LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER TO FIGHT ARSON!

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

LAWRENCE PETRILLO STATE FIRE MARSHAL

> NJ Division of Fire Safety PO Box 809 Trenton, NJ 08625-0809

Phone: 609-324-7336 Fax: 609-324-8438 website: www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs/ 24 Hour Dispatch I-877-NJFIRES (877-653-4737)



# NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL FIRE INVESTIGATION-ARSON UNIT ACCELERANT DETECTION K-9s





## PARTNERS AGAINST FIRE

The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety wants fire departments and county and local fire investigative agencies to know that you have a partner in the investigation of fires.

The Division's Fire Investigation-Arson Unit is ready to assist you in any way; whether in the determination of a fire's origin and cause, documentation of the fire scene, diagramming and report writing, evidence collection or accelerant detection through the use of one of our highly trained K-9 teams.

This highly specialized unit is available to assist you 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

The Fire Investigation-Arson unit is comprised of five investigators and three accelerant detection K-9s. All investigators have been certified through the NJ Division of Criminal Justice and our canines meet the strict certification and retraining criteria of the NJ Attorney Generals Office.

Investigators and K-9s are located geographically throughout the state and can usually be on-scene within I-2 hours or less.

Once on scene, investigators work as part of a team with county and local investigators. It should be remembered that this unit is not meant to replace existing investigative agencies, rather it is available as a resource to be used within the concept of a taskforce. However, in jurisdictions where the NJDFS is the LEA and no other fire investigative units are in place, the State's Fire Investigative Unit will be the primary agency conducting the origin and cause investigation.

## OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

In addition to investigating fires, the unit is charged with the investigation of firefighter serious injuries/fatalities, investigation of civilian burn injuries and fatalities and providing information on fire trends such as arson fires to the NFIRS Unit.

K-9 teams are also available for demonstrations at meetings, public gatherings and fire safety/prevention events at no charge.

#### NOTIFICATION

The Division of Fire Safety-State Fire Marshal's Office is required to be notified at the time of the following incidents:

Any fire or explosion within a <u>state building</u> or located on <u>state-owned property</u>.

Any fire or explosion in a State LEA, within <u>all</u> <u>structures</u>.

**Any** fire or explosion regardless of LEA, which results in a <u>serious injury or fatality</u> to a firefighter.

**Any** fire or explosion in which the established investigative agency needs technical assistance.

# Notification should be made to (877)NJFIRES (877-653-4737)

Christopher Eckert – Unit Supervisor

Investigator Jeffrey Silver – North Region K-9 "Scout"

Investigator Stephen Letts – North/Central Region K-9 "Hunter"

Investigator Jason Spiecker – Central/South Region

Investigator Rodman Meyer – South Region K-9 "Taz"