

## **L.I. Firebombing**

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### **Body**

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To the Editor:

Re "Old Tensions Over Immigrants Surface After **Firebombing**" (news article, July 14):

Can any reasonable person suspect that the **firebombing** of the Hispanic home in Farmingville, on Long Island, is anything but a hate crime?

It is ludicrous that the police and the F.B.I. are only now suggesting that it might be a bias crime.

When will Suffolk County wake up to the need for a hiring site for day laborers? Where hiring sites exist in other communities, the incidence of violence diminishes.

Robert J. Gaffney, the county executive, missed a real opportunity to reduce tensions by constructing a site after the attempted murders of two Hispanics in September 2000. One hopes that local officials will act now, before someone is killed.

EDWARD J. THOMPSON

Farmingdale, N.Y., July 14, 2003

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L.I. Firebombing

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