



NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FIRE CREWS BATTLE JUNK YARD FIRE FOR SEVEN HOURS

Several departments respond to battle three alarm blaze at Muscatine Metals

MUSCATINE, Iowa – A junk yard fire at Muscatine Metals, 2407 Dick Drake Way, kept firefighters busy over a seven hour period Thursday (Dec. 16). No injuries were reported in the three-alarm fire.

The Muscatine County Joint Communications Center (MUSCOM) was notified at 11 a.m. Thursday of a junk yard fire at Muscatine Metals. Muscatine Fire Department saw heavy black smoke visible while enroute and upgraded the call to a structure fire. Two additional alarms were sounded as fire crews arrived.

Firefighters found a large pile of metal, mostly vehicles, was on fire and began the battle to contain the fire that was spreading towards





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Musco Lighting. Fire crews hooked to the hydrant began flowing water into the fire and was able to contain the fire after 30 minutes. Fire officials declared the fire under control at 3 p.m. but units remained on the scene until 6 p.m. to watch for hot spots to reignite.

The Muscatine Fire Department was assisted by the Fruitland Volunteer Fire Department, Wilton Volunteer Fire Department, Muscatine Police Department, Muscatine County Sheriff's Department, and Bayer Corporation who provided foam and manpower.

Dick Drake Way was shut down from U.S. 61 to Stewart Road during the firefighting effort.

Fire loss is unknown since scrapped vehicles were mostly involved. The cause remains under investigation but preliminary findings point to an accidental fire.