



PRESS RELEASE

ROD HOOPS, SHERIFF-CORONER



DATE: September 23, 2009 at approximately 4:39 p.m.

INCIDENT: PC 451 Arson

LOCATION: 10th Street and Chapman Heights Road, Yucaipa

SUSPECT: 16 year old male juvenile a resident of Yucaipa

SUMMARY: On Wednesday, September 23, 2009, at approximately 4:39 p.m., deputies from the Yucaipa Police Station responded to the area of 10th Street and Chapman Heights Road following a report of an arson.

Upon arrival, deputies were advised by witnesses that a white male juvenile had been seen leaving the location of the fire riding a bicycle. Deputies conducted an area search and immediately located the subject east of where the fire was reported.

Investigators from the Sheriff's Department Bomb and Arson Detail along with investigators from Cal Fire responded to the location. The juvenile suspect was taken to the Yucaipa Police Station and was subsequently taken into custody and transported late this evening following the initial investigation. The suspect was taken to the San Bernardino Juvenile Hall facility where he was booked for arson.

UPDATE September 24, 2009

Through investigation, detectives from the Sheriff's Department Bomb and Arson Detail along with investigators from Cal Fire believe that the male juvenile arrested for the Crafton Fire may also be responsible for 12 – 14 fires, including the Oak Glen III and Pendleton Fires.

Anyone with information regarding these incidents is urged to call Detective Holly Liepert of the Yucaipa Sheriff's Station at (909) 790-3105 or Sheriff's dispatch (909) 387-8313.

Refer: Detective Holly Liepert – Yucaipa Police Station (909) 790-3105
Jodi Miller – PIO – Public Affairs Division (909) 387-3599
Bill Peters – PIO – Cal Fire (951) 314-0426

ROD HOOPS, Sheriff /Coroner
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

DOUG McKAIN, Unit Chief
CAL FIRE