

THOMASVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS MEDIA RELEASE

Page 1 of 2



Chief of Police Mark G Kattner

May 6, 2021 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Prepared by: Captain Brad Saintsing

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MEDIA RELEASE

THOMASVILLE MAN ARRESTED ON ARSON CHARGES

THOMASVILLE, NC – Thomasville detectives have arrested Donnie Allen Harmon, 33, of Thomasville, on felony charges of arson in connection with a fire that occurred on April 11, 2021.

On Sunday, April 11, 2021, at 11:52 a.m., Thomasville Fire Department responded to 101 Veach Court in reference to a structure fire. Upon arrival, the private residence was fully engulfed in flames. The residence was completely destroyed by the fire. The family was not home but the family dog perished in the fire.

An investigation into the cause of the fire was launched and was led by TPD and the Davidson County Fire Investigation Task Force. The task force is composed of the Davidson County Fire Marshall's Office, Thomasville Fire Marshall's Office, Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), N.C. State Bureau of Investigation (SBI), Office of the State Fire Marshall, and the N.C. Department of Insurance. Investigators examined the scene of the fire extensively where evidence was collected and sent to the N.C. State Laboratory. After presenting information gained in the investigation to the Davidson County District Attorney's Office, detectives obtained warrants on Harmon.

On Thursday, May 6, 2021, Thomasville detectives arrested Donnie Harmon. Harmon is charged with felonious burning of personal property, felonious cruelty to animals, first degree arson, two counts of felonious insurance fraud, and fraudulently burning of a dwelling. The first degree arson charge is a result of the neighbor's residence sustaining fire damage while it was occupied. Harmon was also served with an outstanding warrant out of Henrico County, Virginia, for embezzlement and felony larceny.



Crime Stoppers of Thomasville pays cash rewards for information that leads to arrests, seizures or solving serious crimes. Callers with successful tips remain anonymous and receive rewards up to \$2,000.

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Page 2 of 2

Harmon received a \$100,000 secured bond for the charges out of Virginia and a \$150,000 secured bond for the charges related to the fire. Harmon is currently in the Davidson County Jail. Court date has been set for May 26, 2021, in Lexington.



Donnie Allen Harmon

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