



Town of Dudley Massachusetts
Office of the Town Administrator
71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571

Jonathan J. Ruda
Town Administrator

TO: All Media Outlets

FROM: Dean Kochanowski, Fire Chief

Date: Friday, Aug. 19, 2022

RE: Mace Polymers & Additives building destroyed by five-alarm fire

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dozens of local fire departments joined members of the Dudley Fire Department after an area resident called in a fire at Mace Polymers & Additives Inc., Thursday evening.

According to Dudley Fire Department Chief Dean Kochanowski the fire located at 38 Roberts Road, was reported to dispatch at approximately 9:41 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 18, after a passerby called the incident into the department.

“When we arrived on scene and made our initial attack the fire was already through the roof,” Kochanowski said.

The fire was extinguished by approximately 4 a.m., and Kochanowski and crews left the scene at around 10:30 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 19.

According to Kochanowski and Massachusetts State Fire Marshal’s Office Public Information Office Jake Wark as of Friday morning the cause of the fire was still under investigation by the state marshal’s office, the Dudley Fire Department and Massachusetts State Police Assigned to the fire marshal’s office.

He said a drone was also used during the incident to get an aerial view of the building and fire’s location.

“The origin and cause of this fire remain under investigation,” Wark said. “A fire of this size can often be difficult to determine the cause of.”

Kochanowski said the main building was “a total loss.” He said he was pleased that his crew and additional firefighters were able to keep a second building on the property intact as it housed tanks of isopropyl alcohol and additional chemicals.



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He added a hazmat team was called to the scene to test and monitor air quality.

There were no injuries to fire crews, members of public safety teams or residents. Kochanowski said there were no employees in the building at the time of the incident.

“Neighbors can rest assure the air quality is safe,” Kochanowski said. “I really have to hand it to our guys. They were able to protect those tanks and the sides of the building.”

Kochanowski said in his 12 years as chief this fire was one of the largest, he has seen, and as there is no municipal water on site as difficult one to fight.

He said water tankers were called to Roberts Road, and water was pumped from a source on West Dudley Road.

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Monday-Friday for any additional help that may be required or needed. “The difficulty in serving the public has been that we have been restricted in our ability to serve the public through traditional means. Although you can’t see us face-to-face, your essential services are still staffed and opened, we can be contacted by phone or email during regular business hours same as always, and we are here for one purpose, and that is to help you. Please do not hesitate to call on us.”

Contact: Jonathan Ruda, Town Administrator and Public Information Officer

(508) 949-8001

administrator@dudleyma.gov