



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Arson Arrests - Pittsburg

February 21, 2020

All,

Beginning in October 2019, our Fire Investigation Unit Investigators detected several fires that appeared to be similar in many ways in the city of Pittsburg. The fires included structures, vehicles, and exterior fires.

In short time, it was determined that the fires were indeed related and most likely the work of a serial arsonist. Fire Investigators continued to follow leads and develop witnesses. Our Fire Investigators teamed up with the Pittsburg Police Department and were able to identify that there were actually two people working in tandem to set most of the fires.

At approximately midnight on February 12, 2020 FIU Investigators were able to locate and arrest the two adult individuals after linking them to 13 separate fires. Shortly after the arrest, Investigators executed a search warrant at the home of the suspects and recovered evidence related to the investigation. Arrested were Christian Moreno, 27 years old from Pittsburg, and Brian Moreno Rios, 20 years old from Pittsburg. On February 18, 2020 the case was presented to the District Attorney's Office and all recommended charges were filed.

I would like to recognize the work of Fire Investigator Brown and Fire Investigator Myer who not only brought these cases to an in-custody arrest, but they also obtained full confessions with a skillful interview of the suspects. We would also like to thank the Pittsburg Police Department for their assistance in this case.

Please contact me with any questions.

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