



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 ICAC Events



Registration Now Open!

Register now for the 2015 ICAC Fire & Arson Investigation Seminar, being held February 23–25 at the Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Hotel in Orlando, FL.

- [Review the Agenda](#)
- [Register today!](#)
- [Exhibit Show Information](#)

Fire Investigations

After smoke clears in controlled burns, investigators learn more about damage

“We’re trying to test what’s called fire patterns — damage after a fire — and whether we can use those as fire investigators to come in and determine where the fire started,” Gorbett said. “We’re tweaking a variable here and there to see whether or not any of those variables influence the fire pattern.”

www.dallasnews.com

Kentucky using bloodhound to catch arsonists

Bloodhounds trained to investigate arson cases will be available for forest fire cases for the first time. Through a partnership with the Bell County Forestry Camp, multiple bloodhounds and handlers are now available to assist KDF with arson investigation.

www.lanereport.com

Arson Trials

Arson-related conviction overturned for mob informant

Mergen told the agent he had participated in the arson, against the FBI’s instructions, because he feared for his life if he backed out, according to the report and the decision handed down by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

www.silive.com

Mom once hailed as ‘Superwoman’ pleads guilty to arson, making false insurance claim

A Puyallup mom who was praised six months ago as a “Superwoman” for her alleged bravery in saving her son from a house fire and explosion pleaded guilty Friday to second-degree arson and making a false insurance claim in the case.

q13fox.com

Case Law

EMCASCO INSURANCE COMPANY v. KELLI KNIGHT

Eleven claims have been asserted in this action. Six of those were framed in the complaint of EMCASCO and the remaining five claims were asserted in the Amended Counterclaim of Christopher and Kelli Knight. The litigation involves issues of alleged misrepresentation of values of property in both bankruptcy and subsequent fire; alleged misrepresentations on the application of insurance; and issues regarding mortgagor-mortgagee interests.

scholar.google.com

News/Interest

Movie Trailer: Little Hope Was Arson, Story of Church Burnings

January 2010: In the buckle of the Bible Belt, 10 churches burn to the ground in just over a month igniting the largest criminal investigation in East Texas history.

www.beliefnet.com

Cause of fire at Flight 93 National Memorial 'undetermined'

...the wind-whipped blaze that destroyed not only the trailers but items that belonged to the passengers on the plane that plunged into a Somerset County field when they moved to wrest control of it from hijackers headed for Washington.

triblive.com

Associate Member Profile

Ulmer & Berne, LLP - A full-service firm with over 185 attorneys, Ulmer & Berne LLP maintains four offices across the Midwest. The firm’s Insurance Coverage Group has a vast understanding of the increasingly complex claims and issues regularly impacting insurers, including construction defects, concurrent causation, intentional conduct, fraud, bad faith “set-ups” and allocation of losses. Ulmer & Berne’s attorneys regularly handle fraudulent arson and theft claims, coverage disputes, coverage opinions, and bad faith punitive damage claims. Having represented insurers for more than 50 years and maintaining one of the premier insurance and fire litigation practices in the Midwest, Ulmer & Berne attorneys regularly assist insurers in handling claims from inception through successful conclusion. They regularly supervise fire scene investigations, conduct examinations under oath, and prosecute and defend coverage litigation matters. The firm has a long standing history of shaping laws concerning insurance and arson matters, having been involved in many of the leading insurance cases across Ohio and the Midwest. Additionally, the firm has attorneys that are Certified Fire and Explosion Investigators.

www.ulmer.com

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