

1998-SE-011782



UNDER SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

**ACTION**

October 13, 1998

**MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY RUBIN**

**FROM:**

James E. Johnson *[Signature]*  
Under Secretary (Enforcement)

**SUBJECT:**

Letter to the President and Second Year Report  
of the National Church Arson Task Force

**SUMMARY:**

The enclosed letter to the President will be transmitted in conjunction with the Second Year Report ("Report") of the National Church Arson Task Force ("NCATF" or "Task Force"). This year, the Report is being issued at the close of the fiscal year, rather than on the anniversary of the President's June 1996 announcement of the formation of the Task Force. As with the First Year Report, which was issued on June 8, 1997, the transmittal letter will be a joint letter from you and the Attorney General. The Attorney General has already signed the letter. As with the First Year Report, after you sign the letter and the Report is printed, the documents will be forwarded to the White House. We anticipate that the letter and the Report will be released publicly at the end of this week.

**DISCUSSION:**

The attached letter from you and Attorney General Reno will accompany the Second Year Report of the National Church Arson Task Force when it is forwarded to the President. The Report has been cleared within the Treasury and Justice Departments and is now ready to be printed. We will provide your office with a copy of the printed version as soon as we receive it.

There are two issues of note in this year's Report. These issues are also set forth in your and Attorney General Reno's transmittal letter. First, the number of church arsons has decreased. We attribute this decline to a variety of factors, including increased vigilance, well publicized arrests, and proactive prevention efforts. Second, we are reporting that this Fall, the Task Force is centralizing the responsibility for Federal prosecution of church arson cases in the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division. We are also reporting ATF's continued commitment to fighting arsons at America's houses of worship based on its creation of permanent staff positions dedicated to these investigations. These steps, among others set forth in the Report, represent a reaffirmation of the Federal government's commitment to combating the scourge of church arsons.

**EXECUTIVE SECRET**

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

That you sign the enclosed letter to the President to be transmitted in conjunction with the NCATF's Second Year Report.

Agree       Disagree       Let's Discuss

**Enclosures:**

- Tab A: Letter to the President
- Tab B: National Church Arson Task Force Second Year Report to the President



## NATIONAL CHURCH ARSON TASK FORCE



P. O. Box 65798  
Washington, D. C. 20530

October 13, 1998

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Two years ago, you declared the investigation and prevention of church arsons a national priority. You called upon all Americans to come together in a spirit of respect and reconciliation to prosecute those who burned our houses of worship, to rebuild these houses of worship, and to prevent additional arsons from occurring. This three-part strategy has produced one of the largest series of arson investigations in history. It continues to produce tremendous results.

We are pleased to report that the number of church arsons is down. We believe this decrease is due to a number of factors, including increased vigilance, well publicized arrests, and proactive prevention efforts. Notwithstanding these results, we must remain vigilant. Reports of fires continue. We will continue aggressively to investigate these fires and to prosecute the individuals responsible for these crimes.

Since June 1996, the National Church Arson Task Force ("NCATF" or "Task Force") has successfully coordinated the efforts of Federal, state and local law enforcement officials in the battle against church arsons. The Task Force has investigated arsons dating back to January 1995, in order fully to assess and address the problem. With the assistance of Congress, which provided additional resources and enacted the Church Arson Prevention Act of 1996, the NCATF brought together the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Civil Rights Division and other Department of Justice prosecutors, United States Attorney's offices, local prosecutors, victim/witness coordinators, Community Relations Service (CRS) conciliators and other Federal, state and local law enforcement officials. This partnership continues to achieve considerable success.

Today we are pleased to present the Second Year Report of the NCATF. To date:

- The NCATF has opened investigations into 670 arsons, bombings or attempted bombings that have occurred at houses of worship between January 1, 1995, and September 8, 1998.

- Federal, state and local law enforcement officials have arrested 308 suspects in connection with 230 of these 670 arsons, bombings or attempted bombings between January 1, 1995, and September 8, 1998.
- The 34 percent rate of arrest in NCATF arson cases is more than double the 16 percent rate nationwide.
- Federal, state and local prosecutors have successfully obtained convictions of 235 defendants in connection with 173 arsons or bombings of houses of worship occurring between January 1, 1995, and September 8, 1998. Other defendants are awaiting trial.

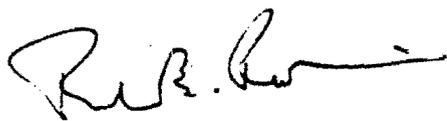
Under your leadership, the Administration initiated a comprehensive response to arsons at America's houses of worship. This effort includes the coordination of law enforcement investigations and prosecutions and helping victimized communities rebuild burned churches and prevent additional arsons. The primary mission of the Departments of Justice and Treasury has been to investigate and prosecute responsible individuals. The Department of Housing and Urban Development continues to work in partnership with the National Council of Churches, the Congress of National Black Churches and others to help the congregations of burned churches rebuild. The Justice Department's Community Relations Service continues to help heal community tensions that have resulted in many of the communities where churches have burned. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has mounted an extensive prevention initiative.

The Task Force remains committed to expending the time, resources and effort necessary to solve these crimes by centralizing the responsibility for Federal prosecution in the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division, the existing structure within the Department of Justice that has jurisdiction over church arson and other Federal criminal civil rights cases. The United States Attorney's offices and state and local authorities will continue to conduct church arson investigations and bring prosecutions whenever appropriate, drawing upon the expertise and resources of the Task Force's partners. CRS's regional offices will assume responsibility for the work of the CRS Church Burning Response Team. Through these permanent mechanisms, the Federal Government will continue to investigate and prosecute the responsible individuals.

We wish to commend the Task Force co-chairs, Treasury Under Secretary James E. Johnson and Acting Assistant Attorney General Bill Lann Lee, for their continuing dedication to building on the progress we have achieved. The Task Force's success could not have been achieved without the demonstrated commitment of special agents from ATF and the FBI. Department of Justice and local prosecutors, state and local law enforcement officials, CRS conciliators, and countless other individuals have also contributed to this effort.

The attached report details the progress of the Task Force's efforts to date. We would be pleased to brief you in more detail.

Respectfully,



Robert E. Rubin  
Secretary of the Treasury

Attachment



Janet Reno  
Attorney General



## NATIONAL CHURCH ARSON TASK FORCE



P. O. Box 65798  
Washington, D.C. 20530

October 1998

### SECOND YEAR REPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT

#### OVERVIEW

In early 1996, Federal officials detected a sharp rise in the number of reported attacks on our Nation's houses of worship, especially African American churches in the South. This trend troubled law enforcement agencies and stirred the Nation's conscience. In June 1996, President Clinton brought these deplorable acts to the forefront of our Nation's consciousness and formed the National Church Arson Task Force ("NCATF" or "Task Force"), making the investigation of these fires and the swift prosecution of the arsonists a top priority of Federal law enforcement. The President called on all Americans to come together in a spirit of respect and reconciliation to help victimized congregations rebuild and to heal tensions in affected communities.

The President directed his Administration to implement a three-pronged strategy: (1) identify and prosecute the arsonists; (2) help communities rebuild the burned houses of worship; and (3) offer assistance in preventing more fires. Federal officials have continued to achieve considerable success in carrying out the President's mission and strategy by working in partnership with state and local law enforcement and community and private groups.

We are pleased to report that the number of church arsons is down. We believe this decrease is due to a number of factors, including increased vigilance, well publicized arrests, and proactive prevention efforts. Notwithstanding these results, we must remain vigilant. There continue to be fires reported. We continue aggressively to investigate these fires and prosecute those arrested.

#### PROSECUTIONS

- 670 Incidents Investigated. The NCATF has opened investigations into 670 arsons, bombings or attempted bombings that have occurred at houses of worship between January 1, 1995 and September 8, 1998.
- 308 Arrested. Federal, state and local authorities have arrested 308 suspects in connection with 230 of the 670 incidents.
- 34% Arrest Rate. The 34% rate of arrest in NCATF arson cases is more than double the 16% rate of arson arrests nationwide.

- 235 Convicted. Between January 1, 1995 and September 8, 1998, Federal and state prosecutors successfully obtained convictions of 235 defendants in connection with 173 incidents. Most of the incidents involved arsons at houses of worship, but some involved the use of firearms, bombs or violent threats against houses of worship.

## **REBUILDING**

- The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is working closely with the National Council of Churches, the Congress of National Black Churches, Habitat for Humanity and other organizations in the rebuilding effort. As a result of this cooperation, 45 houses of worship have been rebuilt and 67 are undergoing construction.
- HUD also continues to administer a \$10 million Federal Loan Guarantee Fund, which was established by Congress as part of the 1996 Church Arson Prevention Act to assist the rebuilding effort. A total of \$1,868,000 in loan guarantee commitments has been made as of May 26, 1998.
- The Community Relations Service (CRS), the Federal Government's peacemaker in conflicts arising from race, color or national origin, has worked with over 230 communities throughout the country to resolve racial tensions and disputes, to promote multiracial cooperation in rebuilding and to prevent future incidents of church arsons.

## **PREVENTION**

- The National Arson Prevention Initiative continues to create coalitions, leverage resources, and provide tools to help communities prevent arson. Since July 1996, the Department of Justice has awarded \$3 million in grants to counties in 13 states to intensify their enforcement and surveillance efforts regarding vulnerable houses of worship.
- Since Fiscal Year 1996, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has awarded more than \$1.5 million in grants to state and local governments to enhance the delivery of arson investigation and prevention training programs, to encourage the development of arson awareness campaigns, and to seed the formation of community-based coalitions for arson prevention. FEMA has partnered with over 300 organizations to prevent arson. It established the National Arson Prevention Clearinghouse to coordinate 1.5 million technical assistance requests and to provide public education materials for communities. Through its four-city pilot prevention program, FEMA continues to develop and strengthen coalitions of community and business leaders and representatives from the private and public sectors. FEMA also has provided arson prevention and detection training to thousands of fire and law enforcement personnel and community leaders.

## **LESSONS LEARNED**

Several important factors underlie the success of the Task Force's coordinated investigation and prosecution effort:

- A clear statement of mission from President Clinton, Vice President Gore, Treasury Secretary Rubin, and Attorney General Reno on the importance of fighting arsons at houses of worship has guided the Task Force.
- Joint leadership, strong mission oversight and regular communication by the Departments of Justice and Treasury under the direct supervision of the Task Force co-chairs, Under Secretary of the Treasury James E. Johnson and Acting Assistant Attorney General Bill Lann Lee, have highlighted the need for accountability and set the tone for full cooperation among all participants in the effort.
- The development and use of protocols have enabled diverse governmental entities to work together successfully and to forge a unified and rapid response to arsons at houses of worship.
- Cross-training among all agencies of the Task Force has enabled all participants to better understand the expertise, capabilities, and resources offered by each member of the team. The Task Force particularly has benefitted from the combined expertise of the FBI in civil rights investigations and ATF in arson and bombing investigations.

## **THE FUTURE**

- The Federal Government has reaffirmed its commitment to expending the time, resources and effort necessary to solve church arsons and prosecute those who are responsible by creating a more permanent institutional approach to the handling of these cases. This Fall, the Task Force lodged responsibility for Federal prosecution in the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division, the existing structure within the Justice Department that has jurisdiction over church arson and other Federal criminal civil rights cases.
- Key members of the Task Force Operations Team have joined the Criminal Section, which handles the investigation and prosecution of church arson cases. The United States Attorneys' offices and state and local authorities also continue to investigate and prosecute arsons at houses of worship. These investigations and prosecutions continue to be coordinated with and draw upon the expertise and resources of the Task Force's partners, including ATF and the FBI. ATF has created permanent staff positions for this effort, which complement the resources deployed by FBI civil rights squads. The new Hate Crimes Unit at the FBI continues to supervise its field church arson investigations. CRS's regional offices have assumed responsibility for the work of the CRS Church Burning Response Team. The Task Force continues to hold regular meetings with the co-

chairs in order to coordinate the work of its constituent agencies. It is through these permanent mechanisms and institutions that church arsons continue to be investigated and prosecuted as a priority of the Federal Government.

## **I. PROSECUTING DEFENDANTS**

### **A. Coordinating the Investigations**

In June 1996, President Clinton established the NCATF to coordinate the efforts of Federal, state and local law enforcement in response to a sharp increase in reports of attacks on churches, particularly African American churches in the South. Shortly thereafter, Attorney General Janet Reno directed all 94 U.S. Attorneys either to establish local task forces focusing on arsons at houses of worship in their districts or to expand the scope of existing local task forces to include church arsons. These local task forces include state and local law enforcement and fire prevention officials, special agents of ATF and the FBI, mediators from the CRS, and victim/witness coordinators.

In addition to the local task forces, the NCATF established an Operations Team in Washington, D.C. staffed by special agents of ATF and the FBI, as well as seasoned prosecutors from the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division and U.S. Attorneys' offices around the country. The Operations Team forged an investigative and prosecutorial effort that effectively combats church arsons through an unprecedented coordinated and rapid response throughout the country. Since the formation of the Task Force, hundreds of ATF and FBI investigators have been deployed to work with Federal prosecutors and state and local task forces and law enforcement authorities.

### **B. Conducting the Investigations**

For years, many arsons at houses of worship were handled by local authorities and were not reported to any Federal agency. As a result, local law enforcement often was not able to benefit from the expertise, capabilities and resources of the Federal Government in pursuing these incidents. But, over the past two years, the NCATF has transformed the nationwide law enforcement response to church arsons, in part through the creation of its Operations Team, which has consisted of Civil Rights Division prosecutors, Assistant United States Attorneys on detail from United States Attorneys' offices across the country, special agents of the FBI and ATF, paralegals, analysts and additional support staff.

Pursuant to directives of the Attorney General and NCATF protocols drafted specifically to facilitate the investigation and prosecution of church arson cases, the Operations Team has worked cooperatively with Federal, state, and local officials in the field to investigate every arson, bombing and attempted bombing that is reported to have occurred since January 1, 1995 at a house of worship in the United States. The Operations Team prosecutors have served as

co-counsel, when appropriate, with local United States Attorneys' offices in all Federal church arson prosecutions. The Operations Team has also monitored all church arson cases brought in state courts.

The protocols and guidelines for the joint investigation and prosecution of suspected arsons establish procedures for facilitating the exchange of information among Task Force agencies, for developing an investigative plan for each incident, and for ensuring that investigators pursue all leads and lines of inquiry, including whether the crime was motivated by race or religion and whether any one incident is connected to any other. These protocols will remain in force as the Task Force integrates its work into the existing structures of the Civil Rights Division, the United States Attorneys' offices, ATF and the FBI.

As described in our First Year Report, once an investigation is opened, the NCATF compiles statistical information about the case in a unified database. In addition, the databases and computer systems of ATF and the FBI are used to track and analyze evidence and to generate investigative leads. In pursuing these investigations, the FBI calls upon its experience in conducting civil rights investigations, and ATF relies on its expertise in conducting arson and explosives investigations. The NCATF also engages in training among its constituent agencies: ATF experts train FBI agents and Department of Justice prosecutors regarding arson investigations; Civil Rights Division prosecutors and FBI experts train ATF agents regarding civil rights investigations and prosecutions.

The work of the Operations Team has been central to the extraordinary success of the NCATF. As described more fully below, the Task Force has analyzed its two years of experience and has formulated "lessons learned" or "best practices" to guide its work. We will continue to rely on these lessons as we move forward in our efforts to investigate and prosecute those who are responsible for these reprehensible crimes.

### **C. Strengthening The Effort: Beyond New Laws and Additional Resources**

Congress has supported the efforts of the Task Force throughout its existence. Particularly in the early days of the Task Force, Congress strengthened Federal laws as necessary and provided crucial resources for the Task Force's effort.

At the time of the formation of the Task Force, Federal prosecutors relied on several statutes to prosecute arson cases. Among others, they had authority under the Anti-Arson Act of 1982 to prosecute those who used fire to destroy property involved in interstate commerce (18 U.S.C. § 844(i)). Under criminal civil rights statutes, they also had the authority to prosecute those who conspired to deprive persons of their civil rights or desecrated religious property or a house of worship (18 U.S.C. §§ 241 and 247).

On July 3, 1996, President Clinton signed the Church Arson Prevention Act of 1996, which granted federal prosecutors greater power in pursuing burnings and desecrations at houses

of worship. Sponsored by Senators Lauch Faircloth (R-NC), Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA), and by Congressmen Henry J. Hyde (R-IL) and John Conyers, Jr. (D-MI), the statute was passed unanimously by both Houses of Congress.

The new law, which amended 18 U.S.C. § 247, enables federal prosecutors to file charges in racially motivated arsons without having to demonstrate that the incident affected interstate commerce. Prosecutors no longer are required to show that the resulting damage totaled \$10,000 or more. Also, prosecutors are able to seek sentences of up to 20 years' imprisonment for arson. In addition, in August 1996, Congress provided more than \$12 million to support ATF's role in the Task Force until the end of that fiscal year. The next month, Congress appropriated an additional \$12 million for ATF's role in the following fiscal year. Additional funds for Task Force activities by the Justice Department and the FBI also were appropriated or reprogrammed.

In addition to new laws and resources, the development of protocols to guide the investigations has significantly bolstered the work of the Task Force. The first task of the Operations Team was to bridge the diverse practices of the constituent agencies by creating a working document to guide efforts to coordinate and unify investigations. The protocols addressed the formation of command posts, exchange of information, conduct of witness interviews, prosecutorial staffing and responsibilities, and the sensitivities of investigations involving ministers and congregation members.

Investigators also have been aided significantly by several databases and technologies. The Operations Team has access to a nationwide investigative lead database maintained by ATF that can identify, sort and track information from selected church arsons. In addition, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) computer technology is used as an investigative tool to identify trends and patterns in tabular data through the use of maps. Initially, the precise locations of houses of worship are tracked in its database. Next, the system is manipulated to identify houses of worship that are in close geographic proximity to one another where crimes, both solved and unsolved, have occurred. Investigators look to see whether unsolved crimes against houses of worship are related to solved crimes that have been committed at a nearby religious institution that is located across a jurisdictional boundary, such as a county or state border.

#### **D. Progress To Date**

##### **1. Investigations**

We are pleased to report that the number of church arsons is down. We believe this decrease is due to a number of factors, including increased vigilance, well publicized arrests, and proactive prevention efforts. Notwithstanding these results, we must remain vigilant. Church fires continue to be reported. We continue aggressively to investigate these fires and prosecute those arrested.

As of September 8, 1998, the NCATF has opened investigations into 670 arsons, bombings or attempted bombings that have occurred at houses of worship since January 1, 1995. We are pleased to report that the number of church arsons is down. (See Appendix 1, Charts K and L reflecting the number of nationwide church arsons, bombings and attempted bombings; see Charts M and N reflecting the number of church arsons, bombings and attempted bombings in the South.) In addition to those investigations, Federal and state law enforcement and fire officials have responded to 315 fires which were determined to be caused accidentally and to 105 fires for which the cause remains undetermined.

Of the 670 incidents that we have investigated, 225 have involved African American churches, 163 of which are located in the southern United States. [See Appendix 1, Chart A; See Appendix 1, Charts B-J for a list of church fire investigations throughout the United States. Also see Appendix 1, Charts K-N.]

While the number of reported arsons at houses of worship appears to have declined since the peak in June 1996, Federal authorities continue to receive reports of fires. The NCATF continues to respond to all reports of new arsons and opens a new investigation for every suspicious fire. The Task Force remains committed to expending the necessary time, resources and effort to solving these crimes and prosecuting those who are responsible.

## **2. Arrests**

The partnership among law enforcement agencies has produced a significant number of state and Federal arrests. Between January 1, 1995, and September 8, 1998, Federal, state and local authorities have arrested 308 defendants in connection with 230 of the 670 incidents that the Task Force has investigated. The 34% arrest rate is more than double the general arrest rate for arsons, which is approximately 16%, according to Justice Department statistics. [See Appendix 1, Chart O]

Of the 308 persons arrested, 254 are white, 46 are African American, and eight are Hispanic. One hundred and nineteen people arrested were juveniles. Of the 106 suspects arrested for arsons at African American churches, 68 are white, 37 are African American and one is Hispanic. Of the 197 suspects arrested for arsons at non-African American houses of worship, 181 are white, nine are African American, and seven are Hispanic. Five of the white suspects were arrested for arsons at both African American and non-African American churches. [See Appendix 1, Charts P-T.] As of September 8, 1998, there were 427 investigations in which arrests had not yet been made.

## **3. Convictions**

Between January 1, 1995, and September 8, 1998, Federal, state and local prosecutors successfully obtained convictions of 235 defendants in connection with 173 arsons or bombings of houses of worship. [See Appendix 2 for a list of incidents in which a conviction has been

obtained.] These successes include the first convictions under provisions of the Church Arson Prevention Act of 1996. Of the 61 defendants who have been convicted of Federal charges, 29 defendants were convicted of hate crimes arising from 24 incidents. Another four defendants were convicted of, or were allowed to plead guilty to, lesser Federal charges in cases in which hate-based motives were alleged. Of 171 defendants convicted of state criminal charges, 25 defendants were convicted for 13 incidents connected to hate crime motives.

In still other cases, state prosecutions have been initiated in consultation with Federal prosecutors or investigators. The NCATF actively monitors these prosecutions to ensure that any Federal interest is vindicated and to ensure that accurate information is compiled regarding law enforcement's response to attacks on houses of worship.

## **II. HELPING TO REBUILD**

### **A. Coordinating the Rebuilding Effort**

The Department of Housing and Urban Development continues to work in partnership with the National Council of Churches and the Congress of National Black Churches under its National Rebuilding Initiative (NRI) to provide financial and other support for the rebuilding of burned churches. Such work is being coordinated by and accomplished with Habitat for Humanity, local financial institutions and many other organizations. Together, these groups have worked diligently to assess the overall damage caused by church arsons and have targeted resources for affected houses of worship.

Resources available through this rebuilding coalition include grants, low interest guaranteed loans, materials and in-kind donations, pro bono legal services, architectural design services, assistance with insurance, and volunteers. As stated in our First Year Report, the resources have come from a wide array of participants who have responded to the arsons, including volunteer and religious organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Christmas in April, Mennonite Disaster Services, United Methodist's Volunteers in Mission, Washington Quaker Work Camps, Promise Keepers, and organized construction volunteers.

Further, the American Institute of Architects provided volunteer architectural design services; the AFL-CIO and other unions organized union construction workers; the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law organized private law firms to provide pro bono legal services; and the Enterprise Foundation worked with a coalition of foundations to contribute financial resources to the rebuilding effort.

Through the NRI collaborative efforts, 45 churches have been rebuilt and another 67 are under construction. The partners have fully assessed 233 churches, with another 36 affected churches scheduled to be fully reviewed. Another 16 rebuilt churches have been assisted in refinancing.

## **B. Strengthening Resources to Help Rebuild**

Working with President Clinton, Congress enacted legislation that authorized a HUD loan guarantee program that can be used for rebuilding houses of worship. The Church Arson Prevention Act of 1996 made HUD responsible for administering a \$10 million Federal Loan Guarantee Fund to assist with the rebuilding of houses of worship and buildings of other non-profit organizations that have been damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism. Secretary Cuomo has worked throughout the country to encourage public-private partnerships in the rebuilding effort.

The combined efforts of the NRI have permitted numerous congregations to return to their places of worship, and again become the center of the social, spiritual, and inspirational life of their respective communities. For churches, the NRI grants, loan guarantees, technical assistance and other resources have helped to:

1. bridge the financial gap to make rebuilding possible;
2. serve, in some instances, as last resort financing to complete the rebuilding process;
3. assist a congregation in saving \$178,500 over the term of a 20-year bank loan guaranteed by HUD by reducing through refinancing the interest expense on the loan by 275 basis points (2.75%);
4. assist a recipient of an average guaranteed loan of \$266,000 to save from \$39,000 to \$59,000 over the life of a 20-year guaranteed loan where the interest rate on such a loan is 100 to 150 basis points below the *Wall Street Journal* prime rate, a rate below which many banks are hard pressed to make loans for rebuilding purposes.

As of May 26, 1998, a total of \$1,868,000 in loan guarantee commitments were made to seven different churches that requested help. These churches include: Emmanuel Church (Decatur, AL); Second New Light OFW Baptist (Bridgeport, CT); New Birth Temple COGIC (Shreveport, LA); Greater Mt. Zion Tabernacle (Portsmouth, VA); New Harvest Baptist (Town of Cornwall, NY); Bethel AME (Monroeville, PA); and Southtowns Christian Center (Lakeview, NY).

## **C. Reaching Out to Communities**

Throughout the past two years, church arson investigators and prosecutors have gone beyond their traditional enforcement roles and in many instances have joined with senior government officials to visit and talk with affected communities.

- Numerous conferences, panels, seminars, town hall meetings and workshops have been held around the country to explore the many issues surrounding incidents of church arson, and in many cases, related hate crimes. Open dialogues with religious and community organizations have resulted in greater understanding among the participants, more effective enforcement and progress on the road to healing. These discussions deepen the understanding between the church, community members and law enforcement.
- The Congress of National Black Churches, the Anti-Defamation League, the National Council of Churches, the National Coalition of Burned Churches, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference are just some of the national groups that have assisted law enforcement in its overall response to attacks on houses of worship. The private-public partnership is continuing to identify other areas where help can be provided.
- Law enforcement personnel and CRS conciliators have helped congregations establish Church Watch Programs, which help bond the church and local community with law enforcement and fire personnel to prevent attacks and establish relationships in the event future attacks occur. An example of a successful Church Watch Program is the Louisiana Magnolia State Police Officers Association's program.
- Over one million copies of the Church Threat Assessment Guide and Bomb Threats and Physical Security Planning publications produced by ATF in partnership with FEMA, Treasury, the Justice Department and the FBI have been distributed to congregations. ATF and FBI Field Offices throughout the country are conducting outreach and training initiatives. Victim-witness coordinators for the agencies and for the United States Attorneys' offices also are assisting as needed to help victim congregations.
- The CRS plays a key role in the work of the Task Force. CRS continues to provide conflict prevention and resolution assistance to local officials, law enforcement authorities, clergy and other leaders in some 17 states. Law enforcement personnel worked with CRS in six statewide arson prevention conferences and with the Office of Victims of Crime for a conference in Columbia, South Carolina focusing on the youth who are members of the congregations whose churches were burned.

Through these efforts, racial distrust and polarization are reduced, new partnerships between police and minority groups are developed, and training for law enforcement and community organizations is put into place. These efforts help to ensure good communication and cooperation between the Task Force and local ministers in troubled communities -- an important factor contributing to the Task Force's success.

Consistent connections to the community will be maintained through the Hate Crimes Working Groups and Church Arson Task Forces which have been formed in the United States Attorneys' offices at the direction of the Attorney General.

### **III. PREVENTING ARSONS**

#### **A. Coordinating Prevention Efforts**

When President Clinton established the Task Force, he asked the Federal Emergency Management Agency to lead a National Arson Prevention Initiative (NAPI or the Initiative). Since its creation on June 19, 1996, the Initiative has focused on identifying and coordinating public and private sector resources to support community-based efforts to prevent arson.

The NAPI has emphasized creating coalitions, leveraging resources and providing communities with the tools they need to prevent church arsons. Over 300 organizations have partnered with FEMA as part of the NAPI. The NAPI now includes agencies and departments from across Federal, state and local governments, the private sector, national fire service and law enforcement associations, church and community groups and education and crime prevention organizations.

In June 1996, FEMA established a Clearinghouse to provide public education materials and to coordinate technical assistance requests from communities. The Clearinghouse is accessible by a toll-free number (1-888-603-3100) or through FEMA's web site ([www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)). Materials distributed through the Clearinghouse include church and other structure threat assessment and fire safety documents, juvenile firesetter intervention brochures, public education materials and community organizing and coalition building guidance. The Clearinghouse also distributed more than 3,000 copies of the Aegis and Telly award-winning videotape "Fighting Church Arson," which outlines steps congregations can take to prevent a tragic fire in their own houses of worship. Local, regional and national television broadcasts of the videotape further disseminated the message.

The Clearinghouse has reached over 1.5 million individuals, organizations and communities with arson awareness and prevention materials. Working with the National Council of Churches, the Congress of National Black Churches and other members of the faith community, thousands of houses of worship have been reached with arson prevention pamphlets, brochures and other materials providing educational or technical support.

#### **B. Strengthening Prevention Resources**

##### **1. Training, technical assistance and grants**

In an effort to help communities prevent future arsons, the Federal Government provided additional resources. For instance, as reported in our First Year Report, with Congress' authorization the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Assistance awarded \$3 million in grants to counties from 13 states to intensify their enforcement and surveillance efforts around vulnerable houses of worship. Grants were awarded in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

In Fiscal Year 1996, FEMA awarded \$774,000 in training grants to states to enhance the delivery of state and local arson investigations, prevention and training. Each state received a minimum award of \$12,000, with targeted high-risk states in the Southeast receiving a total award of \$25,000. In Fiscal Year 1997, FEMA again awarded \$12,000 to each state to support statewide arson prevention programs and priorities. Over two fiscal years, FEMA has provided over \$20,000 to each of its four pilot arson prevention communities. Further, in Fiscal Year 1998, FEMA is awarding \$15,000 to an additional 15 communities to expand the coalition building program.

## **2. Prevention education**

Among its many prevention and education efforts, in May 1997 and May 1998, FEMA sponsored National Arson Awareness Week in cooperation with other partners in the NAPI. "Target Arson," the national public education campaign that has surrounded each week, encourages communities to become more involved in preventing arsons.

Events and activities were hosted in nearly every state. Some 150 cities participated in the 1998 National Arson Awareness Week. The model programs developed by the four arson pilot cities of 1997 (Nashville, Tennessee, Charlotte, North Carolina, Macon, Georgia, and Utica, New York) became the impetus for many other communities to participate in events during the National Arson Awareness Week.

President Clinton issued a National Arson Awareness Week Proclamation in 1998 stating that:

All arsons are not hate crimes, but all are hateful crimes. Whether destroying a life, a business, a home, a place of worship, or a national park, arson robs society of something that is precious and meaningful.

As part of National Arson Awareness Week, the national partners sponsored a national on-line "chat" session with fifth grade students to discuss arson and fire prevention. Mayors and governors issued proclamations and Federal officials participated with state and local leaders in events over the course of the week. Arson prevention activities that took place around the country included the following: unsolved arson cases were publicized in an effort to gain new leads; demonstration building board-ups and demolitions were conducted; facility arson risk assessments were conducted; and fire drills and other activities focusing on schools were held.

The NCATF continues to work closely with FEMA, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the National Sheriffs' Association and Southern governors to address arson prevention at the grassroots level. The four pilot communities - - Nashville, Tennessee, Charlotte, North Carolina, Macon, Georgia, and Utica, New York - - have become a strong part of the successful national community partnership focused on arson prevention. Each of these communities, and many others that followed their lead, embarked upon building local arson prevention coalitions using

varied leadership, resources, outreach approaches and a great deal of creativity. Each community received \$10,000 in seed money. This sum was leveraged and compounded many times over in the pilot cities.

These pilot programs have led to marked reductions in each community's arson rate and have become models for the nation in addressing a wide range of social and economic issues. While much remains to be accomplished, we are proud to report that our efforts in response to the President's charge to establish an effective and community-based arson prevention effort have been successful.

#### **IV. RECONCILIATION**

##### **A. Reaching Out to the Affected Communities**

As reported in our First Year Report, without the confidence and cooperation of the congregations whose houses of worship burned, many of these investigations, which were difficult at the outset, would have been destined to fail. Faced with criticism of law enforcement from some congregations, the NCATF took steps early on to ensure solid, working relationships between law enforcement and the affected communities.

President Clinton, Vice President Gore, Secretary of the Treasury Rubin and Attorney General Reno have helped reach out to the affected communities. They have spoken out forcefully on the commitment of the Federal Government to solve these arsons and have met with ministers from the burned churches.

In June 1996, President Clinton traveled to the site of a burned African American church in Greeleyville, South Carolina, to help dedicate a new church. Later that month, he organized an interfaith breakfast where he called on leaders of all faiths to open discussions to resolve our Nation's racial and religious divisions. In August 1996, the President and Vice President and their families traveled to Fruitland, Tennessee, to help rebuild a church that had been destroyed.

The President also convened a meeting of governors from affected states, who have worked hard to marshal resources in their states to help investigate arsons, prevent future arsons, and rebuild burned houses of worship. He also acknowledged the work of many groups which responded to these incidents, including the National Council of Churches, the Anti-Defamation League, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the National Association of Evangelicals, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In addition to meeting with representatives from these groups and the Congressional Black Caucus, the leadership of the Task Force has visited churches in the South to reinforce the Task Force's commitment to these investigations, view the devastation these arsons have wrought, and help bridge the racial divide in communities that have been polarized by arsons.

## **B. Dispatching Conflict Resolution Experts**

The Community Relations Service has been an important partner in Task Force outreach efforts. Conflict resolution experts from CRS have worked directly with many local communities to promote multiracial cooperation in the construction of houses of worship, and to provide technical assistance in ways that bring together law enforcement agencies and minority neighborhoods.

In 1997-1998 as part of its community building mission, CRS co-sponsored six state-wide conferences on arson prevention. The conferences raised awareness of racial and other factors which lead up to churches being burned. In addition, CRS has worked to develop local dialogue mechanisms to help ensure that racial disputes will be addressed by the community before they lead to a crisis.

The NCATF developed, with the help of CRS, a "Best Practices" guide for conducting community outreach activities. These "Best Practices" include four lessons for best developing an effective response to church burnings and other incidents that may have racial origins:

- First, assembling a group of seasoned professionals knowledgeable in a variety of subject areas is key to CRS's ability to assist communities in the aftermath of church burnings.
- Second, extensive information-sharing and expeditious pooling of resources among various agencies involved has been essential to the Task Force's success.
- Third, developing local mechanisms to continue dialogue in the aftermath of a church burning helps ensure that problems will be addressed in the community before they lead to another crisis.
- Fourth, a well-designed conference format at the state-wide level can provide a constructive forum in which members of affected communities can discuss their points of frustration.

## **V. LESSONS LEARNED**

Over the past two years, the Task Force has sought to determine the most effective ways to investigate and prosecute arsons at houses of worship. We have identified several factors which underlie the success of the Operations Team and the local task forces. They include:

### **1. Strong message from leadership**

A strong and persistent message from President Clinton, Vice President Gore, Secretary Rubin, and Attorney General Reno highlighted the importance of fighting the battle against arsons at houses of worship. A clear statement of mission and guiding principles -- from the highest levels -- provided focus for the Task Force and field personnel.

## **2. Strong mission oversight**

Exercise of mission oversight at the national level highlights the need for accountability. At the outset, FBI Director Freeh and ATF Director Magaw notified their respective agents of agency leadership's commitment to the investigation and arrest of those responsible for arsons, bombings, and attempted bombings at America's houses of worship. This high level of commitment promotes adherence to the Task Force's mission. Ongoing direction and troubleshooting take place through the Operations Working Group, which consists of one representative from each of the Operations Team's Federal components: Civil Rights Division, FBI, ATF and the United States Attorneys' offices.

## **3. Joint leadership**

Co-chairing of the Task Force by the Treasury and Justice Departments signaled the importance of a joint investigative and prosecutorial effort. The demonstration of shared commitment and responsibility at the Task Force's top level sets the tone for cooperative relationships at the working level and ensures shared recognition for mission accomplishments.

## **4. Development and use of protocols**

Early on, the Operations Working Group drafted the NCATF scope and protocols. These documents provide bright line guidance for converging the practices of four diverse entities into a unified and focused response. The Task Force protocols allow NCATF prosecutors and agents sufficient flexibility to pursue their assigned cases both creatively and responsibly, though under the common umbrella of national enforcement. The Task Force's protocols, moreover, are adaptable. For example, the investigative protocol relied upon by ATF and the FBI provided a model for the conduct of the investigation of the Atlanta bombings.

## **5. Centralized, co-located Task Force**

A centralized, co-located Task Force aided in the development of important working relationships. Task Force personnel were able to develop an appreciation for the work done by their colleagues from other agencies and organizational units. The centralized Task Force facilitated definition and analysis of the "bigger picture" on church arsons based upon information reported from the field.

## **6. Coordination between investigators and prosecutors**

Cases handled by the Task Force benefit from early and continuous coordination between investigators and prosecutors. The Task Force's team approach facilitates the development of church arson cases. The liaison between prosecutors and investigators, for example, helps sensitize ATF agents to the need to look for evidence concerning the arsonists' racial motivation. This type of coordination and information-sharing has been a critical component of the success of the Task Force.

## **7. Reliance upon established chains of command**

The Task Force did not establish its own chain of command. Rather, it uses established agency chains of command to carry forward its operational and policy recommendations. Interagency conflicts are reduced and directives are more effective because the Task Force relies on agency chains of command to communicate feedback and direction to FBI and ATF agents, civil rights prosecutors and U.S. Attorneys.

## **8. Consistent communication**

Regular meetings, led by the Task Force co-chairs, of representatives of all Task Force partner agencies, encourage the timely sharing of important information across organizational boundaries and enable the Task Force to anticipate issues before they become serious. Meetings of the Task Force's Operations Group further enabled the Civil Rights Division, ATF, the FBI, and the Executive Office of United States Attorneys to identify and discuss problems, which are then communicated up the relevant chains of command and down the chains to the field agents and prosecutors.

## **9. The benefits of cross-training**

Cross-training enables ATF and the FBI as well as the prosecutors to better understand the resources and capabilities offered by each. In addition, the cross-fertilization of ideas fostered by the Task Force's team approach to problem solving results in stronger working relationships between ATF, the FBI, the Community Relations Service, Civil Rights Division attorneys and United States Attorneys. As a consequence of the Task Force experience, in pursuing its other missions, ATF now more readily calls upon the resources offered by CRS. In addition, ATF provides prosecutors with improved insights into its investigative strategy, thus enabling the attorneys and ATF agents to work together even more effectively.

## **10. Community outreach**

The Task Force co-chairs, prosecutors from the Civil Rights Division and United States Attorneys' offices and investigators from the agencies frequently participate in public meetings, panels and conferences concerning church arsons. First hand dialogue, and sometimes, debate, deepens the understanding between the church and the community members and law enforcement.

As noted above, the Justice Department's Community Relations Service plays a key role in the work of the Task Force. CRS provides conflict prevention and resolution assistance to local officials, law enforcement authorities, clergy, and other leaders in affected areas. The efforts of CRS help ensure good communication and cooperation between the Task Force and local ministers in troubled communities: an important factor contributing to the Task Force's success.

## **11. Community-based arson prevention efforts**

As the direct result of the attention engendered by the church fires in the South, communities across the nation have embraced arson prevention efforts. Increased surveillance of vulnerable facilities, the formation of neighborhood watch groups, an emphasis on education programs for children, and safety and security assessments of houses of worship characterize the prevention activities that have occurred in states throughout the country. Communities have come together to reinforce and support their fire and law enforcement departments. They have recognized that the full community must be engaged in order to prevent the next fire. What has emerged from the tragedies of the church burnings is that prevention does work. We have learned a great lesson about partnership in that governments at all levels, the private sector and individual citizens must be involved. Efforts in communities have made and will continue to make an impact on arson rates and preventing the problem in the future.

## **VI. THE FUTURE: A PERMANENT MECHANISM FOR INVESTIGATING AND PROSECUTING CHURCH ARSONS**

The lessons the Task Force has learned over the past two years will be applied as the investigative and prosecutorial work of the Task Force is integrated into the existing structures of the Justice Department, ATF, the FBI and United States Attorneys' offices throughout the country. Building upon these lessons learned, the Task Force will make permanent its priority commitment to investigation and prosecution of arsons at houses of worship.

The Federal Government has reaffirmed its ongoing commitment to expending the time, resources and effort necessary to solve these crimes and prosecute those who are responsible by creating a more permanent institutional approach to the handling of these cases. This Fall, the Task Force lodged responsibility for Federal prosecution in the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division, the existing structure within the Justice Department that has jurisdiction over church arson and other Federal criminal civil rights cases.

Key members of the current Operations Team joined the Criminal Section, which handles the investigation and prosecution of church arson cases. The United States Attorneys' offices and state and local authorities also continue to investigate and prosecute the arsons of houses of worship. State authorities continue to handle a significant number of the church arson cases.

These investigations and prosecutions continue to be coordinated with and draw upon the expertise and resources of the Task Force's partners, including ATF and the FBI. ATF has created permanent supervisory staff positions devoted solely to supervising the field investigations of church arsons as well as statistical maintenance and analysis. The FBI has placed its supervisory agents for church arsons within its new Hate Crimes Unit. CRS's regional offices assumed responsibility for the work of the CRS Church Burning Response Team.

In addition, the Attorney General's guidelines and the NCATF-developed protocols for the joint handling of investigations and prosecutions continue to be utilized. The coordination among Federal, state and local agencies continues through the Hate Crimes Working Groups based in each of the United States Attorneys' offices, with assistance as needed from the Civil Rights Division.

Finally, the regular meetings of the Task Force co-chairs and high-level representatives from each of the Federal agencies, including the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division and Community Relations Service, the Treasury Department, the FBI, ATF, FEMA and HUD, continue to be held as a means of sharing information about programs and progress. It is through these permanent mechanisms and institutions that church arsons continue to be investigated and prosecuted as a priority of the Federal Government.

## **VII. CONFIRMING OUR PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS**

As noted above, 670 fires have been reported to the Task Force since it began its work in 1996. These are serious crimes with devastating consequences for the people and communities affected. In some instances, the history of the community was destroyed, including records of births, baptisms, marriages and deaths.

Federal authorities continue to investigate open cases and to prosecute the individuals who are indicted for these crimes. Although our work is ongoing, the evidence continues to support the preliminary conclusions set forth in our First Year Report. As we observed last year, these conclusions are based only on cases in which we have successfully brought and prosecuted criminal charges.

### **A. Motives**

The arsons at African American churches raised significant fears about an increase in racially motivated crimes. The NCATF has recognized that, to the greatest extent possible, it is important to determine the motives underlying the attacks on houses of worship. However, it can be difficult to establish motives conclusively.

Among the racially motivated church arsons so far solved through convictions, two church arsons have been directly linked to Ku Klux Klan members. Evidence concerning a separate incident of two church arsons included information that some of the arsonists had attended a Ku Klux Klan rally two days before the arson. The remaining racially motivated church arsons for which there have been convictions do not appear to have direct connections to readily identified hate groups, but rather are the acts of small groups of individuals or of arsonists acting alone.

There have been convictions for racially or religiously motivated attacks on houses of worship in Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

As reflected by the list of convictions attached as Appendix 2, the arsons -- at both African American and other houses of worship -- were motivated by multiple factors, including racism and religious hatred. Arsonists have burned churches for other reasons, including opportunistic and random vandalism, pyromania, mental health disturbances, feuding with ministers, retribution against religious authorities, parking or neighborhood disputes, covering up of burglaries, and financial profit. In some cases, the arsonists claimed they believed the church to be an abandoned building.

However, when actual or perceived racial hatred has sparked the arson of a church, the crime is even more egregious. In the African American community, the church historically has been a primary community institution. It was the only institution that was permitted during the years of slavery. It was the institution that enabled people to read. It has been the institution that formed the backbone for a tremendous amount of political activism. Critical events of the civil rights movement, such as the Montgomery bus boycott, had their genesis in the church. Many leaders within the African American community grew up in the church or remain ministers of the church. So, for the African American community, it was decidedly disturbing to see the number of churches being burned.

The arson of a house of worship always causes significant anguish in any community, whether large or small, black or white. Our government must never stop responding to these crimes; we must help ensure that people can live and worship in peace.

#### **B. Conspiracy**

As reported in the First Year Report to the President, the Task Force has brought conspiracy charges in a number of cases relating to fires linked by common defendants. The conspiracies alleged have tended to be confined to the small geographic areas where the specific arsons connected to the conspiracies have occurred. The cases closed and the charges that have been filed to date do not support the theory that these fires were the product of a broad or nationwide conspiracy. Nonetheless, investigators remain alert to evidence that broader conspiracies may have been responsible for some of these fires.

#### **C. Hate Group Involvement**

Although there have been some cases in which members and former members of hate groups, such as the Ku Klux Klan, have been convicted for arsons at houses of worship, most of the defendants were not found to be members of hate groups. However, prosecutors are not required to prove that a defendant belongs to a hate group in order to obtain a conviction in a civil rights prosecution. In such cases, prosecutors need only show that the defendant was motivated, at least in part, by race, religion, national origin or color.

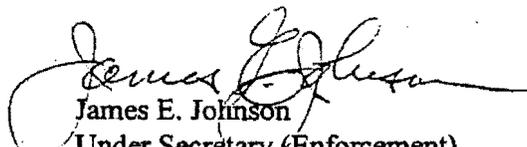
## CONCLUSION

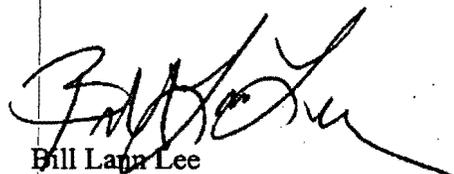
We have seen how law enforcement can work together to produce tremendous successes. We have seen how government agencies and private groups can work together to help rebuild a house of worship and to prevent future arsons from occurring. And we have seen how Americans from all walks of life can come together as one. We are committed to building on the progress we have seen to date and to eliminating the divisions within our society. The Federal effort to prosecute the arsonists, rebuild the burned houses of worship, prevent more fires and heal racial divides continues. There is more work to be done. We are committed to seeing the task completed.

## Acknowledgment

The co-chairs of the Task Force would like to thank all of the investigators, prosecutors, state and local officials and others who have worked tirelessly and so well over the course of the past two years as these investigations have proceeded. We would also like to thank our partners in these efforts at the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Community Relations Service.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James E. Johnson  
Under Secretary (Enforcement)  
Department of the Treasury

  
Bill Lann Lee  
Acting Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division  
Department of Justice

October 1998

**APPENDIX 1**  
**(Charts to be added by ATF)**

**APPENDIX 2**



## NATIONAL CHURCH ARSON TASK FORCE



P. O. Box 65798  
Washington, D. C. 20530

### CONVICTIONS FOR VIOLENCE AGAINST HOUSES OF WORSHIP REPORTED SINCE JANUARY 1995 (AS OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1998)

#### ARSONS AND BOMBINGS

#### ALABAMA

1. **Greater Saint Joseph Baptist Church (Baldwin) (Southern District)**
2. **Tate Chapel AME Church (Baldwin) (Southern District)** - On the night of June 30, 1997, there was an arson at Greater Saint Joseph Baptist Church and an attempted arson at the nearby Tate Chapel AME Church. Both congregations were African American. The Greater Saint Joseph Baptist Church was totally destroyed by the fire. Regarding the arson at the Greater Saint Joseph Baptist Church, a jury found two 18-year-old Caucasian adults, one male and one female, guilty of 18 U.S.C. §371 (conspiracy to commit an arson). These two defendants were sentenced to 41 months of imprisonment and ordered to perform 300 hours of community service. Another 18-year-old Caucasian male was found guilty of violating one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(i) and one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(h)(1). He was sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment. The fourth defendant, an 18-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to violations of 18 U.S.C. §844(i) and 18 U.S.C. §247 (civil rights violation). He was sentenced to 60 months of imprisonment, three years of supervised release, 300 hours of community service and ordered to pay restitution. Regarding the attempted arson at Tate Chapel, a 19-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty to one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(i). He was sentenced to 46 months of imprisonment, three years of supervised release, 300 hours of community service, and ordered to pay \$100 in restitution. One of the 18-year-old Caucasian males found guilty of arson of the Greater Saint Joseph Baptist Church was also convicted of one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(i) in connection with the Tate Chapel AME church. All of the co-defendants were ordered to jointly pay \$96,846 in restitution. Some of the defendants attended a Ku Klux Klan rally two days before the arsons. One yelled a racial epithet.
3. **Born Again Church of Christ (Heflin) (Northern District)** - On November 14, 1996, a cross was burned at this African American church. Gasoline was poured onto two wooden beams arranged in the shape of a cross and then ignited at the front doorway of the church. Three Caucasian defendants, aged 26, 22, and 18, pled guilty in federal court to violating 18 U.S.C. §241 (civil rights conspiracy). They were sentenced to 18 months, 15 months, and 24

months of imprisonment, respectively. In addition, all were sentenced to three years' supervised release, fined \$500, and ordered to pay restitution of \$2,145.

4. **Isabella Baptist Church (Tyler) (Southern District)** - On July 22, 1996, this African American church was burned. The defendant, a 48-year-old African American male, was convicted on state arson charges and sentenced to three years' imprisonment, all of which were suspended, and three years' probation. He said he started the fire in retaliation for a church member's support of an individual who had admitted to burning another church.

5. **First United Methodist (Hartselle) (Northern District)** - On May 9, 1996, two Caucasian juveniles, aged 12 and 14, were playing in the basement of this Caucasian church and ignited a piece of paper on a "dare." They were convicted and sentenced on state charges.

6. **Ashbank Freewill Baptist Church (Nauvoo) (Northern District)** - On May 6, 1996, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. The defendant, a 58-year-old Caucasian male, started the fire with paper. He said he was angry because he was not allowed to preach in the church. He was sentenced in state court to 30 years of imprisonment and ordered to pay restitution.

7. **New Liberty Baptist Church (Tyler) (Southern District)** - On February 28, 1996, this African American church was burned. A 20-year-old Caucasian male, a volunteer firefighter, pled guilty and was sentenced under the state Youthful Offender Act. He received probation at the request of the victims. He said that just before the fire, he was thinking about problems at the fire department and about an incident with an African American person at school.

8. **Faith Whole Truth Holiness (Pennington) (Southern District)** - On October 31, 1995, this African American church was damaged by fire and vandalized. The fire was started when a flag was set against the interior wall of the church and set on fire. A 20-year-old Caucasian male and a 15-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty to state charges. The defendant was given a three year suspended sentence and the juvenile was sentenced to a juvenile boot camp. The defendant has since violated his probation and is imprisoned.

#### ARKANSAS

9. **Universal Church of God (Shirley) (Eastern District)** - In May 1995, the Christian Day School operated by the Universal Church of God was burned. The defendant, a 24-year old Caucasian male, pled guilty in federal court to one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(i) and one count of 18 U.S.C. §241. Sentencing is pending.

10. **Freedonia Missionary Baptist Church (Little Rock) (Eastern District)** - On September 26, 1996, this African American church was burned. The damage estimate was \$250,000. The defendant, a 29-year-old Caucasian male, confessed to setting the fire. The defendant, a volunteer fireman, said that he set the fire because he wanted to become a full-time fireman and thought that his "discovery" of the fire would be beneficial in his employment efforts. The

defendant pled guilty in federal court to 18 U.S.C. §844(i). He was sentenced to two years' incarceration and three years' supervised release, ordered to pay \$23,500 in restitution, and ordered to undergo mental health counseling.

### ARIZONA

11. **Gospel Center Nondenominational Church and School (Phoenix)** - On December 22, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. A 24-year-old Hispanic male was arrested by local police after fleeing the scene on foot. The defendant pled "guilty, but insane" in state court. At sentencing, the defendant was declared insane by the court and was committed to the Arizona State Hospital. Restitution was ordered in the total amount of \$234,071 with payment to commence 45 days after the defendant's release from the mental institution.

12. **Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel (Yuma)**

13. **Union Baptist Church (Yuma)** - On September 30, 1996, and October 1, 1996, these two churches were burned. Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel has a Hispanic congregation and Union Baptist Church has an African American congregation. Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel was completely destroyed. The defendant, a 25-year-old Caucasian male, confessed to starting both fires. He said the fires were set to cover up evidence of burglaries. The damage to Union Baptist Church was estimated to be \$60,000. He pled guilty to state arson charges and was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment on two counts of arson, to run concurrently, and nine years' imprisonment for trafficking in stolen property.

### CALIFORNIA

14. **Trinity Baptist Church (Downey) (Central District)** - On October 22, 1997, this interracial church was damaged by fire. The defendant, an 18-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state arson charges and was sentenced to two years of imprisonment.

15. **Lighthouse Church (Los Angeles) (Central District)** - On July 14, 1996, this African American church was burned. The damage estimate was \$15,000. An accelerant was found near the rear of the church. The defendant, a 29-year-old Hispanic male, was convicted on a state arson charge and sentenced to two years of imprisonment.

16. **Trinity Presbyterian Church (Spring Valley) (Southern District)** - On March 18, 1996, this interracial church was burned. The fire was started using gasoline and matches. The damage estimate was \$1.3 million. The defendant, a 28-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state charges and was sentenced to nine years and four months of imprisonment. The court recommended that he be housed at a state mental facility.

## CONNECTICUT

17. **Baptist Fellowship Church (Columbia)** - On March 14, 1997, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. The damage estimate was \$50. The defendant, a 48-year-old Caucasian female, pled guilty to a state charge of attempted arson. She was sentenced to eight years of imprisonment, five suspended, with four years' probation.

## DELAWARE

18. **Saint Andrews Presbyterian (Newark)** - On March 25, 1996, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. The arson was an attempt by four Caucasian juveniles to cover up a burglary. The juveniles, who ranged in age from 12 to 14, broke in and stole cake and soda. They were convicted on state charges, received probation, and were ordered to pay restitution.

## FLORIDA

19. **Grace United Methodist Church (Cape Coral) (Middle District)** - On June 19, 1997, the maintenance garage of this Caucasian church was burned. The damage estimate was \$10,000. The defendant, a 14-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state arson charges. He was sentenced to 50 hours of community service.

20. **First Born Church of the Living God (Tallahassee) (Northern District)** - On May 6, 1997, this African American church was burglarized and burned. The defendant, a 20-year-old African American male, poured paint thinner on the floor of the church and ignited it. He pled guilty to state charges and was sentenced to 48 months of imprisonment to be followed by 24 months of probation.

21. **Jacksonville Jewish Center (Jacksonville) (Middle District)** - On February 22, 1997, a pipe bomb was discovered at the Jacksonville Jewish Center. Several children discovered the device near the speech podium area. The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office was called and later detonated the device safely. The defendant, a 32-year-old Caucasian-Jewish male, pled guilty in federal court to one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(h). Evidence indicated that he placed the bomb to deter a visit from an Israeli official with whom he disagreed politically. He was sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment, ordered to pay \$10,000 in restitution, and three years of supervised release.

22. **Holy Spirit Catholic Church (Pensacola) (Northern District)** - On February 15, 1997, this Caucasian church was burned. The damage estimate was \$600,000. The defendant, a 25-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty in federal court to one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(i). He was sentenced to 60 months' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, a \$100 special assessment, and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$857, 539.

23. **Plantation Worship Center Ministries (Miami) (Southern District)** - On January 27, 1997, this African American church was damaged by fire. The defendant, a 26-year-old African American male, pled guilty in state court to criminal mischief. He was sentenced to one year of probation, ordered to pay restitution and undergo psychological evaluation.

24. **Trinity United Methodist (Saint Petersburg) (Middle District)** - On October 24, 1996, the defendant, an 18-year-old African American male, threw a molotov cocktail at the exterior of the Trinity United Methodist Church. The damage estimate was \$1,000. The fire occurred during the civil disturbances over the police shooting of an African American man. The defendant pled guilty to a state arson charge and was ordered to pay \$500 in restitution.

25. **Bethel Baptist Church (Jacksonville) (Middle District)**

26. **Faith United Methodist Church (Jacksonville) (Middle District)**

27. **Hunterdale Pentecostal Church (Jacksonville) (Middle District)**

28. **Southside Church of God (Jacksonville) (Middle District)** - Between August 6, 1996, and December 9, 1996, these churches were burned and vandalized. On August 6, 1996, kerosene soaked rags were ignited and placed by a side door of the Hunterdale Pentecostal Church. The Hunterdale Pentecostal Church hosts a Caucasian congregation. Bethel Baptist, an African American church, was burned on August 7, 1996. A bottle containing an accelerant was found on the front steps of the church. The resulting fire melted and burned a hole in the indoor/outdoor carpeting of the front steps and charred the surface of the front door. On September 9, 1996, the storage shed of the Faith United Methodist church was burned. The Faith United Methodist Church hosts a Caucasian congregation. The damage estimate was \$30,000. Lastly, on December 9, 1996, the Southside Church of God was defaced. Two juveniles pled guilty to various felony charges in state court in Jacksonville, Florida. The first defendant, a 17-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to nine felony counts, including the arsons of the Faith United Methodist Church, Bethel Baptist Church and Hunterdale Pentecostal Church. He also pled guilty to a state hate crime charge for defacing the Southside Church of God. He was sentenced to 13 years of imprisonment and two years' probation. The other defendant, a 16-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to nine felony counts, including the three arsons and was sentenced to 11 years of imprisonment and two years of probation.

29. **Evangelistic Temple Church of God (Marianna) (Northern District)** - On June 12, 1996, the defendant, a 59-year-old Caucasian male who lived close to the church, set fire to a pew within this African American church. He pled guilty to state arson charges and was sentenced to one year of house arrest, two years of probation, and ordered to pay \$500 in restitution with a public apology.

30. **Gunnery Road Baptist Church (Lee County) (Middle District)** - On April 13, 1996, two fires of independent origin occurred at the Gunnery Road Baptist Church. The church hosts an African American congregation. A school bus in the church parking lot had been entered, and pages torn from bibles already on the bus had been ignited on the driver's seat. The resultant damage to the bus was about \$1,000. Another fire was set in a recently constructed storage

trailer behind the church. Damage to the trailer was estimated at \$50. A group calling themselves "The Lords of Chaos" were responsible for the arsons as well as numerous other crimes in the Lee County area, including the murder of a high school band leader. The defendants, three 20-year-olds and one 19-year-old, all were arrested for the arsons and other crimes in the area. A 20-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty to a state arson charge. He was sentenced to life imprisonment in connection with the arson and other crimes, including the murder of a high school teacher. A second 20-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty to a state arson charge. He was also sentenced to life imprisonment in connection with the arson and other crimes, including the murder of the high school teacher. A 19-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty to a state arson charge. He was sentenced to 32 years' imprisonment. The fourth defendant has not pled to any of the charges.

### GEORGIA

31. **Seventh Day Adventist Church (Stone Mountain) (Northern District)** - On May 23, 1997, this interracial church was burned. The damage estimate was \$500. The defendant, a 20-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to a state arson charge. He was sentenced to four years of imprisonment and six years of probation.

32. **Graham Temple Holiness Church (Nashville) (Middle District)** - On May 1, 1997, this African American church was burned. The defendant, a 25-year-old African American female, broke a window and poured gasoline into the church and started a fire. The damage estimate was \$2,000. The defendant pled guilty to state arson charges and was sentenced to ten years of imprisonment and ten years of probation.

33. **Oak Grove C.M.E. Church (Elko) (Northern District)** - On February 22, 1997, this African American church was burned. The damage estimate was \$100,000. Three Caucasian males, each 21-years-old, pled guilty in federal court to 18 U.S.C. §371, (conspiracy to commit arson). Two of the three defendants were sentenced to 41 months of imprisonment and three years of supervised release. The other defendant was sentenced to 30 months of imprisonment and three years of supervised release.

34. **New Beginning Baptist Church (Fort Valley) (Middle District)** - On August 14, 1996, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. The defendant, a 17-year-old juvenile, pled guilty to state criminal mischief charges and was sentenced to one year of probation and ordered to receive mental health counseling. He stated he wanted to be a volunteer fireman and that he set the fire for practice.

### ILLINOIS

35. **Saint Joseph's Catholic Church (Bradley) (Central District)** - On November 11, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. Shortly after church services began, the 21-year-old defendant started a fire in the storage room. There were approximately 400 people in the church

at the time of the fire. The congregation was able to evacuate the church before anyone was harmed. The damage estimate was \$2,000. The defendant pled guilty to state arson charges and was sentenced to 66 months of imprisonment.

**36. First Presbyterian Church (Libertyville) (Northern District)** - On October 1, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned and swastikas were spray painted on the church. The damage estimate was \$3,000. Four Caucasian juveniles, who ranged in age from 14 to 16, pled guilty in state court to criminal damage to property and arson. The juveniles were sentenced and placed on Juvenile Intensive Probation ranging from two to five years. They were also ordered to serve between five and 30 days in secure detention. Other conditions of the juveniles' probation included drug treatment, restitution and an order not to have any contact with each other. One juvenile was also ordered to write a 1,000 word essay to the court on anti-Semitism.

### INDIANA

**37. Leesburg Grace Brethren Church (Leesburg) (Northern District)** - On July 22, 1997, this Caucasian church was burned. Damage was estimated at \$550,000. The defendant, a 17-year-old juvenile, was found guilty by a state jury of arson, burglary and theft in connection with this matter. He was sentenced to 20 years' incarceration (arson), four years' incarceration (burglary) and 18 months' incarceration (theft), all to be served concurrently.

**38. Faith United Methodist Church (Kokomo) (Southern District)**

**39. Shiloh United Methodist Church (Kokomo) (Southern District)** - On July 13, 1997, and July 22, 1997, these Caucasian churches were burned. A 23-year-old Caucasian male and 21-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty to state charges in connection with these fires. The 23-year-old pled guilty to two counts of burglary and one count of conspiracy to commit burglary. He received 10 years' incarceration plus three years' supervised probation. The 21-year-old pled guilty to one count of attempted arson, one count of conspiracy to commit arson, two counts of burglary, one count of conspiracy to commit burglary and one count of institutional criminal mischief. He received six years' incarceration and three years' supervised probation. The arsons were committed to cover up the burglaries.

**40. Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church (Fort Wayne) (Northern District)** - On August 3, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. The damage estimate was \$20,000. There were two points of origin. One point of origin was believed to have been caused by a molotov cocktail and the other by an accelerant. The defendant, a 23-year-old Caucasian male, confessed to the arson and indicated that he was angry with God. The defendant was convicted of state burglary and criminal mischief charges. He received a two year sentence for the burglary charge and six years for the criminal mischief charge.

## IOWA

41. **Lighthouse Temple Church (Council Bluffs) (Southern District)** - On February 25, 1997, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. The defendant, a 36-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state arson charges and was sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment and \$1,200 in restitution. He was evicted from a bar near the church and was intoxicated at the time of the arson.

42. **Community Baptist Church (Des Moines) (Southern District)** - On October 23, 1997, this African American church was burned. The fire was contained in the west end of the church. The defendant, a 48-year-old Caucasian male, was found guilty by a jury of state arson charges. Sentencing is pending.

43. **Hickory Grove Community Church (Ottumwa) (Southern District)** - On September 2, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. The damage estimate is between \$150,000 and \$200,000. The defendant, a 46-year-old Caucasian male, was a past member of the church and was upset because the church did not provide the assistance and support he desired. He was convicted on state charges and sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment.

44. **Saint Boniface (Westphalia) (Southern District)** - On July 7, 1996, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. Minimal damage was done in the interior of the church, including damage to carpeting and an area spoiled by defecation. A vehicle outside the church also received minor burn damage and a purse was stolen from the vehicle. Two Caucasian juveniles, aged 10 and 12, confessed to local authorities. They were convicted in state court and each was sentenced to a year of probation.

## KENTUCKY

45. **Parkway Baptist Church (Ivytown) (Eastern District)** - On October 26, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. The damage estimate was \$25,000. A glass jar containing an accelerant was found in a nearby wooded area. The defendant, a 32-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state arson charges. He received five years' probation on each count.

46. **Emmanuel Full Gospel Church (Hi Hat) (Eastern District)** - On September 1, 1996, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. Beer cans and a plastic jug with a flammable solution were found at the scene. The fire was started at the base of the church structure, but was quickly extinguished by the minister and his wife who live next door to the church. The defendant, a 31-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state arson charges and was sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

47. **Pentecostal Holiness Church (Livingston) (Eastern District)** - On July 29, 1996, two 13-year-old Caucasian juveniles threw a smoke bomb into this Caucasian church causing a fire to ignite. Services were being conducted at the time and the fire was quickly extinguished. The damage estimate was \$100. The two juveniles were prosecuted and sentenced in state juvenile court.

48. **Gospel Barn (Monticello) (Eastern District)** - On July 26, 1996, this Caucasian church was destroyed by fire. The damage estimate was \$40,000. The defendant, a 26-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state arson and criminal mischief charges. He was sentenced to five years of imprisonment on the arson charge and three years of imprisonment on the criminal mischief charge.

49. **Methodist Church of Christ (Nicholasville) (Eastern District)** - On June 28, 1996, three Caucasian juveniles, one 16 and the others 17, burglarized this Caucasian church and then attempted to set the church on fire. The fire was started with paper, but it self-extinguished. The damage was confined to a few pews and a small area of the carpet. One of the juveniles also made a satanic drawing on the wall. All of the juveniles were convicted and sentenced in state court.

50. **Saint Therese Catholic Church (Louisville) (Western District)** - On May 1, 1996, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. The damage estimate was \$100. Four Caucasian juveniles, ranging in age from 15 to 18, were convicted in state court and ordered to perform 20 hours of community work.

51. **Mount Zion Baptist Church (Somerset) (Eastern District)** - On March 9, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. The fire started when weatherboard in the rear of the church was ignited by an open flame. The damage estimate was \$55,000. The defendant, a 28-year-old Caucasian male and volunteer fire fighter, was convicted on state arson charges for the burning of the church and also for two other residential fires. He was sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment.

## LOUISIANA

52. **Immanuel Baptist Church (Morgan City)(Western District)** - On March 22, 1998, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. There were actually eight small fires started, six inside the fellowship hall and two outside the building. The congregation was conducting a service in the sanctuary at the time the fires were set. The damage estimate was \$500. A seven-year-old juvenile was interviewed and confessed to setting the fires and gave detailed information as to how he started the fires. He will not be charged with any crime because under Louisiana state law a person must be over the age of 10 before he can be charged.

**53. Saint Peter's Catholic Church**

**54. Pine Prairie First Baptist Church (Pine Prairie) (Western District)** - On February 23, 1997, and March 1, 1996, these Caucasian churches were damaged by fire. The fire at the Saint Peter's Catholic Church was started after lit matches were dropped into the money box where patrons paid for candles. Fire investigators found remnants of burned paper and carpet in the library of the Pine Prairie First Baptist Church. A Caucasian male juvenile, age 12, pled guilty in state court to setting both fires. He was sentenced to a juvenile psychiatric institution for three months.

**55. Saint Genevieve Catholic Church (Thibodeaux) (Eastern District)** - On February 18, 1997, this interracial church was damaged by fire. Two Caucasian male juveniles, both age 14, confessed to setting several small fires in the church. They were sentenced in state court to two years with the Department of Corrections, all of which was suspended, and two years of supervised probation.

**56. New Birth Missionary Baptist Church (Lake Charles) (Western District)** - On December 10, 1996, this African American church was damaged by fire. Boxes of old clothing that were sitting on an exterior wall of the church were set on fire. The fire spread causing minimal damage to the exterior of the church. Two African American male juveniles, aged 12 and 13, pled guilty to state charges. Each was sentenced to two years of probation.

**57. Our Lady Queen of Heaven School (Lake Charles) (Western District)** - On August 25, 1996, buildings adjacent to this Caucasian church were damaged. The school shares property with Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church. The fire occurred at three of the storage buildings which were in close proximity to the school. The damage estimate was \$60,000. Two Caucasian male juveniles, aged 14 and 16, pled guilty to state arson charges and each was sentenced to supervised probation until the age of 18.

**58. Cypress Grove Baptist Church (Zachary) (Middle District)**

**59. Saint Paul's Free Baptist Church (Baker)(Middle District)**

**60. Sweet Home Baptist Church (Baker) (Middle District)**

**61. Saint Thomas Chapel Benevolent Society (Baker) (Middle District)** - On February 1, 1996, these African American churches were burned. The arsonists brought tires and gasoline to the churches. In one church, the fire was started by a molotov cocktail, in another church, by stacking tires and then setting them on fire, and in the last two instances gas was thrown into the churches and ignited. One defendant, a 25-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty in federal court to 18 U.S.C. §241 (civil rights conspiracy) and was sentenced to 48 months of imprisonment. The investigation is continuing.

**62. Assembly of God (Westwego) (Eastern District)** - On April 15, 1995, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. A Caucasian male juvenile was convicted on state charges and sentenced to a youth ranch until the age of 21.

## MAINE

63. **Saint Anne's Catholic Church (Lisbon)** - On July 6, 1996, two minor explosive devices were set off in the parking lot of this Caucasian church. The damage estimate was \$1,000. The defendant, a 22-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state charges of possession and use of fireworks and received a \$25 fine.

## MARYLAND

64. **Thawley's Chapel (Hillsboro)** - On September 2, 1996, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. One Caucasian male, a 19-year-old, pled guilty to state charges and was sentenced to three years of imprisonment. He was also ordered to pay restitution to the church. The other defendant, a 13-year-old Caucasian male, was convicted on state charges and sentenced to supervised probation, counseling, and ordered to pay restitution.

65. **John Watters Meeting House (Bel Air)** - On March 21, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned and vandalized. Four adults, three Caucasian males and one African American male, were convicted on state charges. One defendant, 19, was sentenced in state court on arson charges. He received a 20 year sentence, 13 years of which were suspended, five years' supervised probation upon release, community service and was ordered to pay restitution. The other two defendants, aged 18 and 19, were ordered to pay restitution and to perform community service. The fourth defendant, age 20, was sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment (all suspended), placed on three years' probation and ordered to pay restitution.

66. **Fruitland Baptist Church (Fruitland)** - On January 30, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. The church sustained \$150,000 in damage. The defendant, a 17-year-old Caucasian male, was convicted by a jury of state arson and burglary charges. He was sentenced on May 11, 1998, to 10 years' imprisonment (all suspended except for the 522 days already served) and five years' probation.

## MICHIGAN

67. **Church of God (Wyoming) (Western District)** - On June 29, 1997, this church, which hosts an interracial congregation, was damaged by fire. The damage estimate was \$5000. A Caucasian juvenile confessed to setting the fire with gasoline. He was ordered by the state court to complete 37.5 hours in the Court Work Program, pay \$754 in restitution and \$20 to the Crime Victim Rights Assessment, write a letter of apology to the victim church, maintain regular school attendance, and attend a Fire Match Program. His mother and father were ordered to reimburse the court 50% of the cost of attorney's fees that the court incurred on behalf of their son.

68. **Saint Vincent Ferrer (Madison Heights) (Eastern District)** - On June 24, 1997, a pipe bomb was detonated at this interracial church. The damage estimate was \$200. Two juveniles admitted to making and detonating the pipe bomb. The parent of one of the juveniles read about

the incident in her local paper and determined that one of the juveniles seen fleeing from the scene appeared to be her son. She confronted her son and upon his admission, escorted him to the police station. The remaining juvenile was apprehended and both of the juveniles were placed on consent probation, a state diversion program.

**69. Brockway Wesleyan Church and Christian Academy (Morley)(Western District)** - On April 28, 1997, this Caucasian church was burned. The defendant, a 17-year-old student at the academy was charged by the state with arson violations. The defendant confessed to starting the fire by spraying lighter fluid over a chair in the room of origin. She stated that she was angry with God and didn't want to attend school at the Christian Academy any longer. She pled guilty to one count of arson of real property and was sentenced to one year imprisonment and three years' probation.

**70. Cass Community United Methodist Church (Detroit) (Eastern District)** - On August 25, 1996, a sofa and chair in the courtyard of this Caucasian church were set on fire. The damage estimate was \$250. The defendant, a 20-year-old African American male, pled guilty to state charges. He was sentenced to two years under the Home Training Act.

#### MINNESOTA

**71. Saint James A.M.E. (Minneapolis)** - On July 12, 1997, the annex of this African American church was burned. The annex was used as a meeting place, Sunday school and a place for tutorials. The defendants, two Caucasian males, lived next door to the church. They said they set the fire to cover up a burglary. The 20-year-old defendant broke into the annex and then let his brother, the 21-year-old defendant, into the annex where the 21-year-old started a fire in the annex causing approximately \$20,000 in damages. The 20-year-old defendant pled guilty in federal court to violating one count of 18 U.S.C. § 3 (accessory after the fact) and the 21-year-old defendant pled guilty in federal court to violating one count of 18 U.S.C. §371(conspiracy). Sentencing is pending.

**72. Brooklyn Park Evangelical Free Church (Brooklyn Park)** - On August 15, 1996, this Caucasian church was vandalized and damaged by fire. Investigators found a drawing of a five-point star and the words "Satan lives" on one of the church walls. The church had been providing counseling to juveniles and adults who were involved in satanic worship. A Caucasian juvenile, aged 15, confessed to starting the fire. He indicated that he felt left out of the youth group that met the previous night, and that he committed the vandalism to get even. The defendant, who was smoking a cigarette in the storage room, claimed he was startled when someone entered and he threw the lit cigarette into a corner believing it was extinguished. He was found guilty in state court of negligently setting the fire. Adjudication was stayed for six months pending compliance with stipulations of probation. Restitution has been made and he must now serve 150 hours of community service at the Evangelical Free Church.

73. **Grace Lutheran (Westbrook)** - On June 20, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. Two Caucasian juveniles, aged 10 and 12, confessed to starting the fire with matches. Both stated that they got the idea to burn the church from watching television. One of the juveniles pled guilty in state court to second degree arson and was sentenced to 30 days in a residential facility. The other juvenile's records have been sealed.

### MISSISSIPPI

74. **Air Mount Primitive Baptist Church (Coffeerville) (Northern District)** - On June 24, 1997, this Caucasian church was totally destroyed by fire. The damage estimate was \$65,000. The defendant, a 17-year-old Caucasian male and volunteer firefighter, admitted to setting the fire. He indicated that he was despondent and wanted to be viewed as a hero. He was convicted on state arson charges and sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment, 15 suspended.

75. **Mallalieu Methodist Church (Meridian) (Southern District)** - On December 11, 1996, this African American church was burned. Three Caucasian juveniles, aged 16, 15, and 14, forced their way into a rear door of the church and used an open flame to ignite choir robes found in the sanctuary. They also defaced the communion altar with racial epithets on the walls and doors inside the church. The juveniles pled guilty to state charges. Two of the juveniles were sentenced to an indeterminate amount of time in a training camp, sentencing is pending for the third juvenile who has been sent for a second psychiatric evaluation.

76. **First James Creek Baptist (Brooksville) (Southern District)** - On September 6, 1996, this African American church was burned and burglarized. The damage estimate was \$200,000. The defendant, a 22-year-old African American male, pled guilty in state court to larceny and burglary of a church. He received five years in the Mississippi Department of Corrections.

77. **Elbethel Baptist Church (Satartia) (Southern District)** - On March 30, 1996, this African American church was burned. Firefighters were able to respond quickly and the fire was extinguished rapidly, leaving minimal damage to the outer structure. The defendant, a 37-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state arson charges. He said he was distraught over his failing marriage and financial problems. He was sentenced to five years of imprisonment, four of which were suspended and two years of supervised probation pending his release from prison.

78. **Lynch Chapel United Methodist (Clinton) (Southern District)** - On November 1, 1995, this African American church was burned. The defendant, a 19-year-old African American male, lived next door to the church and admitted setting the fire and then notifying the fire department. The defendant pled guilty to state charges. He was sentenced to three years of imprisonment.

## MISSOURI

79. **Calvary Baptist Church (St. Louis) (Eastern District)** - On January 13, 1998, this Caucasian church was burned. An 18-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty to two counts of causing property damage and one count of arson. Sentencing is pending.

80. **Palmer Church (Potosi) (Eastern District)**- On May 15, 1997, this Caucasian church was burned. A 22-year-old pled guilty to a state burglary charge in connection with the arson and was sentenced to five years' probation. A 20-year-old pled guilty to a state arson and burglary charge and was sentenced to five years' imprisonment on each count, to run consecutively. A second 20-year-old pled guilty to state arson and burglary charges and was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment on each count, to run consecutively.

81. **Amity Freewill Baptist Church (Niangua) (Western District)** - On December 30, 1996, this Caucasian church was destroyed by fire. The accelerant was determined to be charcoal lighter fluid. Two Caucasian defendants, aged 19 and 18, pled guilty to state arson charges. Both were sentenced to seven years of imprisonment. A third Caucasian defendant, aged 19, pled guilty to a burglary charge in connection with the arson. He was sentenced to five years' probation.

82. **Hopewell Baptist Church (Smithton) (Western District)**

83. **Goodwill Chapel United Methodist Church (Sedalia) (Western District)** - On November 12, 1996, these two Caucasian churches were burned. The damage estimate for the Hopewell Baptist Church was \$70,000 and it was \$2,000 for the Goodwill Chapel United Methodist Church. The defendants, 18 and 17-year-old Caucasian males, were convicted by a jury on state arson charges. They were both sentenced to seven years of imprisonment.

84. **New Bethel Church (Anderson) (Western District)** - On October 16, 1996, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. The defendant, a 25-year-old Caucasian male, confessed to setting the fire while in the church awaiting a drug transaction. He pled guilty to state arson charges and was sentenced to five years of imprisonment.

85. **Greers Chapel Baptist Church (Sikeston) (Eastern District)** - On September 13, 1996, this African American church was destroyed by fire. Two Caucasian defendants, both aged 18, pled guilty in state court and were sentenced to seven years on arson and burglary charges. The third defendant, a 19-year-old, also pled guilty and was sentenced to five years of imprisonment and five years of probation.

86. **Shilo Baptist Church (Kansas City) (Western District)**

87. **Ozark Primitive Baptist (Webster County) (Western District)** - On May 5, 1996, these two Caucasian churches were burned. The churches were only occasionally used. Two Caucasian defendants, aged 29 and 31, were each charged by the state with two counts of arson.

The 29-year-old defendant pled guilty to both counts and was sentenced to seven years in prison on each count to be served concurrently. Charges against the other defendant were dismissed.

### NEBRASKA

88. **Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall (Omaha)** - On July 25, 1997, this Caucasian church was burned. The damage estimate was \$600. The defendants, two Caucasian juveniles and one Caucasian adult, aged 16, 17, and 18 respectively, were charged with state criminal mischief counts. The adult defendant pled guilty and received supervised probation. The charges against the two juveniles were dismissed.

### NEVADA

89. **Church of Christ (Henderson)** - On September 19, 1996, the siding on this African American church was burned. The defendant, a 23-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty in federal court to violating one count of 18 U.S.C. §247 (c) (civil rights). He confessed to using a lighter to ignite a fire. Witnesses stated that he attempted to burglarize the church, but failing that, stated that he should burn the church because its members were African American. He was sentenced to 63 months of imprisonment and three years of supervised probation, and ordered to pay restitution.

### NEW JERSEY

90. **Saint John the Baptist Cathedral Roman Catholic Church (Clifton)** - On August 10, 1997, the shed of this interracial church was damaged by fire. The defendant, a 32-year-old Caucasian male, admitted to lighting a newspaper on fire and throwing the lit paper into a trash bin and to burning the church shed. The fires were extinguished before causing extensive damage. The defendant pled guilty to two state arson charges as well as an old state charge relating to a 1993 shed fire. He was sentenced to six years of imprisonment for the 1993 fire and five years of imprisonment for the church arsons. The sentences are to run concurrently, with a 30 month mandatory minimum sentence.

91. **Saint John's Lutheran Church (Newark)** - On August 8, 1997, this African American church was damaged by fire. The fire charred the front door causing minimal damage. The defendant, a 52 year-old African American male, admitted to setting the fire. He indicated that he sought revenge after being told that he could not sleep in the church. On October 24, 1997, he pled guilty to a state arson charge. He was sentenced to two years' probation.

### NEW YORK

92. **Reformed Church of Saugerties (Saugerties) (Northern District)** - On August 31, 1997, this Caucasian church was burned. The defendant, a 23-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to a

state arson charge. He was sentenced to five years' probation and ordered to perform 15 hours of community service.

93. **Riverview Missionary Baptist Church (Kingston) (Northern District)** - On April 19, 1996, this African American church was damaged by fire. The defendant, an 18-year-old Caucasian male, was a volunteer fireman who was suspected of being involved in several non-church related fires in the area. He pled guilty to state charges and was sentenced to 30 days of imprisonment and five years of probation.

94. **Temple Beth El (Rockaway) (Eastern District)**

95. **Temple Derech Emuch (Rockaway) (Eastern District)**

96. **Yeshiva of Belle (Belle Harbor) (Eastern District)** - On January 13, 1995, April 30, 1995, and May 6, 1995, respectively, these synagogues were burned. The defendant, a 41-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty and was sentenced in state court to 18 to 55 years for six counts of arson, one count of burglary, and one count of criminal mischief in connection with arson at these synagogues and at other buildings. The defendant said he had asked various organizations for money, and when they refused him, he burned their buildings.

#### NORTH CAROLINA

97. **Johns River (Lenoir) (Western District)** - On May 3, 1997, this Caucasian church was destroyed by fire. The defendants, two Caucasian males, aged 21 and 20, broke into the church and ignited a torn seat cover with a lighter. They pled guilty in federal court to 18 U.S.C. § 844(i). They were each sentenced to five years' imprisonment and ordered to pay restitution.

98. **Carmel Baptist Church (Matthews) (Western District)** - On July 14, 1996, a fire occurred at a construction site adjacent to the Carmel Baptist Church, which hosts a Caucasian congregation. The fire destroyed \$190,000 worth of building materials. Two Caucasian male juveniles, aged 15 and 16, were seen near the site and subsequently arrested and charged with state arson violations. The 16-year-old entered into a deferred prosecution agreement and is on probation until December 1998. The 15-year-old was adjudicated as a juvenile and his records were sealed.

99. **Beulah Land Baptist Church (Roaring River) (Western District)** - On July 1, 1996, the Fellowship Building of the Beulah Land Baptist Church was burned. The Fellowship Building is located two and one half blocks away from the main church, which has a Caucasian congregation. The damage estimate was \$5,000. The building was also vandalized and all the windows were broken. The defendant, a 40-year-old Caucasian male, was convicted on state arson charges and injuring real property. He was sentenced to 19 to 23 months' imprisonment and ordered to pay \$6,500 restitution.

100. **Saint James African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church (Maysville) (Eastern District)** - On June 30, 1996, this African American church was burned. Seven molotov cocktails were thrown at and into the church and a petroleum product was poured around the church foundation. The damage estimate was \$50,000. Three Caucasian males pled guilty to various federal charges. One of the defendants said they burned the church after hearing news reports about church burnings. One defendant, a 19-year-old male, pled guilty to one count of 18 U.S.C. §§844(i) and 844(h). He was sentenced to 30 months of imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and ordered to pay restitution. Two of the juveniles pled guilty to 18 U.S.C. §§ 371, 844(i), 844(h), and 924(c)(1). They each received 18 months of imprisonment. A third juvenile was granted pre-trial diversion.

101. **Pleasant Ridge United Church of Christ (Greensboro) (Middle District)** - On June 28, 1996, this African American church was burned. The defendant, a 19-year-old Caucasian male, was convicted in federal court after a bench trial of violating 18 U.S.C. §844 (i). He was sentenced to 30 months in prison, three years' supervised release and ordered to pay restitution. The other defendant, an 18-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty in federal court to one count of 18 U.S.C. §844 (i). He received 20 months in prison, three years' supervised release, and was ordered to pay restitution. The defendants said they burned a church because it would get attention, and chose this particular church because it was an easy target.

102. **Matthews-Murkland Presbyterian Church (Charlotte) (Western District)** - On June 6, 1996, this African American church was burned. The defendant, a 13-year-old Caucasian female was convicted in state court and received 12 months' probation and community service.

103. **Pleasant Hill Baptist Church (Lumberton) (Eastern District)** - On May 24, 1996, this African American church was burned. The damage estimate was \$2,000. A volunteer firefighter, a 17-year-old Caucasian male, said he got the idea to start a fire after viewing a documentary on fires, firefighters and fire investigations. He pled guilty to state charges and was sentenced to 16 to 20 months of detention, suspended for three years of special supervised probation, 100 hours of community service work, a \$1,000 fine plus court costs and a community service fee of \$100.

104. **Mount Tabor Baptist Church (Cerro Gordo) (Eastern District)** - On May 23, 1996, this African American church was burned. Two African American males pled guilty to state charges. One defendant, aged 32, pled guilty to state conspiracy and fraud charges and was sentenced to 20 months of imprisonment. The other defendant, aged 22, pled guilty to state arson charges and was sentenced to eight to 10 months of imprisonment, three years' probation, 72 hours of community service, and \$5,000 in restitution.

105. **Ohovah A.M.E. (Orrum) (Eastern District)** - On January 6, 1996, this African American church was burglarized, vandalized and burned. The fire was set to cover up a burglary. The defendant, a 29-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to a state arson charge. He

was sentenced to 15 to 18 months of imprisonment and 36 months of probation. He was also ordered to pay restitution and a fine.

### OHIO

106. **Ebenezer Full Gospel Missionary Baptist Church (Canton) (Northern District)** - On June 18, 1996, a chair was set on fire inside this African American church. Two Caucasian male defendants, aged 44 and 22, pled guilty in state court. They had previously done repair work for the church. One defendant received a sentence of two years' imprisonment. The other defendant received six months of "shock" imprisonment followed by probation if the shock sentence is successfully completed.

### OKLAHOMA

107. **Rocky Point Full Gospel Church (Wagoner) (Eastern District)** - On June 16, 1997, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. The church sustained \$50,000 in damage. Two male Caucasian juveniles, ages 16 and 14, confessed to starting the fire. They also spray painted anti-religious symbols and other graffiti on the walls of the church. They were sentenced in state court to the custody of their parents and ordered to serve a minimum of one year's probation and 80 hours of community service.

108. **First Missionary Baptist Church (Enid) (Western District)** - On June 13, 1996, this African American church was burned. The church was totally destroyed by fire. The damage estimate was \$400,000. The defendant, a 36-year-old Caucasian male, confessed to setting the fire, but was found incompetent to stand trial in state court and was committed to the Oklahoma Department of Health for an indefinite period of time.

### OREGON

109. **Portland Church of Scientology (Portland)** - On September 25, 1996, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire and the defendant discharged a firearm, wounding four individuals. The defendant, a 39-year-old African American male, was found "guilty, but insane" on state charges and was sentenced to 120 years of confinement in the state psychiatric facility.

110. **Immanuel Free Methodist Church (Portland)** - On June 20, 1996, this interracial church was burned. The defendant, a 21-year-old African American male, threw two mason jar gasoline fire bombs through a church window. He pled guilty in federal court to one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(i). He received a five year sentence of imprisonment.

### PENNSYLVANIA

111. **North Liberty Presbyterian Church (Mercer) (Western District)** - On May 27, 1997, this Caucasian church was burned. The damage estimate was \$10,000. The defendant, a 30-

year-old Caucasian male, indicated that he was upset with the church because it was attempting to purchase the house in which he resided. After pleading guilty to state arson charges, he was sentenced to a period of nine to 23 months of imprisonment and was ordered to pay restitution.

**112. Trinity Evangelical Congregational Church (Boyertown)(Eastern District)** - On November 24, 1996, a 30-year-old Caucasian female admitted to placing several crosses on the lawn of this Caucasian church and then setting fire to the crosses. She pled guilty in state court to two counts of felony arson and two counts of criminal mischief. She was sentenced to three years of probation.

**113. First United Methodist Church (Berwick) (Middle District)** - On November 4, 1996, this Caucasian church was broken into and napkins and literature were set on fire. The damage estimate was \$30,000. The defendant, a 27-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to federal charges under 18 U.S.C. §844(i). The defendant was sentenced to 27 months of imprisonment, three years' supervised probation, and ordered to pay restitution.

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

**114. Countsville A.M.E. Church (Chapin)** - On October 24, 1997, this African American church was damaged by fire and vandalism. The defendants, three 17-year-old Caucasian juveniles, burned graveside flowers outside the church and then threw them under the church. The building sustained charring damage to the underside of the floor. The defendants signed a pretrial diversion agreement from state prosecutors that required them to perform 200 hours of community service, pay restitution to the church and attend racial sensitivity classes.

**115. Cathedral of the Cross (Taylors)** - On March 23, 1997, this Caucasian church was burned. The damage estimate was \$1,000. The defendant, a 24-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to a state arson charge and was sentenced to one year of imprisonment, which was suspended, and one year of probation.

**116. Spring Hill A.M.E. Church (Dillon)** - On August 1, 1996, this African American church was burned. The church was totally destroyed. Two 17-year-old Caucasian juveniles pled guilty to state arson charges. They had also committed acts of vandalism to mailboxes and businesses in the area. They were sentenced under the state Youthful Offender Program. One juvenile received a five-year sentence and the other received a four-year sentence.

**117. Johns Island Church (Johns Island)** - On July 16, 1996, this African American church was burned. The building was still under construction at the time of the arson. The defendant, a 51-year-old African American male, who was the pastor of the church, confessed to burning the building. The pastor was convicted on a state arson charge and he was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment, all but five years suspended, and five years' probation.

118. **Mount Zion A.M.E. Church (Greeleyville)**

119. **Macedonia Baptist Church (Manning)** - On June 20 and 21, 1995, respectively, these two African American churches were burned. Four Caucasian ex-members of the Ku Klux Klan pled guilty to federal charges relating to these arsons. Three of the defendants, aged 23, 24, and 52, received 234 months, 216 months, and 258 months of imprisonment, respectively, for violations of 18 U.S.C. §241 (civil rights conspiracy) and 18 U.S.C. §844(h). The fourth defendant, aged 51, also pled guilty to violations of 18 U.S.C. §241 (civil rights conspiracy) and 18 U.S.C. §844(h). He received 170 months of imprisonment and five years of supervised release for the arson of the Macedonia Baptist Church.

120. **Life Christian Assembly (North Charleston)** - On June 17, 1996, the shed behind this interracial church was burned. Two Caucasian juveniles, aged 9 and 10, admitted to the arson and explained they were playing with matches and did not intend to burn the building. The juveniles were convicted and sentenced in state court to house arrest and ordered to pay restitution.

121. **New Saint Paul Apostolic (Florence)** - On June 11, 1996, this African American church was burned. Three Caucasian juveniles were convicted in state court. One juvenile, a 10-year-old, received a sentence through pretrial diversion. He and his family must participate in the Family Preservation Program. The other two juveniles, aged 11 and 12, were sentenced to probation and community service.

122. **Islamic Center of Greenville (Greenville)** - On October 21, 1995, this Muslim mosque was burned. The defendant, a 34-year-old Caucasian male, said he started the fire because he was upset about the Million Man March in Washington, DC, and about Muslim attacks on Serbs in Bosnia. He pled guilty in state court to arson and was sentenced to ten years of imprisonment, five of which were suspended, and five years of probation. In addition, the defendant was ordered to pay \$100 a month in restitution for the duration of his probation, and to attend a class on cultural diversity.

123. **La Luz Del Mundo (Walhalla)** - On April 5, 1995, this Hispanic church was burned. The church sustained \$4,000 in damage. The defendant, a 14-year-old juvenile, pled guilty in family court to a state arson charge. He was ordered into the custody of the Juvenile Justice System and sentenced to a term of imprisonment not to exceed his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.

## TENNESSEE

124. **New Freedom Missionary Baptist Church (Morristown)(Eastern District)** - On September 9, 1996, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. The defendant, a 31-year-old Caucasian male, used kerosene to start the fire. The damage estimate was \$5,000. The defendant pled guilty to state arson and burglary charges. He was sentenced to four years of imprisonment.

125. **Spencer Hill Church of Christ (Mount Pleasant) (Middle District)** - On August 20, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. The defendants, both 21-year-old Caucasian males, pled guilty to state vandalism, burglary and arson charges. Each of the defendants received six years of imprisonment.

126. **Canaan A.M.E. Church (Maury County) (Middle District)**

127. **Friendship Missionary Baptist Church (Maury County) (Middle District)** - On January 29, 1995, these African American churches were firebombed. Three Caucasian defendants, aged 33, 35, and 43, pled guilty in federal court to violating 18 U.S.C. §241 (civil rights conspiracy). One defendant was sentenced to 57 months' imprisonment while the other two defendants were sentenced to 46 months' imprisonment.

128. **Church of God of Prophecy (Dyersburg) (Western District)** - On July 22, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. The defendant, a 20-year-old African American male, pled guilty in federal court to violating one count of 18 U.S.C. §247 (c) (civil rights). Sentencing is pending.

129. **Church of the Nativity (Bartlett) (Western District)** - On June 29, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. The church suffered \$10,000 in damage to the altar area. The defendant, a 46-year-old Caucasian pastor, admitted setting the fire. He used a match to ignite curtains behind the altar. The defendant pled guilty in federal court to one count of 18 U.S.C. §247. He was admitted into a rehabilitation clinic. He was sentenced to 33 months' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and was ordered to pay \$27,952 in restitution.

130. **Saint Mary's Episcopal School (Memphis) (Western District)**

131. **Holy Communion School (Memphis) (Western District)**

132. **Shady Grove Presbyterian (Memphis) (Western District)**

133. **Colonial Park United Methodist Church (Memphis) (Western District)**

134. **Emmanuel United Methodist (Memphis) (Western District)**

135. **Calvary Baptist Church (Memphis) (Western District)** - The defendant, a 26-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty in federal court to an information charging him with multiple counts of violating 18 U.S.C. §844(i) in connection with the fires at these Caucasian churches on October 16, 1995, November 30, 1995, December 1, 1995, December 5, 1995, and April 20, 1996, respectively. The defendant received 41 months of imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and was ordered to pay \$292,890 in restitution.

## TEXAS

136. **Gainesville Church of Christ (Harrison County) (Eastern District)** - On May 8, 1998, this African American church was burned. Two Caucasian males, aged 20 and 29, pled guilty in federal court to violating 18 U.S.C. §247(c) (civil rights) and 18 U.S.C. §844(i). A 15-year-old juvenile male also pled guilty to federal charges in connection with this matter. Sentencing is pending.

137. **Bethany Lutheran Church (Dallas) (Northern District)** - On March 5, 1998, this Caucasian church burned. Pentagrams, satanic symbols, racist and homophobic epithets were spray painted on the church and around the neighborhood. A 20-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty in federal court to violating 18 U.S.C. §371 and 18 U.S.C. §247(civil rights). He was sentenced to 33 months' imprisonment and ordered to pay \$337,918 in restitution. A 19-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty to violating one count of 18 U.S.C. §371. He was sentenced to 27 months' imprisonment, three years' supervised release and ordered to pay \$337,918 in restitution. Two juveniles are being prosecuted by the state.

138. **Church of Christ (Wellington) (Northern District)**

139. **First Christian Church (Wellington) (Northern District)** - On December 27, 1997, the Church of Christ, which hosts a Caucasian congregation, was burned. On January 11, 1998, the First Christian Church, which hosts a Caucasian congregation, was burned. A 15-year-old juvenile pled guilty to two state arson charges and was sentenced to six months' incarceration, probation until his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, and ordered to complete a one-year program at the Texas Youth Council.

140. **Abiding Savior Lutheran Church (Corpus Christi) (Southern District)**

141. **McArdle Road Baptist Church (Corpus Christi) (Southern District)** - On October 31, 1997, these Caucasian churches were burned. A 24-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty in federal court to one count of 18 U.S.C. §371, two counts of 18 U.S.C. §247(civil rights), and one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(i). He was sentenced to 71 months' imprisonment, and three years' supervised release. A second 23-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty in federal court to violating one count each of 18 U.S.C. §371, 18 U.S.C. §247 and 18 U.S.C. §844(i). He was sentenced to 60 months' imprisonment and three years' supervised release. A 23-year-old Caucasian female pled guilty in federal court to violating one count each of 18 U.S.C. §371 and 18 U.S.C. §247(civil rights). She was sentenced to 63 months' imprisonment and three years' supervised release. They were held jointly liable for \$138,628 in restitution.

142. **Harvest Baptist Church (Keller) (Northern District)** - On August 27, 1997, the chapel of this Caucasian church was totally destroyed by fire. The damage estimate was \$150,000. The defendant, a 26-year-old Caucasian male, confessed to breaking a window, pouring diesel fuel, and striking a match. He said he decided to burn the church because he felt that the members of the congregation attending services were bothering his dog and creating parking and traffic problems along his street. He pled guilty in federal court to one count of 18 U.S.C. §247(a)(2). He was sentenced to 30 months' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, ordered to pay \$100 special assessment and restitution.

143. **West Oakland Baptist Church (Beaumont) (Eastern District)** - On April 8, 1997, this African American church was damaged by fire. The defendant, a 20-year-old Caucasian female, confessed to setting the rear door of the church on fire. She stated she was attempting to melt the lock from the door when the door caught on fire. The defendant pled guilty to state arson charges and was sentenced to five years of imprisonment.

144. **Macedonia Baptist Church (Ferris) (Northern District)** - On March 22, 1997, this African American church was burned. Two Caucasian male defendants confessed to setting the fire using gasoline and a cigarette lighter. One defendant, 25, pled guilty in federal court to violating 18 U.S.C. §844 (i) and 18 U.S.C. §247 (c) (civil rights). The other defendant, 22, pled guilty to violating 18 U.S.C. §844(i) and 18 U.S.C. §241(civil rights conspiracy). The 25-year-old defendant received 60 months of imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and was ordered to pay \$64,785 restitution. The 23-year-old defendant received 70 months of imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and was ordered to pay \$64,785 in restitution.

145. **King of Kings Lutheran Church (San Antonio) (Western District)** - On March 16, 1997, this Caucasian church was burned and vandalized. The damage estimate was \$65,000. The three juvenile defendants, aged 16, 12, and 11, admitted to setting the fire. They found a fireplace log on the lawn and threw it through the window. They also urinated on the altar and the church pew, lit some candles and set fire to a rug and a cabinet. The 16 and 12-year-old male defendants pled guilty in state court and received a sentence of intensive probation for two years and were ordered to pay restitution. The third juvenile defendant has not been adjudicated.

146. **Holy Trinity Episcopal Church (Eastland) (Northern District)** - On December 29, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. The defendant, a 24-year-old Caucasian male, used a cigarette lighter to set fire to a tablecloth inside the church. The defendant confessed to the arson and was convicted in state court. He offered no explanation for his actions other than to state that he was depressed and intoxicated at the time he committed the arson. He was sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment.

147. **Emmanuel Baptist Church (Colorado City) (Northern District)** - On December 3, 1996, this Hispanic church was burned. The defendant, a 12-year-old Hispanic male, was adjudicated through the Texas juvenile system. He pled guilty to a burglary charge and received one year of probation.

148. **Hopewell United Methodist Church (Centerville) (Northern District)** - On November 12, 1996, this African American church was burned. The propane heat supply hoses were disconnected inside the building and with the aid of an accelerant, a fire was set on the exterior of the building. The exterior fire ultimately caused the propane to detonate inside the building. The damage estimate was \$90,000. The defendant, a 47-year-old African American male, pled guilty in federal court to a violation of 18 U.S.C. §844(i). He said the fire was set to cover up a burglary. He was sentenced to 115 months of imprisonment and three years of supervised release.

149. **Audubon Park Baptist Church/Revelation Mission (Garland) (Northern District)** - On July 11, 1996, this interracial church was burned. The defendant, a 33-year-old Caucasian male admitted to pouring gasoline on the pulpit and igniting the accelerant. The defendant pled guilty

in federal court to one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(i). He was sentenced to five years of imprisonment and ordered to pay restitution. He stated that he was angry about the failure of the church's counseling.

**150. Church of the Living God (Greenville) (Northern District)** - On June 10, 1996, this African American church was burned. The defendant, an 18-year-old African American male, pled guilty in federal court to one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(i). He also confessed to other fires. He was sentenced to eight months' incarceration and three years' supervised release.

**151. Longridge CME Church (Waskom) (Eastern District)** - On May 14, 1996, this African American church was burned. The defendant, a 22-year-old African American male and church member, confessed to the arson. He said that in an attempt to resolve an ongoing conflict between the church members and the church's neighbors, he burned the church. The victims requested leniency on behalf of the defendant. The defendant pled guilty to state arson charges and was sentenced to two years of probation.

**152. Real Rock Church (Houston) (Southern District)** - On February 2, 1996, this African American church was damaged by fire. A 10-year-old African American male admitted to setting the fire by throwing an ignited piece of paper onto a rug located inside the church. He was convicted in state court and sentenced to probation. He violated his probation and was sent to a residential care facility.

**153. Victory Baptist Church (Denison) (Eastern District)** - On June 5, 1995, this African American church was damaged by fire. The defendant, a 26-year-old Caucasian male, admitted to using squirt bottles of gasoline to ignite two window sills at the church. The defendant pled guilty to eight state arson charges for several incidents, including this church, and was sentenced to 10 years' probation on each charge, to run concurrently.

#### UTAH

**154. Templo Casa De Oracion (Salt Lake)** - On March 28, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. The defendant, a 32-year-old Caucasian female, pled guilty to state charges. After a 90-day mental evaluation, she was sentenced to a half-way house and ordered to pay \$38,000 in restitution.

#### VIRGINIA

**155. Peace of Mind Baptist Church (Reston) (Eastern District)** - On October 12, 1996, this African American church was burned. The defendant, a 22-year-old Caucasian male pled guilty to malicious burning of a building. He received 10 years' imprisonment, indefinite probation, and was ordered to undergo anger management counseling.

156. **Green Run Baptist Church (Virginia Beach) (Eastern District)** - On June 18, 1996, a shed located on the property of this interracial church was burned. Two Caucasian juveniles, aged 16 and 13, were found guilty in state court of two counts of arson and one count of conspiracy. The juveniles were on their way home after they attempted to steal cigarettes from a local store when they committed the arson. One juvenile was sentenced to five and one-half months of imprisonment and placed on probation for two years, while the other was sentenced to 10 days' imprisonment. Both were ordered to pay restitution.

157. **First Baptist Church of Centralia (Chesterfield) (Eastern District)** - On April 16, 1996, this African American church was burned. At the time of the fire, the church building was not being used for worship. Its primary use was for storage. The damage estimate was \$200,000. A 16-year-old Caucasian female and two 20-year-old Caucasian adults, one male and one female, pled guilty to state charges. The juvenile defendant pled guilty to state arson charges and received indefinite probation, an order to perform community service and was ordered to pay restitution. One of the adult defendants was sentenced to five years of imprisonment (all suspended) and continued mental health counseling. The second adult defendant was sentenced to five years of imprisonment (all suspended), probation, and was ordered to pay restitution and continue mental health counseling and community service.

158. **Bethany Baptist Church (Portsmouth) (Eastern District)** - On August 14, 1995, this Caucasian church was burned. The defendant, a 34-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state charges. The defendant was sentenced to five years of imprisonment. All but six months of the sentence was suspended.

#### WASHINGTON

159. **Naval Air Station Chapel (Whidbey Island-Oak Harbor) (Western District)** - On January 21, 1996, this interracial church was burned. The defendant, a 23-year-old African American male, was convicted on federal charges in the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station Court. He was sentenced to four years of imprisonment and ordered to pay a fine.

160. **Seventh Day Adventist Church (White Salmon) (Eastern District)** - On November 4, 1997, this Caucasian church was damaged by fire. The defendant, a 26-year-old Caucasian male and volunteer fire fighter, pled guilty to three state counts of arson. He was sentenced to 16 months of imprisonment.

#### WEST VIRGINIA

161. **Elkridge Community Church (Powellton) (West Virginia)** - On July 30, 1997, this Caucasian church was burned. The defendant, a 42-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty in federal court to violating one count of 18 U.S.C. §248(a)(3). Sentencing is pending.

162. **Breeden Church of God (Breeden) (Southern District)** - On July 30, 1996, this Caucasian church was burned. A flammable liquid was found on newspaper near the pulpit. The damage estimate was \$5,000. The defendant, a 60-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state arson charges. He was sentenced to five years of imprisonment, all of which were suspended and five years of probation.

## **OTHER ACTS OF VIOLENCE**

### **FLORIDA**

163. **Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall (Gainesville) (Northern District)** - On June 26, 1992, this Caucasian congregation was burned. Two 28-year-old Caucasian males each pled guilty in federal court to violating one count of 18 U.S.C. §844(i). The arson was committed to cover up a burglary. The defendants were sentenced to 30 months' imprisonment and ordered to jointly make \$50,000 in restitution to the church.

### **IDAHO**

164. **Bible Study Center (Emmett)** - On November 14, 1996, this religious, Caucasian facility was damaged by fire. Two juvenile boys were sentenced in state court to three years of probation and 100 hours community service.

### **KANSAS**

165. **Saint Andrews Catholic Church (Wright)** - On July 17, 1997, this Caucasian facility was entered by two juveniles. Burned candle wicks were found near a fluorescent light cover which had melted onto the carpet. Minimal damage was caused to the carpet. One defendant, a 15-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state charges and was sentenced to 24 months of probation, court cost and attorney's fees. The other defendant, a 14 year-old Caucasian female, pled guilty and was also sentenced to 24 months of probation, court costs, attorney's fees, and was instructed to write a letter of apology to the church.

### **KENTUCKY**

166. **Poplar Grove Baptist Church (Flat Lick) (Eastern District)** - On April 7, 1997, this Caucasian church was broken into and vandalized with satanic drawings and messages. Two female juveniles pled guilty to state charges of criminal mischief and burglary and were each sentenced to 30 days of imprisonment, probation, \$1,300 in restitution, counseling, 100 hours of community service and agreed to attend services at the church.

## NORTH CAROLINA

167. **China Grove A.M.E. Zion Church (Charlotte) (Western District)**

168. **Flora Williams Ministries (Charlotte) (Western District)** - On April 3, 1996 and May 19, 1996, these African American churches received racially threatening messages on their telephone answering machines. Two Caucasian defendants, aged 22 and 21, pled guilty in federal court to violating one count of 18 U.S.C. §241 (civil rights conspiracy). The 22-year-old defendant was sentenced to 15 months of imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and was ordered to perform 100 hours of community service. The 21-year-old defendant was sentenced to 12 months of imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and ordered to perform 100 hours of community service.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

169. **Hammond Grove Baptist (North Augusta)** - On March 8, 1995, this African American church was vandalized. The vandalism consisted of racial insults and swastikas being written on the walls with a magic marker and the destruction of property within the church amounting to over \$20,000 in damages. Two Caucasian juveniles, aged 14 and 16, were convicted in state court and sentenced to six months' probation and restitution.

## TEXAS

170. **Baruch Ha Shem (Dallas) (Northern District)** - On April 26, 1997, this Messianic Congregation building was damaged by gunfire and members were threatened with gunfire. The defendant, a 48-year-old Caucasian male, was yelling anti-semitic epithets as he fired the automatic weapon. He pled guilty to one count of violating 18 U.S.C. §247(a)(2) and one count of violating 18 U.S.C. §924(c). He was sentenced to 147 months' imprisonment and three years' supervised release.

## TENNESSEE

171. **Mount Ararat Missionary Baptist Church (Trezevant) (Western District)** - On June 14, 1996, this African American church was vandalized by the spray painting of racial epithets. The defendant, an 18-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty to state charges and was sentenced to 30 days of imprisonment and supervised release for one year.

172. **Parker's Chapel (Memphis) (Western District)** - On August 5, 1996, this African American church was damaged by two gun shots. One defendant, a 19-year-old Caucasian male, pled guilty in federal court to one count of a federal firearms violation, 18 U.S.C. §922(j), and was sentenced to two years' probation and ordered to pay restitution. A juvenile Caucasian male was convicted of one count of 18 U.S.C. §922(x)(2) and has been sentenced to one year of probation.

**VERMONT**

173. **Congregational United Church of Christ (Jeffersonville)** - On March 30, 1997, this Caucasian church was vandalized. The outside of the sanctuary door was charred. An upside-down cross, with the words "You will burn in hell" and a five point star were carved onto the door. A 12-year-old Caucasian female pled guilty to state criminal mischief charges. She was sentenced to probation until further order of the court, restitution for one gallon of paint and 20 hours of community service.

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: 10/13/98

MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson  
 SUBJECT: Letter to the President Transmitting the Second Year Report of the National Church Arson Task Force

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling            |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> FLETC               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Policy            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel     | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds         |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                 |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Management          |  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 |  |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
INITIATOR(S) Wellington	<i>WJ</i>	10/13/98	Enforcement	622-1162
REVIEWER(S)  (See attached clearances)				

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Review Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Executive Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 9/28/98

MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARY  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Letter to the President Regarding the Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling             |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> FLETC               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Policy             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel     | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Management          |   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 |   |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-28-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington	<i>CW</i>	9/29/98	Enforcement	622-1162
Lis Bresee			AS Enforcement	622-0470
Mike Froman			Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight			General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson			AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss			AS Public Affairs	622-2920

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 29, 1998 (2-1303).  
The Report will be cleared separately.

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 9/28/98

MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARY  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Letter to the President Regarding the Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

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|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Policy                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Customs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs/Liaison |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel     | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Management          |   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 |   |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-28-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington			Enforcement	622-1162
Lis Bresee <i>LB</i>	<i>LB</i>		AS Enforcement	622-0470
Mike Froman			Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight			General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson			AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss			AS Public Affairs	622-2920

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 29, 1998 (2-1303).  
The Report will be cleared separately.

*See minor edits*

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 9/28/98

MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARY  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Letter to the President Regarding the Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Policy                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Customs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs/Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> FLETC               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Policy             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel     | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Management          |   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 |   |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-28-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington			Enforcement	622-1162
Lis Bresee			AS Enforcement	622-0470
Mike Froman	<i>mf</i>	9/30/98	Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight			General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson			AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss			AS Public Affairs	622-2920

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 29, 1998 (2-1303).  
The Report will be cleared separately.

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 9/28/98



MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARY  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Letter to the President Regarding the Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Policy                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Customs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs/Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> FLETC               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Policy             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel     | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Management          |   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 |   |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-28-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington			Enforcement	622-1162
Lis Bresee			AS Enforcement	622-0470
Mike Froman			Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight	<i>nk</i>	9/29	General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson			AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss			AS Public Affairs	622-2920

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 29, 1998 (2-1303).  
The Report will be cleared separately.

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 9/28/98

MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARY  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Letter to the President Regarding the Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Policy                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Customs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs/Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> FLETC               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Policy             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel     | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Management          |   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 |   |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-28-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington			Enforcement	622-1162
Lis Bresee			AS Enforcement	622-0470
Mike Froman			Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight			General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson	<i>LR</i>	9-30-98	AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss			AS Public Affairs	622-2920

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 29, 1998 (2-1303).  
The Report will be cleared separately.

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 9/28/98

MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE  
**SECRETARY**  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Letter to the President Regarding the Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Policy                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Customs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs/Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> FLETC               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Policy             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel     | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Management          |   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 |   |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-28-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington	<i>rec'd.</i>		Enforcement	622-1162
Lis Bresee	<i>rec'd.</i>		AS Enforcement	622-0470
Mike Froman			Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight	<i>rec'd.</i>		General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson	<i>rec'd.</i>		AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss	<i>verbal no changes</i>		AS Public Affairs	622-2920
<i>JET</i>	<i>rec'd.</i>			

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 29, 1998 (2-1303).  
 The Report will be cleared separately.

*One init.* 

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 9/28/98

MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE  
**SECRETARY**  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Letter to the President Regarding the Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Policy                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Customs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs/Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> FLETC               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Policy             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel     | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Management          |   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 |   |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-28-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington			Enforcement	622-1162
Lis Bresee			AS Enforcement	622-0470
Mike Froman			Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight			General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson			AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss			AS Public Affairs	622-2920

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 29, 1998 (2-1303).  
 The Report will be cleared separately.

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 9/29/98

MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE  
**SECRETARY**  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report, Convictions List and Charts

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

- |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement     | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> FLETC               | <input type="checkbox"/> Customs         | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Policy                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs/Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS             | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Policy             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Management      | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other           | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs |  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     |  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds          |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-27-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington			Enforcement	622-1162
<del>Lis Bresce</del> <i>1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.</i>	<i>AK</i>	<i>10/1/98</i>	<del>AS Enforcement</del> <i>Pol. 7</i>	622-0470
Mike Froman			Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight			General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson			AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss			AS Public Affairs	622-2920

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 30, 1998 (2-1303).

Review Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Executive Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*A few minor notes.*

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 9/29/98

MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report, Convictions List and Charts

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Policy                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Customs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs/Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> FLETG               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Policy             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel     | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Management          |   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 |   |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-27-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington			Enforcement	622-1162
Lis Bresee			AS Enforcement	622-0470
Mike Froman	<i>MF</i>	9/30/98	Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight			General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson			AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss			AS Public Affairs	622-2920

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 30, 1998 (2-1303).

Review Officer

Date

*See question on p. 2*

Executive Secretary

Date

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 9/29/98

MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARY  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report, Convictions List and Charts

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Policy                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Customs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs/Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> FLETC               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Policy             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel     | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Management          |   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 |   |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-27-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington			Enforcement	622-1162
Lis Bresee			AS Enforcement	622-0470
Mike Froman			Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight	<i>E. Knight</i>	9/30/98	General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson			AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss			AS Public Affairs	622-2920

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 30, 1998 (2-1303).

Review Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Executive Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 9/29/98

MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE  
**SECRETARY**  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report, Convictions List and Charts

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

- |  |                                |  |   |
|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> ATF   | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Management      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> FLETC | <input type="checkbox"/> Customs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Policy                           |                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs/Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                                    |                                | <input type="checkbox"/> General Counsel     | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Policy             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FMS                                       |                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector General   | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Debt                               |                                | <input type="checkbox"/> IRS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> E & P                  |
|  |                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Mint                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under Secretary for International Affairs |                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Management          | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Bonds          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs                     |                                | <input type="checkbox"/> OCC                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  |

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-27-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington			Enforcement	622-1162
Lis Bresee			AS Enforcement	622-0470
Mike Froman			Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight			General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson	<i>LR</i>	9-31/98	AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss			AS Public Affairs	622-2920

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 30, 1998 (2-1303).

Review Officer

Date

Executive Secretary

Date

TREASURY CLEARANCE SHEET

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE 9/29/98

MEMORANDUM FOR:  SECRETARY  DEPUTY SECRETARY  EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARY  
 ACTION  BRIEFING  INFORMATION  LEGISLATION  
 PRESS RELEASE  PUBLICATION  REGULATION  SPEECH  
 TESTIMONY  OTHER

FROM: Under Secretary Johnson

SUBJECT: Church Arson Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Report, Convictions List and Charts

REVIEW OFFICES (Check when office clears)

- Under Secretary for Finance
  - Domestic Finance
  - Economic Policy
  - Fiscal
    - FMS
    - Public Debt
- Under Secretary for International Affairs
  - International Affairs
- Enforcement
  - ATF
  - Customs
  - FLETC
    - Secret Service
    - General Counsel
    - Inspector General
    - IRS
    - Legislative Affairs
    - Management
    - OCC
- Policy Management
  - Scheduling
  - Public Affairs/Liaison
  - Tax Policy
    - Treasurer
      - E & P
      - Mint
      - Savings Bonds
  - Other

Name (Please Type)	Initial	Date	Office	Tel. No.
<b>INITIATOR(S)</b>				
Scott Everett	<i>SE</i>	9-27-98	Enforcement	622-1303
<b>REVIEWER(S)</b>				
Claire Wellington			Enforcement	622-1162
Lis Bresee			AS Enforcement	622-0470
Mike Froman			Chief of Staff	622-1906
Ed Knight			General Counsel	622-0287
Linda Robertson			AS Legislative Affairs	622-1900
Howard Schloss	<i>HS</i>	9/29/98	AS Public Affairs	622-2920

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please review and provide comments to Scott Everett by 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 30, 1998 (2-1303).

Review Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Executive Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Enforcement to PA 10/13/98

PA to NCC 10/13/98

NCC to RER  
(signature)

RER signed 10/13/98

Original to Enforcement by  
delivery 10/13/98

PA cc RF

PA cc L. Summers 10/14/98  
(reading)

PA cc SS

Please log in