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St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 1 1358 Corporate Square

P.O. Box 1149 SLIDELL, LOUISIANA 70458

September 8, 2012

## PRESS RELEASE- 297 STEELE RD.

After the Fire Operator of Hose Tender 14 heard a loud popping noise, he went into the engine room to find 1/3 of the engine room on fire. The Operator went over the radio to notify our dispatch that we needed to dispatch our trucks to Station 14 for a working fire. The engine assigned to the station was in the area picking up some supplies. The fire spread very quickly; therefore prohibiting the Operator from extinguishing the fire or moving the Hose Tender that was parked in the engine bay at the time of the fire.

At this time, the fire seems to be electrical in nature. The Station is approximately 3500 square feet and appears to be better than 50% damaged.

It took 23 minutes for the 20 Firefighters to put the fire under control.

The Station "will not be" livable for some time. The personnel will be reassigned to the nearest fire station at Brownswitch/ Robert Rd. until further notice.

Chris Kaufmann Chief of Administration (985) 960-2777