



DC • ATF • MD ARSON TASK FORCE

Media Advisory
For Release: October 3, 2003

Reward Increased to \$25,000 **Two Additional Cases Conclusively Linked**

The Arson Task Force, investigating a series of arson fires in Prince George's County and the District of Columbia, announces an increase in the amount of reward money. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) have increased their contribution to the Arson Reward Fund. The reward now stands at up to \$25,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person, or persons, responsible for these fires.

Two incidents that had been listed as "similar in nature" have now been added to the list of "conclusively linked" cases. These incidents have been linked by the forensic work conducted by the ATF National Laboratory Center.

They are:

September 4, 2003 5100 block of Barnaby Run Drive, Oxon Hill, MD
September 8, 2003 200 block of Quackenbos Street, NW, Washington, DC

Prince Georges County Fire Chief Ronald D. Blackwell stated, "We are following up on several leads provided by citizens and residents, however, more information is needed. We are hopeful that this increase in reward money will generate additional leads."

Additionally, The Prince George's County Sheriff's Office has joined the Arson Task Force providing valuable resources and investigators to the case.

Anyone with information about these fires should call the Arson Tip Line at 301-77-ARSON (301-772-7766). Information may also be provided by e-mail at 77arson@co.pg.md.us or by mail sent to ARSON Task Force, P.O. Box 211, Bladensburg, MD 20710.

For additional information contact Mark Brady, Chief Spokesperson, at 240-508-7930. For a sketch of the suspect and a complete list of the serial arson fires visit www.pgfireems.com or www.atf.gov.