



**EDISON POLICE DEPARTMENT
EDISON, NJ**

INCIDENT # / REPORT #
14013579 / 1

OFFICER
ELLMYER, ROBERT

RANK
LIEUTENANT

REVIEW STATUS
APPROVED

INCIDENT #14013579 DATA

As Of 10/05/2020 15:33:52

BASIC INFORMATION

CASE TITLE

SUSPICIOUS STRUCTURE FIRE

LOCATION

7 SHARP RD

APT/UNIT #

DATE/TIME REPORTED

03/22/2014 19:45:11

DATE/TIME OCCURRED

On or about 03/22/2014 19:45

INCIDENT TYPE(S)/OFFENSE(S)

(2C:33-13B)SMOKING IN PUBLIC

0

PERSONS

ROLE

NAME

SEX

RACE

VICTIM

JAMES MONROE ELEM SCHOOL, EDISON B.O.E

OTHER INVOLVED

GRIFFIN-USSAK, ANNMARIE

FEMALE

WHITE

OTHER INVOLVED

ZAPOTICZNY, LYNDAS

FEMALE

WHITE

OFFENDERS

STATUS

NAME

SEX

RACE

DEFENDANT

HIGGINS, JEROME

MALE

WHITE

[NO VEHICLES]

[NO PROPERTY]

OFFICER REPORT: 14013579 - 1 / ELLMYER, ROBERT (361)

DATE/TIME OF REPORT

03/22/2014 23:15:27

TYPE OF REPORT

INCIDENT

REVIEW STATUS

APPROVED

NARRATIVE

On this date at approx 1945 hrs, Ptlm Chonka, Ptlm Bayne, and I (Ptlm R. Ellmyer) were detailed to the James Monroe Elementary School where

Edison Fire Dept. had responded to a general activation fire alarm. Upon arrival, fire personnel requested assistance due to a working fire with heavy smoke condition.

After arriving on scene, Ptlm Chonka and Ptlm Bayne began securing the surrounding area as I checked the buildings exterior for signs of criminal activity. After walking the perimeter, I observed that all windows were intact and all doors were secure (closed and locked). Fire apparatus from several jurisdictions responded to the scene to assist with the incident and for the next several hours they attempted to extinguish the fire.

Assistant Superintendent OI-Annmarie Ussak arrived on scene and began making all necessary notifications to Board of Education personnel. Ussak also made contact with the individual responsible for the BOE "I.T." department, who would be able to access the video surveillance footage from the school's interior and exterior cameras. I also met with OI-Jerome Higgins who is the facility manager for the school. Higgins advised that on this date at approx 1530 hrs, he was in the area and decided to stop in the school to begin making preparations up for a large "breakfast event" that would be taking place the following day. Higgins also stated that he wanted to check the condition of the boiler since it was having pressure problems. At approx 1730 hrs, Higgins states that he left the school and secured the doors and set the alarm.

Edison and County OEM notified and responded along with the Middlesex County Fire Investigation Unit.

At time of this report the fire was deemed suspicious in nature by fire personnel due to how quickly it spread throughout the structure. EPD Detectives Hamer and Varga were notified and responded to the scene, at which time the investigation was TOT.

Additional Police personnel on scene included: Sgt Chupela, Sgt Abrams, Lt Huth, Lt Alskelson, Sgt Dudash, Capt Kelly, and Chief Bryan. Several Aux units also responded to the scene to assist.

No further information at this time.

REPORT OFFICERS

Reporting Officer:	ELLMYER, ROBERT	361
Reviewing Officer:	CHUPELA, ANDREW	214
Approving Officer:	SCHRECK, KENNETH	253