

# HAGERSTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT

## CITY OF HAGERSTOWN

25 West Church Street  
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740



Douglas P. DeHaven  
Fire Marshal



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### Victim of Fatal Fire Identified

**January 16, 2017** - The victim in the January 11, 2017 fire above the old J&M Grill on S. Potomac Street, Hagerstown has been identified as Francisco Louis Albright, age 41, the sole occupant of the apartment located above the business. "Albright died of smoke inhalation as a result of a fire in the apartment's kitchen" according to Doug DeHaven, Hagerstown Fire Marshal.

The January 11<sup>th</sup> fire was discovered when a person associated with the property discovered water coming through the ceiling into the old J&M Grill. When he went to investigate, he noticed what appeared to have been a fire in the apartment. The fire department responded at 11:43am and arrived at 11:46am. Fire Department units forced entry into the apartment and found the fire had self-extinguished. Albright was discovered deceased in the apartment. "The kitchen suffered extensive fire damage, with the remainder of the apartment sustaining damage from the smoke," DeHaven reports. Smoke alarms were found in the apartment. Albright's cat was also found deceased in the apartment.

"All new residential buildings are now required to be equipped with a residential sprinkler system. A sprinkler system would have clearly prevented this tragic outcome." DeHaven says. The Hagerstown Fire Department will be on S. Potomac Street this week to check smoke alarms in the neighborhood. Fire Officials encourage you to regularly check your smoke alarms. If you need assistance, contact the Hagerstown Fire Department at 301-790-2476 or your local fire department.

Firefighters from the Hagerstown Fire Department were supported at this fire by units from Funkstown Fire Company, Community Rescue Service, Washington County Special Operations personnel and the Washington County Rehab unit. The Hagerstown Fire Marshal Office was supported by the Hagerstown Police Department, Hagerstown Auxiliary Police and a Howard County Fire Marshal K-9 unit. Units cleared the scene at approximately 5:25pm.