

John R. Kasich    Jacqueline T. Williams  
Governor            Director

Follow us on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook!](#)  
[Visit us online](#)

**For Immediate Release**  
Aug. 28, 2018

Contact: [Kelly Stincer](#) at 614-752-7179

## Investigators Seek Tips in Series of Garfield Heights Fires

The Division of State Fire Marshal's Fire and Explosion Investigation Bureau is seeking tips from the public regarding four residential fires in Garfield Heights (Cuyahoga County). Due to the locations, officials believe they may all be connected.

The first incident occurred in the early morning hours of Aug. 3 when at least one person broke into the backyard of 4886 East 97<sup>th</sup> Street, Garfield Heights, and used an unknown liquid in an attempt to ignite the rear porch but was unsuccessful. The home owner was out of town at the time of the incident. Doorbell camera footage captured footage of the suspect. (See below)

Four days later, at the same residence, the owners were inside their home at approximately 2:30 a.m. when an unknown suspect threw a device through a window and set the house on fire. All occupants escaped the home unharmed.

On Aug. 5, neighbors witnessed three males using gasoline to set fire to the back of the home of 4892 East 97<sup>th</sup> Street, Garfield Heights, at approximately 5:30 a.m. One of the three suspects was arrested a few blocks from the scene.

The fourth incident occurred at approximately 6 a.m. Aug. 26 when an unknown suspect threw a device through the front window of 12808 Thraves Road, Garfield Heights, and set the dining room ablaze. The occupants extinguished the fire and were not injured.

A reward of up to \$5,000 is being offered by the [Blue Ribbon Arson Committee](#) for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for each fire.

The Fire and Explosion Investigation Bureau is working with the Garfield Heights police and fire departments to investigate these incidents. Anyone with information is encouraged to call the State Fire Marshal's office tip line at **800-589-2728** or the Cuyahoga County Crime Stoppers at **216-252-7463**.

**John R. Kasich**  
Governor

**Jacqueline T. Williams**  
Director

Follow us on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook!](#)  
[Visit us online](#)



*Suspect from attempted house fire at  
4886 East 97th Street, Garfield Heights,  
on Aug. 3.*



*The scene of the house fire at 4892 East  
97th Street, Garfield Heights, on Aug. 5.*



*The scene of the Aug. 7 house at 4886  
East 97th Street, Garfield Heights.*



*The scene of the Aug. 26 fire at 12808  
Thraves Road, Garfield Heights.*

###