

**Narrative**

OFFICER: J. Schneider K39

SUSPECT INFORMATION: Male, white, early to mid-20s, slender build, UNK height, hair or eye color. Last seen wearing UNK color hooded sweatshirt with hood up, jeans, and skater-type shoes with darker tops and thick lighter colored soles. Last seen walking n/b on 4th St.

FELONY: XXX

CRIME: Arson - first degree

CODE: 18-801

**CASE SUMMARY:**

The above described UNK suspect walked up to the front of the Cheating Death Discount Vapor, looked around briefly, then pulled out a cigarette lighter and lit the large American flag hanging from a pole attached to the storefront on fire. The store was not open for business, but is also the residence of the owner, and was occupied by three people working at the time. Once the flag was burning, the suspect walked away n/b on N 4th St.

**NARRATIVE:**

I was driving n/b on N 4th St when I noticed the flagpole attached to the front of the Cheating Death Discount Vapor store (510 N 4th St, #A, CDA ID) appeared to be on fire. I stopped and got out, noticing that the remnants of an American flag were burning and smoldering on the pole, and there were ashes and small unburnt scraps of the flag on the sidewalk below. I didn't see anyone around outside, but I noticed the store appeared open. The lights were on and I saw two males and a female inside through the storefront, which was mostly glass. I knocked on the door and spoke to a male and notified them someone had just lit their flag on fire. A second male offered to get a ladder to ensure the fire is out.

I spoke to the store owner, Todd Brewer. Todd said the store isn't open for business, but they are just doing some work inside. Todd also said he lives in a room adjacent to the retail area of the store. He didn't see anyone light the flag on fire, and didn't even notice anyone outside over the past few minutes. He had no idea who would have lit his flag on fire, and said he hasn't had any disputes or problems with anyone. Todd was worried it may have been "ISIS."

The second male came back inside and told me the fire is out, but he was unable to get the attached flagpole off the building without tools. I identified him as Gregory L. Vandouris. Greg told me he'd seen a pair of drunk people being loud at Mik's, a block south, that were causing problems outside earlier, but he hadn't seen anyone light the flag on fire.

I spoke to the female, Penelope J. "Penny" Roath. Penny didn't see anyone outside either.

Todd said he has surveillance video, but is unsure how to run the system. He invited me back to his residence area of the building to review the video. He gave me the remote and I reviewed the footage from the camera on the front of the store, which looks toward the flag. I saw that at about 0147 hours (indicated by time stamp of 0247 hours, which hadn't been adjusted from the Daylight Savings Time change), the above-described suspect male walks up to the front of the store, heading n/b on the sidewalk on the east side of N 4th St.

The male pauses in front of the store, looks inside the store, then looks around as if to ensure no one is watching, then pulls an object from his pocket and holds it up to the flag. A flame originates at the top of the object, indicating it is a cigarette lighter of some sort. The male uses the lighter to start the flag on fire. Once the flag is burning on its own, he continues walking n/b on N 4th St. The video is filmed in infrared night mode and is in black and white, so I was unable to determine the color of the clothing.

Ofc Niska arrived and took photos of the burnt flag and pole, and she took a photo of the video screen as I paused it to try to get a photo of the suspect male. I also used my body camera to film the video as it played, as I had no idea how to create a file or save the footage, and neither did Todd. Greg looked at the suspect and said the male was not one of the ones he had seen outside earlier.

Todd was upset about the flag, as it was a large, high-quality flag and he was proud of it. I asked him to be alert to suspicious activity and to call if he saw the suspect male or anyone lingering around.

I searched the area looking for the suspect. I located a vehicle parked on N 5th St north of E Wallace with two occupants. The male driver was wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt with thin green stripes, jeans, and skater type shoes that were dark on top and had lighter colored thick soles. He had a lighter with him. I identified the male as [REDACTED] had a female, [REDACTED] in the SUV with him, whom he claimed he'd just picked up from a bar and parked to "show her a song." He denied having been out of the SUV or out walking around. [REDACTED] had long hair, but I couldn't tell the hairstyle of the suspect due to the sweatshirt hood being up. I eventually arrested [REDACTED] for DUI [REDACTED]. Upon later review of the footage and photos from the arson, I cannot tell for sure if [REDACTED] is the suspect in the video or if his clothing is just coincidentally similar.

DAMAGED/DESTROYED PROPERTY:

- One 4' x 8' American flag and metal flagpole, value \$200.

TOTAL VALUE DESTROYED/DAMAGED: \$200

CASE EVIDENCE:

- BODY CAM                     IN-CAR VIDEO                     PHOTOS                     AUDIO
- UPLOADED TO VIPER                     UPLOAD TO VIPER LATER

SCHNEIDER K39

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Responsible LEO:

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Approved by: