

For Immediate Release

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Contact:Brian Bohnert, Division of State Fire Marshal
614-752-7179brian.bohnert@com.state.oh.us**Collaboration Leads to Indictments in Darke County Arson Case**

(COLUMBUS, Ohio) — Collaboration between the Division of State Fire Marshal and several local law enforcement agencies in Darke County recently helped secure indictments of two men arrested in connection to dozens of fires spanning nearly five years.

Randy R. Mogle, 30, and Christopher L. Garland, 30, both of Greenville, were recently arrested for 44 counts of fourth-degree arson, three counts of second-degree aggravated arson, eight counts of first-degree aggravated arson, one count of engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity, and conspiracy to engage in a pattern of corrupt activity.

The State Fire Marshal's Fire and Explosion Investigation Bureau (FEIB) assisted the Darke County Sheriff's Office, the Lewisburg Police Department and the Greenville police and fire departments in their investigation into 25 intentionally set fires throughout the area.

The fires date back as far as June 2014, with the most recent fires occurring this past May. Of those incidents, FEIB was called to investigate four fires, including:

- Nov. 10, 2018 – 7886 Spidel Rd., Bradford – trailer fire
- April 27, 2019 – 225 Horn St., Lewisburg – garage fire
- April 27, 2019 – 524 N. Water St., Lewisburg – vehicle fire
- May 3, 2019 – 133 Liberty Street, Hollansburg – garage fire

Additionally, FEIB's criminal analyst supported the Darke County Sheriff's Office by mapping the locations of all 25 fires and creating a timeline showing the sequence of events for each incident.

"This was a really great opportunity for local and state officials to come together and yield big rewards," said State Fire Marshal Jeff Hussey. "Inter-agency cooperation was truly critical in this case and we commend the Darke County Sheriff's Office for its diligence in securing these indictments."

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