



For Immediate Release
Contact: Sgt. Christie Wood
(208) 769-2320

Chief Lee White

Date: July 8th 2015

To: Media

Coeur d'Alene Police Department

Protecting and serving with excellence

Arson suspect arrested

On July 8th 2015 at approximately 12:20 am Coeur d'Alene Police officers responded to a report of a suspicious fire at the Coeur d'Alene City Library at 702 E. Front Ave. A witness reported a burning dumpster.

The fire scorched the green metal dumpster and melted a large blue upright recycle bin. As officers were finishing up their investigation additional officers located another trash can on fire at the base of Tubbs Hill on the 3rd street side.

They observed a male in the 400 block of E Front Ave walking at a hurried pace out of the park across the parking lot, directly away from where other officers were trying to extinguish the second trash fire. Officers detained the male who was later identified as Alec T. Malinak, 18 years of age from Spokane WA.

Malinak made several statements and changed his story as to why he was in the park. He then admitted to police he was in both locations when the fires were lit. Officers searched Malinak and discovered a very large butterfly knife on his person. The knife was about 7"-8" closed and over 12" long when open. Malinak also has ash on his shirt and soot on his hands.

Due to Malinak's statements to police and his suspicious activity in the area he was arrested as a principal to two counts of 3rd degree arson, and possession of a concealed weapon.

Sergeant Christie Wood
Coeur d'Alene Police Department
Office: (208) 769-2363 Cell: (208) 755-9705
Email: wood@cdaid.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CoeurdAlenePD>