

MEDIA RELEASE

ELLETTSVILLE ARSON INVESTIGATION LEADS TO ARREST

ELLETTSVILLE, INDIANA (July 11, 2017): In the early morning hours of July 7th, the Ellettsville Fire Department was dispatched to a report of smoke coming from the building at Jack & Jill Daycare, located at 121 S. Second Street. A person passing by had seen the smoke and reported it to Monroe County Central Dispatch via 911. Ellettsville Police arrived to find trickles of smoke coming from the eaves of the building. Once Ellettsville Fire arrived, they were able to make entry into the building and found that the interior of the structure was on fire and had already sustained heavy damage. Once fire personnel from the Ellettsville Fire Department and the Northern Monroe Fire Territory were able to extinguish the fire, the local arson investigation team and an Investigator from the Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office were contacted to assess the scene.

Once evidence had been collected, including surveillance video, a suspect was identified and an arrest warrant and search warrants for the suspect's home and vehicle were issued by Judge Mary-Ellen Diekhoff of Monroe Circuit Court.

Later that evening, just south of Martinsville on State Road 37 northbound, Investigators from the Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office and Ellettsville Police, assisted by deputies from the Morgan County Sheriff's Department, stopped the suspect, Jeremy Alan Smith (age 37) of Martinsville, and took him into custody without incident on a warrant for Level 4 Felony Arson, Level 5 Felony Burglary and Level 6 Felony Theft.

