

CRIME

# Man Trying to Light Self on Fire Arrested Near World Trade Center Area

NYPD says suspicious package found near man was being tested



One World Trade Center, the main building of the rebuilt World Trade Center complex in Lower Manhattan. PHOTO: TIMOTHY A. CLARY/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

*By Ben Chapman*

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A man who attempted to light himself on fire was arrested near One World Trade Center on Tuesday afternoon, a spokesman for the New York Police Department said.

The man had doused himself with gasoline and was trying to set himself on fire near West and Vesey Streets in lower Manhattan just after 4 p.m., the spokesman said. Police responding to a 911 call about the incident took him into custody before he could ignite himself.

A suspicious package discovered next to the man was being evaluated as a potential threat and tested for explosives and contraband, the spokesman said.

The man was transported to a hospital by police, where he was receiving a psychiatric evaluation, according to the spokesman.

The incident remained under investigation Tuesday night, and officials were warning pedestrians and commuters to avoid the area.

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