

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **ARSON AWARENESS WEEK: PREVENTING ARSON AT CONSTRUCTION SITES - MAY 5 - MAY 11**

SUFFOLK, VA (May 6, 2019) The Suffolk Fire & Rescue Department and the U.S. Fire Administration are recognizing May 5<sup>th</sup> through May 11<sup>th</sup> as Arson Awareness Week. The theme for this year is *Preventing Arson at Construction Sites*.

Contractors are encouraged to follow a few procedures to help keep work sites safe:

- Store solvents, fuels and tools in a locked storage container or remove them from the job site when you are not using them.
- Request additional patrols or drive-bys from your local law enforcement.
- Remove trash and debris from the job site.
- Try not to store excess materials on the job site.
- Secure doors and windows on structures when crews are not actively working on the property.

Community members can also play an important role to help prevent arson at construction sites by staying aware. Residents are also asked to become familiar with activities in their neighborhood and report odd or suspicious activities to local law enforcement.

For more information visit:

[https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/arson\\_prevention\\_construction\\_sites.html](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/arson_prevention_construction_sites.html)

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