



# NEWS RELEASE

*Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police*

September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Update: Arson Suspect Identified and Arrested

The Newark Police Department have identified and arrested John J. Grimes of Newark for two arson fires, which occurred in the early morning hours of September 20<sup>th</sup>, in the 100 block of Victoria Court in the City of Newark.

Grimes was identified after he was captured on numerous surveillance video camera systems throughout the City of Newark. On September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 detectives located Grimes at his residence and placed him into custody. Grimes was arrested on the below charges and arraigned through JP Court #11. He was committed to Howard R. Young Correctional in lieu of \$40,100 bail.

**Defendant:** John J. Grimes (DOB: 5/18/1994)  
893 Broadfield Drive  
Newark, DE 19713

**Charges:** 2 cts Burglary 2<sup>nd</sup>  
2 cts Arson 3<sup>rd</sup>  
2 cts Reckless Endangering 2<sup>nd</sup>  
1 ct Criminal Mischief



*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](mailto:mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us).



# PRESS RELEASE, Continued

*September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Update: NPD Investigate Two Attempted Arsons**

The Newark Police Department continue to investigate two attempted arsons which occurred in the early morning hours of September 20<sup>th</sup> in the 100 block of Victoria Court in the City of Newark.

Detectives have obtained additional video surveillance of the suspect believed to be involved in these two incidents. The suspect is described as a college-aged white male wearing blue jeans and no shirt. NOTE – the initial release described the suspect as wearing maroon or red pants.

The suspect was captured on surveillance video on Academy Street on Saturday morning at approximately 11:15am. He was last seen travelling eastbound on Lovett Avenue from Academy Street.

Video and still photos of the suspect are available on the NPD Facebook Page at [www.facebook.com/NewarkDelawarePoliceDepartment](http://www.facebook.com/NewarkDelawarePoliceDepartment)

Anyone with information on the identity of this individual or this incident should contact Detective Daniel Bystricky at 302-366-7110 ext. 136 or [daniel.bystricky@cj.state.de.us](mailto:daniel.bystricky@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](http://www.tipsubmit.com) where a reward may be available.

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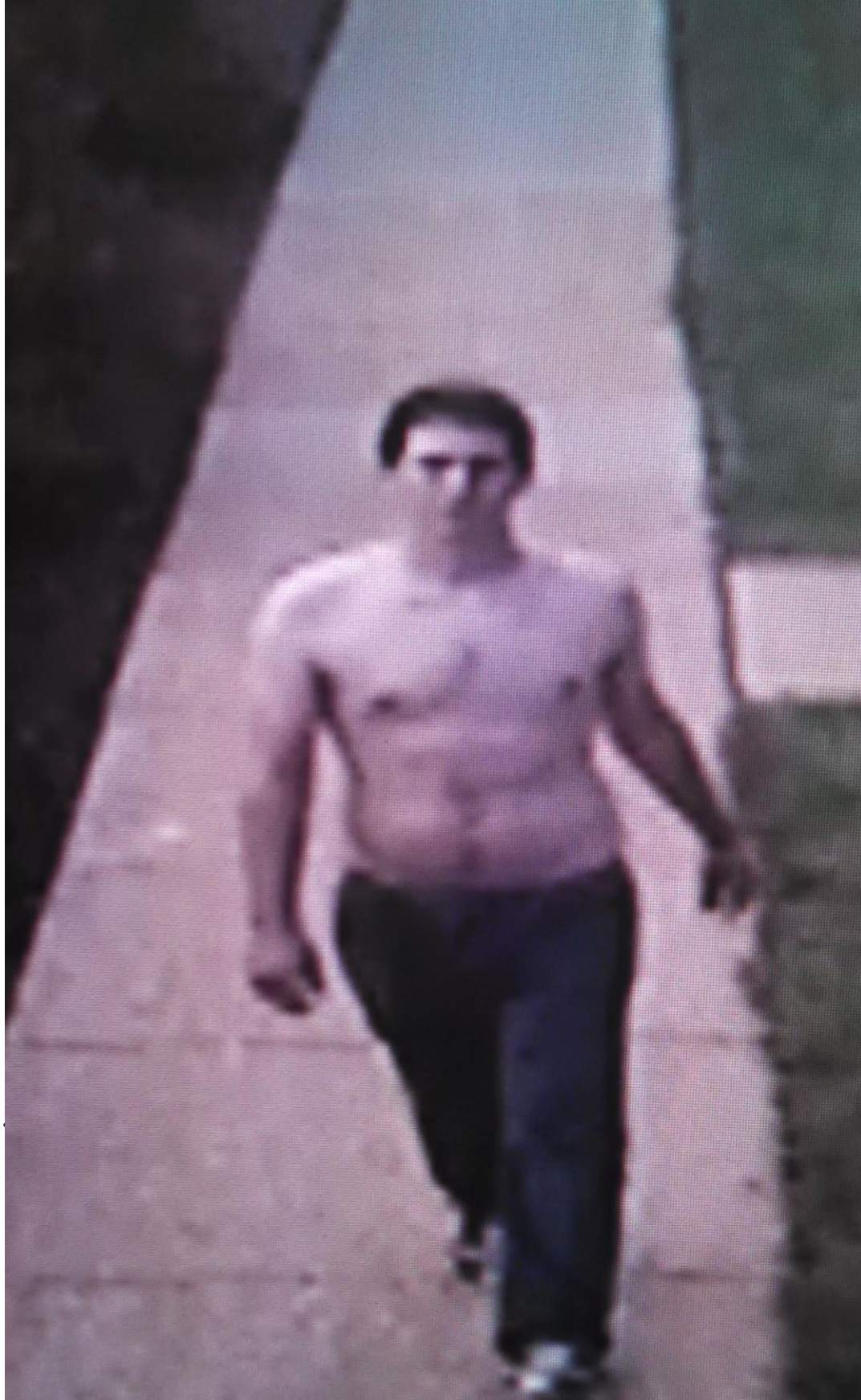
## PRESS RELEASE, Continued





# NEWS RELEASE

*Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police*



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ext 125 or



# PRESS RELEASE, Continued

September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**UPDATED: NPD Investigate Two Attempted Arsons**

The Newark Police Department continue to investigate two attempted arsons which occurred in the early morning hours of September 20<sup>th</sup> in the 100 block of Victoria Court in the City of Newark.

Investigators have obtained surveillance photos of the suspect involved in these two incidents. The suspect is described as a college-aged white male with dark colored short hair, wearing maroon or red pants, and dark colored sneakers with white laces. The suspect was not wearing a shirt. Photos of this suspect are attached to this release.

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 information on the identity of this individual or this incident should contact Cpl. Daniel Marsilii at 302-366-7110 ext. 466 or [daniel.marsilii@cj.state.de.us](mailto: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](http://www.tipsubmit.com) where a reward may be available.

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# PRESS RELEASE, Continued

Original release:

*September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014*

**SUBJECT: NPD Investigate Two Attempted Arsons**

The Newark Police Department is investigating two attempted arsons which occurred in the early morning hours of September 20<sup>th</sup> 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. 466 or [daniel.marsilii@cj.state.de.us](mailto: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.tipssubmit.com](http://www.tipssubmit.com) where a reward may be available.

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