



**Wintergreen Fire and Rescue
Standard Administrative Policy**

Subject:	Fire Investigator Notification
Reference Number:	FIRE 02-020
Effective Date:	6-Mar-19
Last Revision Date:	5-Feb-22
Signature of Approval	Curtis Sheets, Chief

Purpose:

To define when and how a fire investigator should be called

Guideline:

A State Police Fire Investigator shall be notified of:

1. Any situation where the incident commander cannot confidently determine the cause and origin of the incident or has concerns about the incident and would like to consult with a State Police Fire Investigator.
2. Any intentionally set (incendiary) fire resulting in fatality, injury, loss of or damage to property, regardless of size or amount of damage.

In the following circumstances, both a Fire Investigator and local law enforcement personnel should be notified:

1. Vehicle fires involving suspicious circumstances:
 - A. Abandoned vehicles, missing license plates or VIN, time of day and unusual location
 - B. Fires in vehicles being operated at the time of the incident are most likely accidental.
2. Incidents involving juvenile suspects regardless of the amount of damage.
3. Any injuries, firefighter or civilian, resulting from direct flame contact, fireworks, or an assault (burn purposely inflicted by another person) that requires EMS intervention or transport.
4. Found incendiary, Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) or chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) devices.

Procedure:

1. Notify the appropriate dispatch center of your request for a State Police Fire Investigator and/or local law enforcement.
2. Dispatch will make the notification.
3. An appropriate representative will either make contact via phone or respond to the scene.
4. If the State Police Fire Investigator and/or local law enforcement state they will respond to the scene, the incident commander or their designee shall remain on scene for no more than a reasonable time unless engaged in any continuing activity to control or extinguish the fire, or prevent re-ignition.

Any of the above scenes located in Augusta County should have the on-call duty officer notified and work with them for notifications of State Police Fire investigator and/or local law enforcement.