12/28/11 - 22:39

Don't get me wrong, EVERYONE did great and made a he'll of a stop. wind was a huge factor too. But we can learn from every fire, maybe this is the one thing we can learn, because it seems everything else went perfect!

**Ladders** - 12/28/11 - 23:13

@ Ladders, if you notice in some of the pics, crews are deploying ground ladders as needed and you will also notice that Ladders 2 & 4 are positioned on the street side and hampered by utility lines to get into position to lower there sticks to the roof... Yes Raleigh has come a long way in Truck co. Ops and they have and do utilize them for more than just flowing water....

**Jim** - 12/29/11 - 07:44

Thanks for your comments Ladders, Chris, and Jim. I will be intentionally steering this thread away from specific tactics at this specific incident. Apologies for those who find their themselves censored. Just throw a tomato at me, next time you see me. (Those stains are easily cleaned from Hawaiian shirts, aren't they?) It's just too easy of a trap when we talk tactics at particular fires, with competing perspectives from those who where there vs. those with secondhand details vs. those looking at photos vs... But discussions of ladder operations in general— here, there, or elsewhere— are always welcome! As are meta-discussions. Talking about talking. Navel gazing never feared here!

**Legeros** - 12/29/11 - 08:25

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No