



Vernon Fire District
25 CR 3142
PO Box 400
VERNON, AZ 85940
(928) 537-4895

2/14/2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: Apache County Sheriff's Office Arrest Serial Arsonist

Contact: Sarah Petersen
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Captain/EMT/Public Information Officer
Vernon Fire District

On Tuesday, 2/13/2024, at 8:48 a.m., Apache County Sheriff's Department arrested a man they believe is responsible for intentionally setting a series of six fires in the Vernon area since December 2023. Through evidence obtained at the fire scenes, these fires were determined to be arson.

Joaquine Jeremia Martinez, 24, is being charged with 6 felony counts of arson, 5 felony counts of misconduct involving a weapon; 6 felony counts of criminal damage; and 1 felony count of burglary. Bail has been denied.

Anyone who may have witnessed these actions or has additional information that may assist with the ongoing investigation is urged to call the Apache County Sheriff's Office at (928) 337-4321.

This information is preliminary and is intended for early information use rather than being a formal investigative report.

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