1. PURPOSE: To inform all fire department members the procedures needed to be taken at the scene of a suspected arson fire.

2. PROCEDURES:

   • Firefighters will be ever mindful as to whether forcible entry was necessary to gain access to a structure.
   • Determine whether arson should be suspected.
   • If arson is suspected officers at the scene will:
     • Call Police Department for detective.
     • Call the State Fire Marshal’s Office.
   • The Fire Department will block off the suspicious area and keep all unauthorized personnel out, especially the owner or tenant.
   • If a call is placed to the Police Department or to the Fire Marshal’s Office, no overhaul will take place until after the investigation is completed.
   • The Fire Department, Police Department or the Fire Marshal’s Office will investigate the fire scene together, not individually.
   • The Police Department will call for a technician.
   • When all three departments agree that the investigation is completed, overhaul will then take place.
   • The Police Department will determine whether a guard should be posted.
   • The Police Department will take evidence.
   • The Police Department will do the criminal investigation keeping the Fire Department informed on the progress.
   • When the Officer in Charge gives a news release, as far as the origin goes, it will be stated that the fire is under investigation or it is unknown.

3. REFERENCES:
   • None

By Order Of:

Kevin W Guimond
Kevin W. Guimond
Fire Chief