

# Monmouth County Uniform Policy



# Arson Task Force Protocol

# Criminal History Checks

- Local ordinance is required to conduct CCH / III for all prospective members
- Past ARSON related offense bars from performing in a volunteer fire company
- Past FALSE PUBLIC ALARM bars from membership for a period of ten (10) years from conviction date

# False Public Alarm

N.J.S.A. 2C:33-3

2C:33-3. False public alarms; annual report

Effective: March 1, 2016

[Currentness](#)

False Public Alarms. a. (1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person is guilty of a crime of the third degree if he initiates or circulates a report or warning of an impending fire, explosion, crime, catastrophe, emergency, or any other incident knowing that the report or warning is false or baseless and that it is likely to cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly, or facility of public transport, or to cause public inconvenience or alarm.

(b) A person is guilty of a crime of the second degree if the false alarm involves a report or warning of an impending bombing, hostage situation, person armed with a deadly weapon as defined by subsection c. of N.J.S.2C:11-1, or any other incident that elicits an immediate or heightened response by law enforcement or emergency services.

(c) A person is guilty of a crime of the second degree if the false alarm involves a report or warning about any critical infrastructure located in this State. For purposes of this subparagraph, "critical infrastructure" means any building, place of assembly, or facility that is indispensably necessary for national security, economic stability, or public safety.

(2) A person is guilty of a crime of the third degree if he knowingly causes the false alarm to be transmitted to or within any organization, official or volunteer, for dealing with emergencies involving danger to life or property.

# Investigative Breakdown

- County Prosecutor – ultimately responsible for and authority over every criminal investigation
- County Fire Marshal – responsibility of conducting investigations pertaining to the elimination of fire hazards

**P & FM = Monmouth County Arson Task Force**

# Successful Prosecution of Arsonists

- Prompt examination of fire scene by properly trained and qualified “O & C” investigators
- Compliance with Federal & State Laws (921)
- Proper selection of evidence (control and lab)
- Prompt and coordinated follow-up criminal investigation
- Arson Task Force Approach (to include local)

# Notification Procedures

- Fires/Explosions – resulting in Death
- Fires/Explosions – Serious Bodily Injury
- Fires/Explosions – SBI / death of FF, Fire/Police
- Fires/Explosions – public structures, schools, worship places, hospitals, malls, retirement...
- Fires/Explosions – catastrophic / large loss
- Fires/Explosions – LE / FF a potential suspect

# Notification Procedures (CONT.)

- Suspicious and/or Deliberate - history of previous fires in same area
- Fires/Explosions – county / government property, equipment, structures
- Large scale wild land fires
- Suspicious package or explosion involving IED, Pipe Bomb, Chemical Reaction Bomb (CRB)...

# Feds: Neptune vet tried to join ISIS

Jay Scott Smith, Jean Mikle, Nicquel Terry and Andrew Ford, @AndrewFordNews 1:57 p.m.



**NEPTUNE** – Tairod Nathan Webster Pugh, the Neptune man accused of attempting to join the terrorist group ISIS, long harbored ill feelings toward the United States and planned on "defending the Islamic State," according to the federal indictment made public Tuesday.

He was arrested in Asbury Park on Jan. 16 by federal authorities, and has been in custody in New York ever since. He last lived in Neptune in 2008 and had a number of addresses in Asbury Park dating back to 1993.



# Millstone Man Had 36 Machine Guns, Bomb-Making Materials: Feds

A Millstone Township man kept 72 firearms on his property, including 36 machine guns, and explosive devices and materials, police said.

# Drug agents arrest 3 in Monmouth meth lab case



Case 1:15-mj-00044-SIL Document 1 Filed 01/16/15 Page 1 of 11 PageID #: 1

EMN:SPN/TAD  
F.# 2015R00079

15 M 0044

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  
----- X

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- against -

TAIROD NATHAN WEBSTER PUGH,

Defendant.  
----- X

**FILED UNDER SEAL**

**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT  
OF ARREST WARRANT**

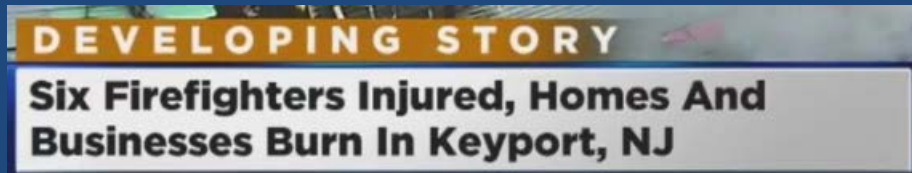
Cr. No.  
(T. 18, U.S.C., § 2339B(a)(1))





# Line of Duty Death (LODD) & Serious Injury Guidelines

- Fire Service Reference Book 8
- Immediate Notification to MCFM and MCPO
- Follow LODD Guide Book Procedures
- SECURE ALL PPE and assigned equipment used at the scene by injured firefighter (SCBA, Radio, Flashlight, ALL PPE...)



# Who Has Control Over Scene

- Fire Chief has control over the fire scene with respect to fire suppression
- Police should maintain perimeter of scene
- Monmouth County Arson Task Force (MCFM) is to be notified after initial assessment, as it is desirable to be on scene ASAP
- Ranking PO or FF is responsible for notification
- MCSO Communications Center 732-577-8700  
*(Typically MCFM will respond to access the need of MCPO)*

# Information to be Provided

- Detailed location and circumstances
- Whether any injuries or death have resulted or are expected
- Names or ranking LE and FF at the scene
- Whether fire poses any potential environmental risk which may necessitate county or local health department

# Response vs. No Response

- Case by Case evaluation / screening
- Regardless, the local law enforcement and local fire bureau should work cooperatively during all fire investigations
- Utilize your local resources (fire inspector, code enforcement, building, zoning, electrical, construction...)

# Bombs, Bomb Threats & OHS

- Incidents involving explosive devices or suspected explosive devices require immediate notification
- Imperative of local agency to conduct a complete and thorough investigation
- Immediate notification of Bomb Threat
- NJSP Arson & Bomb Unit vs. Federal Military

# Responsibilities of Responding FF / LE

- Be familiar with county protocol
- Treat EVERY fire as a crime scene
- Remind FF the importance of keeping the fire scene as undisturbed as possible
- Integrity of fire scene until O&C is complete
- Overhaul should be minimal
- Maintain fire scene / restrict access
- ID and interview caller, witnesses, 1<sup>st</sup> arriving

# New Jersey Family Found Dead After House Fire in Possible Murder-Suicide



# Media Relations

- One and only one person should be designated to handle all media relations
- Identify all involved agencies
- Avoid releasing specifics on criminal case
- Avoid pre-trial publicity issues
- Media for Arson Task Force cases should be directed to MCPO PIO





## Major Crimes Bureau

*Homicide/Arson Unit*

**Detective Sergeant**

**Ed Hennelly**

732/431-7160 EXT. 6779 (office)

[ehennelly@mcponj.org](mailto:ehennelly@mcponj.org)

Contact the on-call MCB Supervisor, via the Radio Room