

Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor

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MEDIA RELEASE – JUNE 17, 2017

FIRE AT HAMPTON HOME DOES NOT APPEAR SUSPICIOUS

Hunterdon County Prosecutor Anthony P. Kearns, III, announced that fire investigators from the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office Arson Task Force, the Lebanon Township Police Department, and the New Jersey State Fire Marshal's Office are investigating a fire that occurred at 22 Musconetcong River Road last night.

According to Prosecutor Kearns, "The Lebanon Township Police Department responded to a 911 call for a residential fire at approximately 9:00 pm last night. Firefighters from the Lebanon Township Fire Department and surrounding towns responded to the scene and successfully extinguished the blaze. A Hampton firefighter suffered from smoke inhalation and was hospitalized. Our prayers go out for his quick recovery."

Prosecutor Kearns added, "The structure sustained significant damage throughout the residence. The fire does not appear to be suspicious and the cause remains officially undetermined at this time. The investigation is ongoing and additional information will be released as it becomes available."

The following agencies also responded to the scene, Califon Fire Department, Clinton Fire Department, High Bridge Fire Department, Glen Gardner Fire Department, Lebanon Borough Fire Department, Oldwick Fire Department, Annandale Fire Department, Quakertown Fire Department, East Whitehouse Fire Department, Readington Fire Department, Three Bridges Fire Department, Fairmount Fire Department, Washington Township Fire Department, Hampton Rescue Squad, Clinton Rescue Squad EMS-2 Hunterdon Medical Center Paramedics, High Bridge Police Department, and the Tewksbury Fire Department.

Prosecutor Kearns concluded, "The structure involved was a significant distance from the main roadway which presented extremely difficult physical conditions for the firefighters on scene. I commend the volunteers for their quick response to this fire and thanking them for their sacrifice and unwavering service to the citizens of Hunterdon County."

The filing of a criminal complaint is merely a step in the criminal justice process. The defendant is presumed innocent until the matter is resolved in a court of law.

Anonymous tips can be submitted by calling **Crime Stoppers** at 1-800-321-0010 or by going to **www.crimestoppershunterdon.com**, or text messaging "HCTIPS" plus your tip message to 274637 (CRIMES). Tipsters can also download the free mobile app "Tipsubmit" and select Hunterdon County to submit anonymous tips via text messaging. All tips are anonymous and kept confidential.

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