

Florida Division of State Fire Marshal

ACISS Case Master Report

Case Number 99-0110

Date Initiated

01/08/1999

Primary Information

Region: Northeast
Office: Ocala
County: ALACHUA
Lead LEO: Lofton, Michael D. (ALACHUA / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Type Of Case: Fire
Total Time: 54:00
Total Expense Amount: 0

Authorized Operators

Name
Corbett, John P. (Central / Florida State Fire Marshal)
McKiernan, Edward L. (Northeast / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Hollenbach, David R. (Central / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Zierden, Neil R. (Ocala / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Cheers, K. David (Northeast / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Walker, Richard H. (Northeast / Florida State Fire Marshal)

Case Status

Case Status: Closed
Case Status Date: 02/28/2000
Disposition Code: No Further Leads
Closed Case Dissemination: Yes

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Released to: M. Partain
Released by: H.Q.
Date of Re'l: 4/28
Bureau of Fire & Arson Investigations
Division of State Fire Marshal

Florida Division of State Fire Marshal

ACISS Primary Investigation Report

Report Number: 99-0110

Report Date: 01/08/1999

Primary Information

Report Number: 99-0110
Report Date: 01/08/1999
Type Of Report: Primary Investigation
Occurrence From: 01/07/1999 02:14
Occurrence To: 01/07/1999 02:14
Shift: Midnight: 23:01 - 07:00
Reporting LEO: Lofton, Michael D. (Northeast / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Backup LEO: Jordan, Marilyn M. (North / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Approval Status: Approved
Approved Date: 03/31/2005
Approved By: Fields, Mary E. (Florida State Fire Marshal)
Discovered/Reported: Reported
Reason: TO DETERMINE CAUSE AND ORIGIN
Requester: Alachua County Fire Department ACFD

Response Information

Time Dispatched: 01/07/1999 04:59
Time Arrived: 01/07/1999 06:30
Time Completed: 01/08/1999 17:00
Investigator: Lofton, Michael D. (Northeast / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Arrival On Call: Yes
Smoke Detectors: Yes

Agency Reference Numbers

Agency	Case/File Number
---	99-000161 (ACFD)
Alachua County Fire Department ACFD	---

Synopsis

G

Agency Contact Info: 352-955-2413

Address #1 - Occurred #1 - 404 SW 140TH TER

Primary Information - 404 SW 140TH TER

Address: 404 SW 140TH TER, GAINESVILLE, Florida
Office: Ocala
Region: Northeast

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Record Status Information

Record Origination Operator: Jordan, Marilyn M. (North / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Record Origination Date: 01/08/1999 00:00

Florida Division of State Fire Marshal

ACISS Primary Investigation Report

Report Number: 99-0110

Report Date: 01/08/1999

Record Status Information - Continued

Last Update Operator: Whitehurst, Gloria B. (Northwest / Florida State Fire Marshal)

Last Update Date: 02/28/2000 15:01

Reporting LEO	Date	Supervisor	Date
Lofton, Michael D. (Northeast / Florida State Fire Marshal)		Fields, Mary E. (Florida State Fire Marshal)	4/28/2008

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ACISS Preliminary Report

Report Number: 99-0110/1

Report Date: 01/08/1999

Primary Information

Report Number: 99-0110/1
Report Date: 01/08/1999
Type Of Report: Preliminary
Reporting LEO: Lofton, Michael D. (Northeast / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Approval Status: Approved
Approved Date: 03/31/2005
Approved By: Fields, Mary E. (Florida State Fire Marshal)
Cause Of Fire: UNDETERMINED

Response Information

Investigator: Lofton, Michael D. (Northeast / Florida State Fire Marshal)

Property Information

Property Description: WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE BUILDING
Property Use: Storage General Warehouse Not Div 82 83 85 89
Mobile: No
Single/Multi Story: Single Story
Occupied: No
Abandoned: No
Estimated Value: \$4,000,000.00
Estimated Loss: \$4,000,000.00
Type Of Insurance: Individual Ins. Policy

Physical Evidence Information

Photo: Yes
Sketch: Yes
Debris: Yes
Latent Prints: No
Impression: No
Documents: No
Other Evidence: No
Lab Used: SFM Laboratory

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Description/Collection From

Q1-1 GAL CAN OF FIRE DEBRI FROM SOUTH END OF ROOM 3
Q2-1 GAL CAN OF FIRE DEBRI FROM NORTH SIDE OF ROOM 3
Q3-1 GAL CAN OF FIRE DEBRI FROM UNDER BASEBOARD ON S. END OF ROOM 3
Q4-1 QUART CAN OF FIRE DEBRI FROM ROOM 1 EAST SIDE

Fire Origin Information

Area/Origin	Description
SE Other service equipment areas not classified	--

Florida Division of State Fire Marshal

ACISS Preliminary Report

Report Number: 99-0110/1

Report Date: 01/08/1999

Fire Origin Information - Continued

Area/Origin	Description
---	SOURCE OF IGNITION IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME
---	THE FIRE ORIGINATED IN AN EQUIPMENT STORE ROOM IN THE
---	SOUTH EAST CORNER OF THE BUILDING

Insurance Information

Policy Number: 3020009 IMP
Claim Number: IMP00004
Insurance Company: GERLING AMERICA INSURANCE COMPANY
Insurance Adjustor: BILL CARTWRIGHT

Subject #1 - Owner/Occupant #1 - QST ENVIRONMENTAL

Primary Information - QST ENVIRONMENTAL (Owner/Occupant)

Record Type: BUSINESS
Subject Name: QST ENVIRONMENTAL

Subject #2 - WITNESS #1 - BUSCH, WAYNE

Primary Information - BUSCH, WAYNE (WITNESS)

Race: WHITE
Record Type: PERSON
Subject Name: BUSCH, WAYNE
Sex: MALE
Juvenile: No

Subject #3 - WITNESS #1 - PHILLIPS, KENNETH

Primary Information - PHILLIPS, KENNETH (WITNESS)

Race: WHITE
Record Type: PERSON
Subject Name: PHILLIPS, KENNETH
Sex: MALE
Juvenile: No

Subject #4 - WITNESS #1 - SWAYZE, MICHAEL

Primary Information - SWAYZE, MICHAEL (WITNESS)

Race: WHITE
Record Type: PERSON
Subject Name: SWAYZE, MICHAEL
Sex: MALE
Juvenile: No

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ACISS Preliminary Report

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Report Date: 01/08/1999

Related Documents

Document

REPORT MAILED TO KEMP HOWELL AT ESE, P.O.BOX 1703, GAINESVILLE, FL 32602-1703 ON 7/17/00

Narrative

BUREAU OF FIRE AND ARSON INVESTIGATIONS

CASE NUMBER: 11-99-0110

NARRATION SUMMARY:

ON JANUARY 07, 1999 THE ALACHUA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUESTED THE ASSISTANCE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHALS OFFICE AT THE SCENE OF A COMMERCIAL STRUCTURE FIRE LOCATED AT 401 SW 140TH. TERRACE, NEWBERRY, FLORIDA. DUE TO THE SIZE OF THE STRUCTURE AND THE EXTENT OF DAMAGE, A TASK FORCE WAS ASSEMBLED INCLUDING CAPTAIN RICK WALKER LT. JOHN CORBETT INV. DAVID CHEERS INV. ED MCKIERNAN INV. DAVID HOLLENBACH, INV. NEIL ZIERDEN, AND MYSELF. UPON THE ARRIVAL OF THE TASK FORCE MEMBERS WE MET WITH ALACHUA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE MARSHAL MIKE KELLEY. AT THAT TIME THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE FIRE WERE DISCUSSED.

A 911 CALL WAS RECEIVED FROM A SECURITY GUARD STATIONED ON THE PREMISES ADVISING OF THE FIRE. UPON FIRE DEPARTMENT ARRIVAL THEY FOUND THE STRUCTURE FULLY INVOLVED IN FIRE. AN EXTERIOR ATTACK WAS USED DUE TO THE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF THE BUILDING. THE FIRE WAS EXTINGUISHED WITHOUT INCIDENT OR INJURY.

SCENE DESCRIPTION:

THE FIRE OCCURRED TO A SINGLE STORY (APPROXIMATELY 20 FEET IN HEIGHT), CONCRETE BLOCK CONSTRUCTION WITH WOOD TRUSSES AND A METAL ROOF. THIS STRUCTURE HOUSED THE BUSINESS OF QST ENVIRONMENTAL AND WAS ONE OF SEVERAL STRUCTURES OCCUPIED BY THE BUSINESS. THE SUBJECT STRUCTURE FUNCTIONED AS A LABORATORY AND WAREHOUSE. THE ENTIRE STRUCTURE SUSTAINED EXTENSIVE FIRE DAMAGE.

FIRE SCENE INVESTIGATION:

EXTERIOR EXAMINATION REVEALED THAT THE ROOF AND CEILING SUSTAINED SEVERE FIRE DAMAGE AND COLLAPSED INTO THE STRUCTURE. NO OBVIOUS EXTERIOR SOURCE OF IGNITION WAS DETERMINED.

FIRE TRACKING OF BURN PATTERNS INDICATED THAT THE AREA OF ORIGIN WAS THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE STRUCTURE. THE DEBRIS WAS REMOVED FROM THIS AREA USING THE LAYERING METHOD EXPOSING THE CONCRETE FLOOR.

DUE TO THE EXTENT OF FIRE DAMAGE, THE AREA OF ORIGIN WAS IDENTIFIED AS BEING THE EQUIPMENT ROOM LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE STRUCTURE. HOWEVER, IDENTIFICATION OF THE POINT OF ORIGIN OR SOURCE OF IGNITION WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY.

FOLLOW-UP INVESTIGATION:

NUMEROUS TAPED INTERVIEWS WERE CONDUCTED WITH SECURITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BUSINESS. NOTHING OF SIGNIFICANT VALUE WAS REVEALED DURING THESE INTERVIEWS.

CONCLUSION:

FIRE SCENE EXAMINATION FAILED TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE FOR THIS FIRE AND, AS SUCH, IT IS CLASSIFIED

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ACISS Preliminary Report

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Report Date: 01/08/1999

Narrative - Continued

AS UNDETERMINED. ALL INVESTIGATIVE LEADS HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED AND I REQUEST THIS CASE FILE BE CLOSED PENDING THE RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Record Status Information

Record Origination Operator: Jordan, Marilyn M. (North / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Record Origination Date: 01/08/1999 09:08
Last Update Operator: Aziz, Nazlee (Records Technician / Florida State Fire Marshal)
Last Update Date: 07/17/2000 13:24

Reporting LEO	Date	Supervisor	Date
Lofton, Michael D. (Northeast / Florida State Fire Marshal)		Fields, Mary E. (Florida State Fire Marshal)	4/28/2008

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