



PERQUIMANS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES

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Jonathan A. Nixon, Director

PRESS RELEASE – Structure Fire Prompts Major Response in Perquimans County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 23, 2025 at 4:30PM

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On Thursday, May 22, 2025, at approximately 5:31 p.m., the Perquimans-Gates 911 Center received multiple calls reporting a structure fire in the 300 block of Ocean Highway, same being Captain Bob's BBQ & Seafood.

A Perquimans County Sheriff's Deputy and a volunteer firefighter were first to arrive on scene, where they discovered a detached building used for cooking barbeque engulfed in flames. Due to the building's close proximity to an adjacent restaurant that was open and serving patrons, immediate evacuation efforts were initiated. Despite these efforts, the fire spread into the main restaurant prior to fire department arrival, resulting in significant smoke and fire damage throughout the building.

Nearly 70 first responders were mobilized to combat the blaze and ensure public safety. The response lasted over four hours including fire attack and overhaul. The responding agencies included: Hertford Fire Department, Winfall Fire Department, Bethel Fire Department, Inter-County Fire Department, Perquimans County Sheriff's Office, Perquimans County EMS, Perquimans County Emergency Management, and the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation.

Additionally, the Town of Hertford Public Works responded to the scene and Belvidere Fire Department responded to the Winfall Fire District providing standby coverage while other fire units were engaged at the scene.

While no injuries were reported in connection with the incident, rehabilitation services were provided on-scene for responders by Perquimans County EMS.

Incident Command was led by Chief Drew Woodard of the Hertford Fire Department, in accordance with National Incident Management System (NIMS) protocols.

