



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.

**Upcoming Webinar**

**Beginner Insurance Representative and a Fire Claim:  
What to do when one comes across your desk.**

November 13th at 2:00 pm (eastern)

Presenter: Gerald T. Albrecht

Registration and more information coming soon!

**Fire Investigations**

**Man arrested on suspicion of arson in massive California wildfire**

A man has been arrested on suspicion of arson in an out-of-control Northern California wildfire that has driven nearly 2,800 people from their homes as it continues to grow, authorities said Thursday.

[www.cbsnews.com](http://www.cbsnews.com)

**Alleged arsonist torched home for insurance payout**

An arson detection dog was brought in to assist with the investigation. The dog alerted authorities to three areas on the living room carpet, one of which had an irregular burn pattern that resembled a shoe impression. "Brown's sneaker appeared to be consistent with the impression in the carpet," police said.

[www.seacoastonline.com](http://www.seacoastonline.com)

**Fire Investigations**

**Canandaigua arsonist gets 1 to 3 years**

Dennis said the sentence received by Bradley was the result of his cooperation during the case. Bradley admitted to starting the blaze under the direction of the husband-wife duo. "They led him to believe that he would get the money by Christmas even though the fire was set on Dec. 22," Dennis said. "He wanted to buy his children Christmas presents, and he didn't have a dime to his name. So they kind of baited him."

[www.mpnnow.com](http://www.mpnnow.com)

**Fraud affirmed in ruling on Bernards house fire**

A couple whose Annin Road home was severely damaged in a fire six years ago has been ordered to pay more than \$800,000 to their insurer after a state Appellate Court upheld a jury verdict that found the insurance claim to be "fraudulent."

[newjerseyhills.com](http://newjerseyhills.com)

**Case Law**

**GIVENS v. WEST BEND MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY**

The test for determining whether summary judgment is appropriate on plaintiffs' bad faith claim is not whether the defendant's denial of coverage was correct. The test is whether there was a reasonable justification for the denial, and whether the denial was arbitrary and capricious.

[scholar.google.com](http://scholar.google.com)

**News/Interest**

**Hoopa Tribe Takes Action to Stop Chain of Arson Fires**

Strategies include new wildland fire codes, burning permit systems and other discussions and methods. Another step the tribe can take toward preventing arson fires is to have its wildland firefighters trained in fire investigation.

[www.times-standard.com](http://www.times-standard.com)

**Associate Member Profile**

**Margolis Edelstein** has been serving the interests of individuals, insurers and commercial enterprises for over 50 years. With 9 offices serving all of Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, the firm has represented parties regionally and nationally in virtually every aspect of the law including general liability, toxic torts, transportation, labor, surety and professional exposures. Our firm has earned the Martindale Hubble legal ability rating of AV, signifying "very high to preeminent," the highest rating available. Members of the firm have participated and presented in many CLM events as well as other industry associations including the Defense Research Institute (DRI), the Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDDC) and the Professional Liability Underwriting Society (PLUS). For more information, please contact Jim Brown at 215-931-5821, or visit:

[www.margolisedelstein.com](http://www.margolisedelstein.com)

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