# Fire

Fire Act

1. Investigations under this Act are carried out on behalf of the Provincial Fire Marshall

2. At the request of the local fire chief investigate fires occurring in your area to ascertain if there is evidence of fraud, arson, loss of life or other suspicious circumstances

3. If you suspect a criminal offence, investigate in the normal manner

Reporting

1. The following first will be reported to Criminal Operations:

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

1. Residential/business $300,000 or more

2. Nursing homes/schools and all Government property

3. Death/serious injury involved

4. Suspected arsons, where damage exceeds $20,000.

First responder / Scene examination

1. Secure scene: ensure public is safe

2. Have power shut off to building if possible. Contact electric company

3. If other homes are nearby. Clear those homes in case flames jump structures

4. Take photos upon arrival

5. Determine if anyone is inside the home

6. Determine property representative. Homeowner, renter, house sitter etc.

7. Determine if all parties who live in or were in the home have escaped the fire

8. Is it possible to determine the cause or location fire was set

9. Immediately check for tire impressions as fire department and other outside agencies could destroy any possible evidence

10. Determine if there are any explosives in the home

11. Have power company shut power to home off

12. Determine if there was electricity on in the home

13. Has the owner/property rep had electrical issues in the past?

14. Determine what type of heating source is being used. Electrical, oil, propane, wood, etc.

15. Determine if anyone smokes in the home

16. Walk the perimeter of the home to look for any signs of evidence. Gas cans left behind, matches, lighters, broken glass from Molotov cocktails, footprints, other off highway vehicle tracks, etc.

17. Is there insurance on the home

18. Call the Forensic Identification unit to attend. Have them obtain photo's and seize any physical evidence

19. If Forensic identification section is not going to attend. Obtain photos and seize any physical evidence you come across

20. Determine if Specialized unit should be utilized. Major Crime Unit, General investigation Unit, Arson unit, etc.

21. Liaise with the Fire Marshal to determine if fire suspicious

22. A trained arson investigator should assist the Fire Marshal with the scene examination.

23. Take detailed notes of scene

24. Conduct neighborhood inquiries

25. Obtain a statement from the home owner/property rep and anyone else that might live in the residence

26. Determine if there are any other flammable items in the home. Gas cans, lawn mowers, gas generators, etc.

27. Is there video available nearby that may have caught the first starting

28. Determine what valuables nearby that may have caught the first starting

29. Determine if this was a hate motivated crime

30. Determine if the owner/property rep has anyone in mind that might be capable of doing this to them

31. Obtain Fire Report form the Fire Marshall's office