



MOBILE FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

701 Saint Francis Street / Mobile, Alabama 36602

Stephen A. Dean - Fire Chief

NEWS RELEASE

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Media Contact:

R. Steve Huffman

huffman@cityofmobile.org

ARREST MADE IN CONNECTION WITH DECEMBER CHURCH FIRE

MOBILE, ALA. -- Fire Investigators from the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department's Bureau of Fire Prevention and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) have issued warrants for the arrest of four (4) juveniles and are charging them with Arson 2^d Degree on Thursday, February 3, 2005. The four suspects are being arrested in connection with a fire that occurred at the Dayspring Baptist Church located at 2200 Cody Road South. Mobile Fire Investigator, Doug Cranford and Agents from ATF, working together, made the arrests in connection with the fire after an approximately 5 1/2-week comprehensive investigation.

The four suspects, who are reportedly students at Davidson High School in Mobile, have agreed to turn themselves in at the Strickland Youth Center today, Thursday, February 3, 2005. Because of their juvenile status no names will be released.

The fire occurred on the evening of Sunday, December 26, 2004 when someone intentionally set fire to the exterior of a building called "The Shack" that is used as a recreation center for the churches youth ministry. The fire was reported at approximately 9:05 p.m. that evening and caused an estimated \$10 thousand in damage, mainly to the exterior. No injuries were reported and the building was not occupied at the time of the fire.

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