

JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

6255 ALAWAY AVENUE ○ JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

Greg Browning
Chief of Police

Committed to Service and Excellence

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INFORMATION RELEASE

Subject: Burglary 1st Degree, Attempted Arson 1st Degree, Criminal Mischief 1st Degree

Date: March 8, 2007

**From: Sgt Erickson
Case or Incident # 2007-007429**

Summary:

On March 8, 2007 at about 1500 hours, a resident of Fritz Cove Road telephoned the Juneau Police Department to report, a 26 year-old male subject came to her residence asking for the resident to take care of his cat because his home was “going to be on fire”. The complainant said the male then went to a residence nearby.

Officers responded to the 1200 block of Fritz Cove Road and began an investigation into the report. At approximately 1644 hours, the Juneau Police Department received a report from another Fritz Cove resident reporting that a home had been burglarized.

Officers contacted 26 year-old Charles CLASBY at the top of the stairs to the residence. CLASBY smelled heavily of gasoline. CLASBY was detained as officers began investigating the burglary. Officers found the house filled with the heavy smell of gasoline. Capital City Fire and Rescue were contacted and responded. CCFR personnel refused police entry to the residence due to the heavy smell of gasoline and potential for fire. Alaska Electric Light and Power were contacted and cut the power to the residence. CCFR personnel worked to dispel the odors and gain control of the fire hazard. Ultimately, the residence was cleared of odors and an investigation by police was commenced.

The investigation revealed that CLASBY broke into the residence earlier in the day and stole several items. CLASBY left the residence and purchased several gas cans, gasoline, and other fire starting material. CLASBY returned to the residence broke into the residence a second time. Once inside he broke furniture, and piled the broken items up inside in the living room, kitchen and other rooms of the house.

Any charges reported in this press release are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

*** END OF STATEMENT ***

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CLASBY poured gasoline over the broken furniture and other items. Estimated damage to the residence and personal belongings was estimated to be over \$100,000.

CLASBY was brought to JPD and interviewed. CLASBY was arrested and charged with 2 counts of Burglary 1st Degree, 1 count of Attempted Arson 1st Degree, 1 count of Criminal Mischief 1st Degree, and 1 count of Theft 4th Degree. CLASBY was lodged at the Lemon Creek Correctional Center and held without bail.

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***** END OF STATEMENT *****

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