



# NEWS RELEASE

*Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police*

March 16, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SUBJECT: Reckless Burning at Newark High School**

On Tuesday March 15, 2011 at approximately 10:00 a.m. the Newark Police School Resource Officer responded to investigate a fire that had been set inside a boy's bathroom at Newark High School. A school administrator discovered smoke coming from the boy's bathroom near the C and B hallways of the school. Two school administrators then entered the bathroom and used a fire extinguisher to control the fire. The school building was evacuated and the Aetna Hose, Hook and Ladder Company Fire Department responded to the scene. It was discovered that a toilet paper dispenser had been set on fire. The City of Newark Fire Marshal assisted in the investigation and along with the Newark Building Department, cleared school building for occupancy to continue the school day.

An investigation ensued and with the use of the schools surveillance camera system a suspect was identified. Newark Police arrested a 17 year old senior student from Newark and charged him with one count of Reckless Burning. The defendant was issued a summons to appear in Family Court and was released to family members.

Surveillance images are not available at this time.

You can send an anonymous text message tip by texting 302NPD and your message to TIP411. Information can also be provided anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at [www.tipsubmit.com](http://www.tipsubmit.com) where a reward may be available.

*The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.*

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