

Media Release

Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

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May 28, 2015 – UPDATE - SUSPECT ARRESTED

Yavapai Silent Witness offers reward in two Vehicle Arson cases!

On May 26, 2015, YCSO detectives arrested 24-year-old Eli Reel as a suspect in the Dewey arson incident. He was booked at the Camp Verde Detention Center on charges including Arson and Fraudulent Schemes and has since been release on his own recognizance. Prescott Valley Police detectives are filing a case with the County Attorney naming Reel as a suspect in the arson on Cypress Circle in their town.



BACKGROUND – During the investigation, detectives learned that both trucks involved in the arson case belonged to Reel. He resides at the Dewey location and his parents own the home where the arson in Prescott Valley occurred. Reel had denied involvement to detectives during initial interviews. Reel was making loan payments on both trucks and each was fully insured. After detectives developed information indicating Reel's likely involvement, he was interviewed again on May 26, 2015, and eventually acknowledged his role in both fires. Reel stated the first arson occurred at his parent's home where he used gasoline to ignite the Ford F-350. He then drove to his home in Dewey where he set the Ford F-250 on fire. Reel called 911 to report the Dewey fire and found out that his parents, who were not involved in this scheme, had already called 911 to report the truck fire on their property.

Reel explained that his motivation to destroy both vehicles was for financial gain as one of his family members needed money to cover legal expenses on a critical matter.

Original release issued May 6, 2015 - In the very early hours of May 5, 2015, someone set fire to two vehicles within minutes of each other. Prescott Valley police say that around 1:30 am they were called to Cypress Circle regarding a reported pickup truck that was on fire. Then 30 minutes later, the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to a pickup truck fire on Rustler's Den Drive in Dewey. The locations are approximately 15 driving miles apart, but both agencies feel that these fires are definitely related.

In Dewey someone set fire to a silver gray 1997 Ford F-250 and in Prescott Valley the torched vehicle was a white 1995 Ford F-350.

If you have any information on either of these fires please call Yavapai Silent Witness at 1-800-932-3232. Remember, you never have to give your name and a cash reward is being offered. Refer to case number 15-016162. Cases are being investigated by YCSO, Prescott Valley PD, and Central Yavapai Fire District.



Dewey



Prescott Valley

Citizens can contact the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office with information or questions at 928-771-3260 or the YCSO website:

www.ycsoaz.gov