



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.

Events

2014 ICAC Webinar Series: Top 5 Arson Cases



An ICAC Event | July 22, 2014 | 11:00 am EST

Arson Cases in 2014: The Top 5 Critical Cases Claims Personnel Should Know

Presented by Gerald T. Albrecht

There are a plethora of arson cases decided every year and it can be time consuming to follow each ruling. These cases can contradict others and may be decided based on the specifics of a particular jurisdiction. But, there are 5 Critical Cases claims personnel should know. These cases are the basics and the building blocks for all the others.

- The basic elements of the intentional burning defense in civil litigation.
• The basic evidentiary standards for the admissibility of expert testimony in an arson case.
• The standards for the Concealment and Fraud defense.
• The courts' treatment of NFPA 921 and;
• The interplay of criminal and civil arson cases.

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\$40.00 ICAC Member | \$60.00 Non-Member

Fire Investigations

Arson science discredited

His case is one of dozens across the country to come under scrutiny because of entrenched but now-discredited beliefs about how arson can be detected. The Arson Research Project at the Monterey College of Law in California has highlighted at least 31 convictions based at least partly on debunked fire investigations, and experts believe there are many more.

www.dispatch.com

Detective has 'pretty good suspicions' in Whites Bridge arson case

The investigation has been time-consuming, he said. Arson is notoriously difficult to prove, especially in this case because much of the evidence was burned and deposited in the river.

www.mlive.com

Arson Trials

Lakeland Woman Gets 3 Years for Arson, False Reporting

Prosecutors also asked the judge whether the remorse was for setting the house on fire and putting the neighborhood, first responders and police in danger, or just for the hardship it has caused her family.

www.theledger.com

St. Louis Man Accused of Arson, Fraud

A St. Louis man was arrested Monday on mail fraud and arson-related charges, federal prosecutors said Monday. The accused owned businesses that bought, rehabbed, rented and sold residential properties, prosecutors said.

www.stltoday.com

Case Law

CYNTHIA L. PETERANGELO, v. STATE FARM

An interesting case involving summary judgment motions where the fire was either an accidental result of Plaintiff Angela Owsiany falling asleep in bed while smoking a cigarette or purposely caused in a suicide attempt.

http://scholar.google.com

News/Interest

Zwiefelhofer Recognized For Arson Investigation

Bloomer Police Chief Jared Zwiefelhofer was recently honored with a 2014 Key Award from the International Association of Arson Investigators Wisconsin Chapter 25. He was presented a plaque in recognition of initiating a successful arson investigation.

www.bloomeradvance.com

Associate Member Profile

Guy E. Burnette, Jr. P.A. - The law firm of Guy E. Burnette, Jr. P.A. is a civil practice law firm with offices located in Tallahassee, Tampa, Pensacola and New Orleans, Louisiana handling insurance coverage and claim disputes, administrative and regulatory matters, business litigation, and admiralty cases. The firm's principal is Guy E. "Sandy" Burnette, Jr., a practicing attorney in Florida for over 35 years. The firm handles civil cases in all state and federal courts in Florida and routinely associates with local counsel on cases across the surrounding southeastern states, while consulting on cases nationally and internationally, as well.

www.gburnette.com

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