



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Chief / Fire Warden



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Fire Investigators Arrest Man for Felony Arson

Date/Time: November 30, 2020
Location: 5th Street / North Waterman Area, City of San Bernardino
Incident: Arson Arrest

Summary: In late November Station 221 crews noticed an uptick of fires in the area of 5th St & N. Waterman Ave in San Bernardino. Crews encountered rubbish fires in the area, close to a gas station being constructed which appeared related. These fires had construction crews & fire crews concerned.

San Bernardino County Fire Office of the Fire Marshal Investigators were notified and investigated. After speaking with construction crews and local residents fire investigators monitored the area & followed up on leads.

On Monday, November 30, 2020, a San Bernardino County Fire Investigator witnessed Charles Galpin lighting a fire in the immediate area. He quickly detained the suspect, requested an engine to suppress the fire & worked with the City of San Bernardino Police Department for an arrest. Charles Galpin was arrested on felony arson (Penal Code 451C and 451D) and is currently in jail.

San Bernardino County Fire Investigators are specially trained to trace back a fire to its origin and determine its cause. They are also trained to gather evidence for prosecution in the event the fire was caused by arson. Reporting an Arson Crime

Because of the destructive nature of fire, not all arson fires are successfully prosecuted. Anyone with information of an arson crime is urged to contact the Fire Investigation Unit at (909)386-8400 and ask to speak with an investigator, as any information received may help achieve a conviction in an arson case.

After business hours, on holidays and/or weekends, an individual may call our 24-hour dispatch center @ (909)356-3805 and leave a contact name and phone number. Dispatch will then have the duty investigator respond to this individual's request.

You may also anonymously contact We-Tip at 800-47-ARSON (800-472-7766), 800-78-CRIME (800-782-7463) or via the Internet by visiting the We-Tip website.

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