



The Violent Crime Bureau

News Release



Columbus Field Division

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For Immediate Release
Aug. 15, 2012
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ARREST IN VALLEY STERLING TRUCKS FIRE *Canton Man Charged With Aggravated Arson*

Brook Park, Ohio - The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), along with the Brook Park Police Department, the Brook Park Fire Department, and the Ohio State Fire Marshal's Office today announced the arrest of the individual responsible for the Aug. 6, arson fire which destroyed Valley Sterling Trucks located at 4985 West 150th St., Brook Park, Ohio. William H. Crawley, 54, of Canton, Ohio has been arrested and is currently being held at the Cuyahoga County Jail pending a Grand Jury hearing for aggravated arson. The fire caused approximately \$4 million in damage.

"While no investigation is completely finished until the jury renders its verdict, today marks a significant milestone towards closure of this pointless crime," said Chief James Foster, Brook Park Police Department. "This investigation was successful due to the partnerships and collaboration of all of the agencies involved," added Foster.

"This act of arson endangered the lives of not only first responders, but the general public as well, and we are very thankful that no one was injured because of this violent act," said Robin Shoemaker, Special Agent in Charge, ATF Columbus Field Division.

"ATF is committed in working with our law enforcement partners and the public in solving senseless crimes such as this. This investigation is an example of the outstanding results achieved when local, state and federal investigators combine their expertise and resources. We will continue to work together towards our goal of a successful prosecution in this crime." Shoemaker said.

ATF, the Brook Park Police Department, the Brook Park Fire Department, and the Ohio State Fire Marshal's Office were collectively involved in this investigation.

The public is reminded that formal charges are not evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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