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# CDF NEWS RELEASE

## California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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RELEASE  
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### **CDF Investigators Arrest Suspected Serial Arsonist**

**Redding** - Mark James Bishop of Shasta Lake City, California was arrested by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) Arson Investigation Unit on Monday July 24, 2006. Bishop, age 42, was arrested in connection with 16 felony counts of arson relating to fires that have occurred in northern Shasta County since 2005.

Investigators continue to examine evidence relating to more than 60 fires that have occurred since 2003 to determine if Bishop can be charged with additional felony counts of arson. Local investigators from the Shasta-Trinity CDF Unit and the City of Redding Fire Department were instrumental in the investigation that led to Bishop's arrest.

"We live in an area that has a lot of potential for large and damaging fires," stated CDF Unit Chief Mike Chuchel. "While these fires Mr. Bishop is charged with starting were quickly contained, peoples' homes were threatened. Our investigators work closely with the Shasta County District Attorney's Office to investigate and prosecute the crime of arson."

This is the second arrest by CDF's Arson Investigation Unit in less than a week. Jesse Lloyd Galvin, 53, of Contra Costa County was arrested at his home east of Clayton, California on five counts of felony arson on the evening of July 17, 2006.

"There is a lot of tedious, time consuming work that goes in to these investigations," stated CDF's Arson Investigation Unit Incident Commander Jim Engel. "It's worth the effort, though, when we can stop these arson fires from occurring. Californians' lives and property are already at significant risk from wildfire without these intentional fires adding to the threat."

Anyone with additional information is encouraged to contact CDF at (800) 468-4408. Callers can remain anonymous.

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