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Volunteer Firefighter Charged With Arson

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Pennsylvania - State police have charged a volunteer fireman with arson for allegedly torching a home on Main Street, Dupont, on Dec. 10. David C. Donnora, 23, of Highway 315, Pittston, was charged with arson, reckless burning and criminal mischief.

State police say Donnora was among the firefighters who responded to the fire at 215 Main St. around 6:50 a.m. In fact, he was the first firefighter to arrive at the station when 911 dispatched fire crews to the blaze, arrest papers said.

Arrest papers say a state police fire marshal became suspicious while investigating the fire because Donnora "was following him, taking interest in what he was doing."

Fire Marshal Ron Jarocho, who eventually ruled the fire arson, asked firefighters what they thought occurred and Donnora offered "evasive" answers, arrest papers say.

Jarocho interviewed other firefighters, who live close to the fire station, and they said Donnora was the first fireman to arrive for the call and was almost done suiting up before they arrived.

In an initial interview, Donnora told police he responded so quickly because he was on his way to the gym when the fire call came out. During a follow-up interview, Donnora admitted to setting the fire when investigators advised him they believed he set the blaze, state police say.

Donnora was arraigned Wednesday by on-duty Magisterial District Judge David Barilla, who released Donnora on \$25,000 unsecured bail.

Donnora will appear for a preliminary hearing Dec. 26 at 1 p.m. in front of Senior Magisterial District Judge Andrew Barilla in Pittston.

Written by The Citizens' Voice

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