

TITLE O P E R A T I O N S M A N U A L	STANDARD INSTRUCTION 01		DEPARTMENT F I R E - R E S C U E
SUBJECT: FIRE SUPPRESSION YOUTH FIRESETTER PROGRAM	SECTION 12	PAGE 1 of 3	EFFECTIVE DATE 2 September 2021

I. PURPOSE

To provide personnel with information and procedures on the Burn Institute’s Youth Firesetter Program.

II. SCOPE

This policy shall apply to all sworn San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD) personnel, except lifeguards.

III. AUTHORITY

The fire chief authorizes the information within this policy.

IV. POLICY

A. The Burn Institute’s Youth Firesetter (YFS) Program incorporates evidence-based risk assessment tools and education to intervene and stop dangerous fire-setting behavior at the source.

1. Provides the risk assessment and education courses *free of charge* to at-risk juveniles who are under 18 years old.
2. Makes referrals to other community agencies to address compounding clinical issues.
3. *Confidential program* offered in both English and Spanish, with the possibility of other languages.
4. Consists of an initial assessment in a casual setting in which confidential interviews are conducted with the juvenile and parent/guardian to determine the reason behind the behavior.
5. Juvenile and family are educated to the consequences of fire play and other fire safety activities.

B. Procedure

1. At-risk juveniles are:
 - a. Under the age of 18
 - b. Those who admit to the offense
 - c. Identified by responsible witnesses
 - d. Identified when adequate and factual evidence has been gathered
 - e. Intervention is requested and/or consented to by parent/guardian or another responsible agency
2. Once verified that the juvenile’s parent/guardian has consented to the referral, company officers are to refer any at-risk juvenile encountered by:
 - a. Providing the family with a copy of the YFS Program Information Sheet
 - b. Completing either the electronic or paper Incident Referral Form
 - 1) Electronic Incident Referral Forms (hyperlink to WebPortal) are sent directly to the Metro Arson Strike Team (MAST)
 - 2) Paper Incident Referral Forms are to be forwarded by the company officer to MAST

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- 3) The Incident Referral Form is not to be given to the juvenile or parent/guardian
 - 4) The Incident Referral Form is to be signed by the parent or guardian
 - 5) The referred individual's contact information is confidential and secure and will not be shared with third parties other than the referring agency
3. Copies of the YFS Program Information Sheet and Incident Referral Form are to be carried on all apparatus.
 4. The Incident Referral Form can also be found on the M-drive and the SDFD WebPortal.

TITLE OPERATIONS MANUAL	STANDARD INSTRUCTION 01		DEPARTMENT FIRE-RESCUE
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