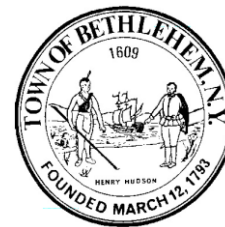


*John H. Cunningham*  
Town Supervisor

*Louis G. Corsi*  
Chief of Police

## TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

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### NEWS RELEASE

December 19, 2009

At approximately 11:45am, The Bethlehem Police Department received a call from the homeowner of 151 Adams Pl. Delmar, New York reporting an explosion at her residence and that her son was burned. Upon arrival of the first responding police officers, they were met with heavy smoke conditions and heard two explosions coming from the basement of the house. The officers entered the residence and physically rescued the victim, a teenage male that suffered substantial burns to his body. Upon arrival of Delmar Fire Department and Delmar Rescue Squad, additional fire departments and Emergency Medical Services were requested. Departments from within the town as well as surrounding jurisdictions including the Albany County Hazardous Materials Team responded. Due to the unknown cause and origin of the fire and explosions, residents from surrounding homes were evacuated and surrounding streets were barricaded for precautionary reasons. The victim was transported to the Albany Medical Center Hospital where he was treated for substantial burns to his body and has since been transported to the Westchester Medical Center Burn Unit. Two officers from the Bethlehem Police Department and two County EMTs were treated at Albany Medical Center Hospital for possible exposure to an unknown chemical. No other injuries were reported. Preliminary investigations into this incident have determined that the homeowner's son was in the basement working when the first explosion occurred. Investigation into the cause and origin is ongoing as members of the Bethlehem Police Department's Fire Investigations Unit remain at the scene assisted by members of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Delmar Fire Department. Surrounding streets have been reopened and residents have been cleared to return to their homes.

# # #

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