



NEWS RELEASE

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

September 20th, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: NPD Investigate Two Attempted Arsons

The Newark Police Department is investigating two attempted arsons which occurred in the early morning hours of September 20th in the 100 block of Victoria Court in the City of Newark.

At approximately 12:17am NPD officers, along with Aetna Fire Department, responded to a report of a fire at an apartment in the 100 block of Victoria Court. When officers and the fire department arrived they learned that the fire had been extinguished by the residents of the apartment. Through an investigation it was determined that an unknown suspect entered the home through an unsecured rear door while two 21 year old residents were in their bedrooms. The unknown suspect placed loose pieces of mail on the stove and then lit the burners before fleeing the home. The two residents were alerted to the fire by the smoke alarm. They then used a fire extinguisher to put out the fire which was contained to the stove top.

At approximately 12:28am while officers were still on scene investigating the first fire, they were approached by a resident of a nearby apartment, also in the 100 block of Victoria Court. That resident reported that he came home to find his apartment filled with smoke. He discovered that an unknown suspect had placed a roll of paper towels on the stove and then lit the burners. The fire had burned itself out and was limited to the stove top. It is unknown if this residence was locked prior to entry by the unknown suspect. There were no signs of forced entry.

NPD are reminding residents to secure their homes and report any and all suspicious activity to the police right away by dialing 911.

Anyone with additional information about this incident should contact Cpl. Daniel Marsilii at 302-366-7110 ext. 9554 or daniel.marsilii@cj.state.de.us 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 where a reward may be available.

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

Media Contact: Lt. Mark A. Farrall, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us.



PRESS RELEASE, Continued

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Media Contact: Lt. Mark A. Farrall, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or [mark.farrall @cj.state.de.us](mailto:mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us).