

## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES NEWS RELEASE

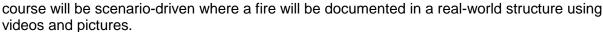
Jackie Cutler Public Information Officer 410-313-6039 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 16, 2011

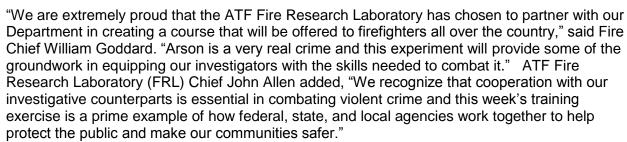
## ATF Partners with Department to Conduct Fire Investigations Experiments Results from Experiments to be Taught in a National Class

**ELLICOTT CITY, MD** – This upcoming Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) will be partnering with the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services (HCDFRS) to conduct a full-scale fire experiment. This experiment will be used to collect data on fire behavior, gas temperatures, heat fluxes, toxicity measurements, smoke detector and sprinkler activation times and

temperatures associated with a fire in a single family home, as it goes through flashover. The installation of video cameras, gas and temperature monitoring equipment and a sprinkler system will assist in capturing the information needed.

The experiment will include several controlled burns and will culminate in a live burn of the entire structure. The results of this experiment will be used to develop a fire investigations course that will be taught at the National Fire Academy. The







Personnel from both agencies have spent the past two weeks preparing the house for the controlled burns and experiments that will take place. The experiments will take place at 4100 College Avenue in Ellicott City, MD. The schedule is as follows: Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 2pm.

Editor's Note: Members of the media wishing to cover this must contact Battalion Chief Eric Proctor at 443-718-7797 or

Special Agent/PIO Dave Cheplak at 240-882-2536.