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**Media Release**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CONTACTS: Chief Dustin Dienst

April 7, 2020

PHONE: (507) 333-0396

Dispatch: (507)334-4305

**Structure Fire Damages Shop**

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At 11:45 pm on April 7, 2020, the Faribault Fire Department, Rice County Sherriff's Office, MN State Patrol and North Memorial Ambulance responded to a structure fire at 18476 Eiler Ave. Heavy black smoke was coming out of the overhead door upon responders' arrival. It was confirmed that no one was inside the building at the time of the fire.

Crews attacked the fire from the exterior of the structure initially, and then entered the structure to extinguish the fire. Very little fire was found inside the structure. Ventilating the heat and smoke proved to be difficult as there are only two doors, one overhead door and one man door and they are both on the same side of the building. The building and its contents suffered extensive heat and smoke damage. Crews cleared the scene at 3:03 am.

The Faribault Fire Department, Rice County Sherriff's Office and the State Fire Marshal's Office performed an investigation into the cause of the fire. The results of the investigation are not available at this time.

Fire Chief Dustin Dienst commented, "I am thankful that neither the homeowner or any first responders were injured at this large fire."