



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 17, 2019

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MEDIA RELEASE

Case Number: NPD19-003911

Date/Time: July 17, 2019 at 3 AM

Location: Oxbow Commons Park and Napa River at First & Main Streets, Napa, CA

Arrested: Jeffrey JOHNSON, age 27
800 block Central Avenue
Napa. CA.

Charges: (1) PC 451 - FELONY - ARSON
(2) PC 451 - FELONY - ARSON
(3) HS 12700(b) - MISDEMEANOR - POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS FIREWORKS

On the morning of Wednesday, July 17, 2019, detectives with the Napa Police Department (NPD) arrested 27-year-old Napa resident Jeffrey Johnson for two counts of arson.

Earlier in the morning, shortly after 3 am, NPD and the Napa Fire Department (NFD) were dispatched to a fire in an outhouse in the Oxbow Commons Park, 1268 McKinstry Street, Napa. On arrival, NFD found a plastic porta potty on fire. The fire destroyed the outhouse and caused heat damage to the surrounding concrete.

While first responders were on scene, a second fire was located a short distance away. The second fire was contained to the brushy area north of the First Street Bridge behind the Napa Valley Opera House. NFD quickly contained and extinguished both fires.

Based upon evidence at the scene, both fires appeared to be intentionally set. NPD detectives and NFD firefighters worked together to identify the source of ignition, and the person or persons responsible.

NPD reviewed video footage from the Napa Community Awareness Management System (NapaCAMS), a joint public-private initiative designed to improve public safety in the downtown



district. Through the video footage, NPD identified a male seen in the area of both fires near the times they were set. The video footage provided investigators with a detailed physical and clothing description.

Officers and detectives, along with Napa firefighters, continued to check the affected areas throughout the morning. Shortly after 10:30 am, NPD detectives located Jeffrey Johnson, near First and Main Street. Johnson matched the description of the man seen in the videos near both fires. Detectives interviewed Johnson and subsequently arrested him for lighting both fires earlier in the morning, as well as possessing dangerous fireworks.

Through evidence collected and statements made, detectives were able to tie Johnson to a number of recent fires NPD and NFD have investigated on the Vine Trail near Jackson Street.

Detectives booked Johnson into the Napa County Department of Corrections (NCDC) for the aforementioned arsons (two counts) and possession of dangerous fireworks. Johnson is being held in lieu of \$50,000 in bail.

NPD and NFD continue to investigate this matter. Anyone with information about these fires is asked to contact Detective Garrett Smith at 707-257-9375 or GSmith@cityofnapa.org.

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NapaCAMS is the result of a public-private partnership wherein businesses can grant access to NPD to view video of public areas near their businesses in the downtown district. If you have questions about the program please email napacams@cityofnapa.org.