

Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor

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MEDIA RELEASE – MAY 5, 2017 **FIRE AT TIRPOK CLEANERS 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 and the Flemington Borough Police Department are investigating a fire that occurred at the Tirpok Dry Cleaners on Reaville Avenue in Flemington last night.

According to Prosecutor Kearns, "A 911 call was placed by store employees at approximately 6:55 pm after fire was observed inside the store. The structure sustained severe damage but no injuries were reported. The fire does not appear to be suspicious and the cause remains officially undetermined at this time. The investigation is ongoing."

Responding agencies from Glenn Gardner Fire Department, Raritan Township Fire Department, Fairmont Fire Department, High Bridge Fire Department, Stockton Fire Department, Kingwood Fire Department, Sergeantsville Fire Department, Flemington Borough Fire Department, Lambertville Fire Department, Readington Fire Department, Lebanon Borough Fire Department, Three Bridges Fire Department, Quakertown Fire Department, Milford Fire Department, Amwell Valley Fire Department, Lebanon Township Fire Department, Annandale Fire Department, East Whitehouse Fire Department, Hampton Fire Department, Flemington-Raritan Rescue Squad, Lambertville Rescue Squad, Clinton Rescue Squad, Whitehouse Rescue Squad, Hunterdon County OEM, Hunterdon County Hazmat Team, Hunterdon Medical Center Paramedics, Hunterdon County Fire Marshalls Office, Flemington Borough Office of Emergency Management, Flemington Borough Police Department, and the Raritan Township Police Department responded to the scene.

Prosecutor Kearns added, "I commend the volunteers for their quick response to this fire. It is a testament to the dedication of these men and women to see so many fire companies and rescue squads come to the aid of their fellow volunteers and keep our county safe. Other structures and businesses surrounding the cleaners were saved by the rapid response and expertise of our selfless first responders."

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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