



TOWN OF WELLESLEY

**457 WORCESTER ST.
WELLESLEY, MA 02481
Telephone 781-235-1300**



FIRE RESCUE DEPT.

**Stephen G. Mortarelli
Fire Chief
Fax 781-237-3161**

For Immediate Release

Update: Tier 1 Haz-Mat Scene at 60 William Street

On Friday, February 6, 2026, at 11:14 a.m. the Wellesley Emergency Communications Center received a 911 call from a staff member of an early education center on William Street reporting that one of the students had been inadvertently exposed to a commercial grade dish soap while washing their hands. Upon arrival the Wellesley Fire Department personnel learned that more than one student had washed their hands from this dispenser and as a precaution requested that multiple ambulances respond to the scene. As Coastal Ambulance staff and Wellesley Fire Department personnel began evaluating the students they learned that 12 had been exposed to the stronger detergent and had experienced skin irritation. These students were transported to the hospital for further evaluation. The parents of the remaining students were contacted by the early education center and responded to pick up their children. The Wellesley Fire Department requested the State Hazmat Team to respond to the early education center to investigate.

After an extensive recon of all rooms, the Haz-Mat team found that three of the soap dispensers contained a commercial dishwashing concentrate that was stored in the general vicinity. The Board of Health will be in contact with the business owner regarding next steps.

In total 12 children were evaluated with 11 being transported to local area hospitals along with one adult. Most burn injuries appeared to be superficial with one child sustaining first degree burns. No further updates on the patient's status at this time.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Wellesley Fire Department, Wellesley Police Department, Coastal EMS, the Wellesley Board of Health, and the Massachusetts State Hazardous Materials Team for their rapid response, professionalism, and coordination during this incident.

The incident remains under investigation, and additional information will be released as it becomes available.