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Westley Chapel Cobalt Apartments Fire

1 message

Summit House Manager <manager@280summithouse.com>
To: Summit House Manager <manager@280summithouse.com>

Wed, Aug 26, 2026 at 10:42 AM

Good Morning,

Please see the [Youtube Video](#) below regarding a Tampa apartment complex fire that occurred on Thursday, August 20, 2026, reportedly following a lightning strike.

According to reports, the fire originated in the attic or roof area, above the building's existing fire detection and sprinkler coverage. The fire reportedly burned for approximately 25 minutes before the first 911 call was made. In the video, staff appear to be knocking on residents' doors to assist with evacuation rather than first activating a manual fire alarm pull station and calling 911.

While assisting residents with evacuation is extremely important, everyone should be reminded that once smoke or fire is discovered, the initial action(s) should be to:

- Activate the building fire alarm using a manual pull station
- Call 911 immediately and report the fire
- Begin evacuation in accordance with the property's emergency plan

This incident is a good reminder that a concealed fire, limited detection or sprinkler coverage in attic/roof areas and delayed fire department notification can allow a fire to grow rapidly before emergency responders arrive.

Please feel free to share this information and the video with property managers, board members and staff as a reminder of the importance of following proper fire emergency procedures.

https://youtu.be/09FtY3TwMb0?si=PghD_V0g2EKisSnv

Thanks,
Molly

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