



Quick Notes is an ICAC communication that will give you quick, timely links to recent news items impacting arson prevention, investigations, litigation and training. We trust that Quick Notes will be an easy way for you to remain current in news concerning arson control.

Fire Investigations

FEMA Coffee Break Training - Fire Investigation Series:

Fire/Arson and Explosion Investigation Curriculum: Types of Evidence

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov>

Arson Trials

New trial to man convicted of starting fire that killed 3 Pittsburgh firefighters

Brown's attorneys claimed their client's 1997 trial was "constitutionally flawed" because prosecutors never disclosed their promise to reward two key witnesses for their testimony. Evidence presented at Brown's trial revealed that his mother, Darlene Buckner, took out a \$20,000 renter's insurance policy three months before the fire. A jury convicted Brown of second-degree murder, arson and insurance fraud. The jury cleared his mother of homicide and arson but convicted her of insurance fraud. The ATF paid two witnesses \$10,000 and \$5,000 in August 1998, according to court documents.

<http://triblive.com>

Case Law

METROPOLITAN CASUALTY v. GEORGIA GORIOLA

A case regarding misrepresentation where...defendant essentially urges the Court to accept her representations on the proof of loss as the honest mistake of a senior woman. However, "an applicant's professed belief in the truthfulness of her answers is not sufficient to enforce the contract if actual knowledge clearly contradicts the belief." The Court cannot overlook sworn statements to the bankruptcy court. The defendant is ultimately responsible for them, notwithstanding representation in both proceedings.

<http://scholar.google.com/>

News/Interest

Detroit Police Chief James Craig: Let's get tougher on arson

Detroit's arson problems is far from dead. The online [Detroit fire dispatch](#) is one of the most active and popular feeds on the website Broadcastify, which specializes in streaming emergency radio communications.

<http://www.mlive.com>

13 Top Arson Investigation Professors

The job of an arson investigator is essential when it comes to determining the cause of any suspicious fire. While most training was once done "on the job" the tides have sifted towards more formal, academic training in investigative procedures and fire science. ForensicsColleges.com has created a list of the top 13 arson investigations professors in the U.S.

<http://www.forensicscolleges.com>

Web/Book Report

Guide to Immunity Laws

State immunity laws listed below are specifically designed to allow insurers and others to share information related to insurance fraud investigations without fear of being sued for defamation. Other statutes may be in effect governing general immunity for good-faith reporting of all crimes.

<http://www.insurancefraud.org>

Associate Member Profile

Rimkus. Rimkus Consulting Group is a full-service forensic consulting firm. For over 30 years we have provided reliable post-loss investigations, reports and expert witness testimony to the insurance and legal industries around the world. Our staff of over 300 based within 41 offices nationwide is diversified within the disciplines of engineering, architecture, physical science, general contracting and fire investigation. Our goal is to assist our clients by analyzing the facts from origin and cause through the extent of loss.

www.rimkus.com

The ICAC Quick Notes e-Newsletter is published for those who would like the latest arson news updates. If you wish to unsubscribe from our e-Newsletter mailing list, simply reply to this message with the word "unsubscribe" (and nothing else) in the subject line.

[Click here to be added to the e-newsletter mailing list.](#)

Please direct all requests or comments to webmaster@arsoncontrol.org.