



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:

- [The First Responder's Role in Fire/Arson Investigation](#)
- [Common Mistakes Made by Expert Witnesses](#)

Arson investigated in loss of \$1M home

The U.S. attorney in New York has called him "vortex of fraud." Witnesses have testified that he is a "financial terrorist" and a "puppet maker," while an attorney for Louisville investors said in a lawsuit that he is an "unmitigated scoundrel."

www.courier-journal.com

Arson ruled out in Grant Township fire

Fire investigations can rule a fire had one of four causes -- arson, natural, accidental or undetermined.

www.record-eagle.com

Arson Trials

Ringwood man convicted of burning home for insurance money

In relevant part, aggravated arson (second degree) is defined in the criminal code as starting a fire "with the purpose of collecting insurance for the destruction or damage to such property under circumstances which recklessly place any other person in danger of death or bodily injury." Arson (third degree) is defined in relevant part as starting a fire "with the purpose of collecting insurance for the destruction or damage to such property."

www.northjersey.com

Convicted arsonist loses appeal

A three-judge appeals court split over whether a convicted arsonist who burned down an apartment building in Naugatuck in 2006 deserves a new trial because he was drunk when he committed the crime. Defendant stated that he did not remember setting fire to the apartment building, or police trying to talk him out of the building, or leaping from a second-floor balcony and landing face-first on the pavement just before flames engulfed the house.

www.mycitizensnews.com

Case Law

CHRISTIAN LEE HANSON v. CAROL HOWES

While this case is a petition in criminal court, the opinion provides a very detailed review of the arson investigation related to the fire and the resulting conviction.

<http://scholar.google.com>

News/Interest

Arson Demonstration Highlights Awareness Week

Nearly 28,000 intentionally set vehicle fires happened in the U.S. over a recent three year period. To call attention to this problem, firefighters set an old BMW on fire at the Tallahassee Fire Department.

www.wctv.tv

Associate Member Profile

Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc. - Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc. is an independent forensic engineering and origin and cause investigations company that provides a spectrum of services at competitive prices. We provide our clients with forensic analyses and origin and cause investigations that are the highest quality in the industry. Unified offers global experience, national coverage and local expertise. As one of the largest origin and cause investigative firms in the United States, we have a national footprint with a network of professional from coast to coast to ensure the timely and expert response you need, anytime, anywhere.

www.uis-usa.com

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