



Chambersburg Fire Department

130 North Second Street • Chambersburg, PA 17201-1640
Telephone: (717) 261-3230
Fax: (717) 261-3296



March 29, 2022

1110 Lincoln Way East, New Chambersburg Diner

Dustin L. Ulrich
Fire & EMS Chief
Chambersburg Fire Department

Fire Department Press Release -

At 7:12 am, the Chambersburg Fire Department was alerted to 1110 Lincoln Way East, New Chambersburg Diner, in the Borough of Chambersburg, for an inside investigation of an odor of something burning. The first fire engine arrived on the scene at 7:15 am, laid a supply line from the fire hydrant located at Stouffer Avenue and Summer Street to the scene, and crews initiated investigation of the odor. While the first crew were investigating, the next fire engine arrived on the fire hydrant at 7:16 and began to establish water supply operations if needed.

Due to the congested traffic during this time period, the fire engine that was at the fire hydrant took a position to provide safety to the crew that was operating on the scene, as well as a blocking position to indicate that there was an incident scene ahead and that traffic should not pass. While the driver/operator of that fire engine was completing their tasks on the scene, a driver failed to obey the traffic safety indicators and proceeded through the scene striking the fire hose that was laying in the street. These actions caused the hose to be caught under the passenger car, dragging the hose, up the street, and ultimately catching the driver of the fire engine in the hose. The fire hose became caught in the fire engine's tire causing a sudden stop of the forward momentum and causing the firefighter to be forcefully thrown to the ground.

At 7:23 am the injured firefighter reported over the radio that they were struck by the fire hose. An ambulance that was staging on the scene of the fire incident quickly attended to the injured firefighter. The firefighter was transported to the hospital for evaluation.

Crews cleared the scene of the fire incident at 8:00 am after a thorough investigation proved negative findings of an odor or any fire/smoke.

At 10:00 am the firefighter was released from the hospital with injuries to their leg and arm.

Departments that responded were as follows: Chambersburg Fire Department, Penn State Basic Life Support Ambulance, and Chambersburg Police Department.

All questions or request for information should be directed to Dustin L. Ulrich, Fire & EMS Chief at 717-263-5872 or at dulrich@Chambersburgpa.gov



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MESSAGE TO ALL MOTORISTS

Each day, the Chambersburg Fire Department responds to incidents throughout the Borough of Chambersburg and surrounding municipalities. Many of these incidents require fire and EMS apparatus to be positioned on roadways and place the first responders in harm's way. The department ask that when approaching an emergency vehicle to slow down, evaluate what is happening, and proceed with caution as passing vehicles or if need be turn around .

In many instances, the initial moments of an incident can be quickly evolving for the firefighters and create a chaotic scene for oncoming motorists. These scenes may involve fire hose laying in the street, crew members exiting apparatus or crossing the roadways, or additional fire units coming into the scene. During the early stages the scene may not have the necessary traffic security measures established and it is at this point, as well as throughout the entire incident, that it takes all, emergency responders and the public, to make sure that everyone goes home safely and uninjured.

At no point should fire hose ever be driven over, unless you have explicit permission from the crews on the scene. Driving over a fire hose can cause damage to the hose that is vital in providing the necessary water to the firefighters on the scene. More importantly, driving over fire hose can cause the hose to be caught under the vehicle and creating a tripping or clamping situation to a firefighter or firefighters which could be deadly. This is completely unacceptable and is against the law.

The men and women, their families, and the community ask that you take extra time in your commute, do not drive through an incident scene, and pay attention to your surroundings.