

<b>WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE</b>		<b>NEWS RELEASE NUMBER</b>
<b>NEWS MEDIA RELEASE</b>		<b>2017-028</b>
<b>INFORMATION: ARSON ARREST</b>		
<b>DATE: MAY 15, 2017</b>	<b>TIME: 0900 HOURS</b>	<b>PAGE 1 OF 1</b>

ON SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2017 AT 7:12 P.M., WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES WERE CALLED TO THE VILLAGE INN MOTEL AT 7820 NORTH SECOND STREET IN MACHESNEY PARK FOR A FIRE. DEPUTIES DISCOVERED THAT ROOM 18 WAS ENGULFED IN FLAMES AND HEAVY SMOKE. NORTH PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF ROCKFORD, ROCKTON, HARLEM/ROSCOE, NEW MILFORD, BELOIT, BELVIDERE, CHERRY VALLEY & WINN-BURR-SEW FIRE DEPARTMENTS EXTINGUISHED THE FIRE.

SEVERAL ROOMS WERE DAMAGED BY THE SMOKE AND FLAMES BEFORE THE FIRE WAS EXTINGUISHED. THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL WAS CALLED TO THE SCENE TO INVESTIGATE.

DEPUTIES LOCATED THE RENTER OF ROOM 18 WALKING AWAY FROM THE FIRE. HE WAS DETAINED AND SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION WITH THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL DETERMINED THE FIRE WAS INTENTIONALLY SET. THE FOLLOWING PERSON IS CHARGED:

~ROBERT M. COX (8/3/73) OF MACHESNEY PARK

-ARSON

-DISORDERLY CONDUCT

THE CHARGES AGAINST COX ARE MERELY ACCUSATIONS AND HE IS PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY IN A COURT OF LAW.

: SHERIFF : CHIEF DEPUTY : DEPUTY CHIEF OF DETECTIVE BUREAU : DEPUTY CHIEF OF PATROL BUREAU : DEPUTY CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU : DEPUTY CHIEF OF SUPPORT SERVICES : SUPERINTENDENT OF CORRECTIONS : ACCREDITATION MANAGER : MACHESNEY PARK SECTION SUPERVISOR : FOREST PRESERVE SECTION SUPERVISOR : ESDA SECTION DIRECTOR : PATROL ROLL CALL BOOK : PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER : 1ST FLOOR BULLETIN BOARD : WEB SITE COORDINATOR  S/A-32C REVISED 07/01/12	<b>SHERIFF GARY CARUANA</b> <hr/> SUPERVISOR AUTHORIZING RELEASE  DATE: <u>05/ 15 /17</u> TIME: <u>0900</u> HOURS
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