



# Columbia Missouri Fire Dept.

## INVESTIGATION REPORT



Unauthorized Dissemination is Strictly PROHIBITED

Headquarters: 201 Orr St. Columbia Missouri 65201



### Caution Statement

This fire investigation report may contain graphic narratives and photographs depicting fire scenes, victims' injuries, and burned bodies. Please exercise caution when viewing this information.

### Incident Information

<b>Investigation Number</b> 2416172	<b>Date Arrival</b> 12/21/2024
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### Location Information

<b>Address Line 1</b> 5704 Freedom Dr	<b>Property Use</b> Motor vehicle or boat sales, services, repair. Includes facilities that have incidental fuel dispensing.
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<b>Building Status</b> closed
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### Property Information

<b>Property Value</b> 200000	<b>Property Loss</b> 200000
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### Authorization to Enter

<b>Authority to enter</b> exigency
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### Scene Secured

<b>Scene Secured</b> No	<b>Manner of security</b> firefighters	<b>Securing Agency</b> CFD
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### Weather Conditions

<b>Visibility</b> 10000	<b>Rel. Humidity</b> 59	<b>Temperature</b> 9	<b>Wind Speed</b> 5
<b>Wind Direction</b> Southeast			

## Origin and Cause

Area of fire origin	Ignition point location	Cause of Ignition
Highway, parking lot, street: on or near	unkown	Unintentional

## Arrival comments

Upon arrival I was approached by CPD Officer Popielarz. Popielarz advised there was video surveillance footage of the fire starting. He did not suspect the fire to be malicious in nature. He also advised he viewed the surveillance footage and showed me which ATV ignited the fire.

## Initial scene observation

I observed eight ATV's and one wave runner involved in the fire.

## Persons Involved

Type of involvement	First Name	Last Name	Gender	Doing Business as	Photographed in place
Witness	Brian	Schaeffer	Male	Fire Chief	false
Significant blood present under/near victim	Autopsy requested	Autopsy completed	Body Diagram		
false	false	false	Adult		

## Statements

**Date: 12/23/2024**

**Time: 10:00:00**

I interviewed Chief Schaeffer, Chief Schaeffer stated he was driving west bound on I-70 when he saw fire and a column of smoke coming from possibly a structure on the north side of the highway. Chief Schaeffer called in the fire to dispatch. Chief Schaeffer stated when he arrived he climbed over the fence because the gates were locked and trucks were blocking the entrances to the building. Chief Schaeffer stated he saw multiple ATV's on fire.

Type of involvement	First Name	Last Name	Gender	Doing Business as	Photographed in place
Owner	Stuart	Head	Male	Owner of Head Motor Company	false
Significant blood present under/near victim	Autopsy requested	Autopsy completed	Body Diagram		
false	false	false	Adult		

## Statements

**Date:** 12/21/2024

**Time:** 19:15:00

I interviewed Stuart Head, owner of Head Motor Company. Stuart stated he had just left a few minutes before the fire was reported. Stuart stated he returned to the business and removed the vehicles blocking the entrances to the building. Stuart stated the owner of the ATV had a custom stereo system in the ATV. It was his opinion the stereo system could have possibly started the fire.

## Notes

The area of origin was determined to be in the front compartment of the ATV parked in the southeast corner of the fire area.

## Fire Cause/notes

The cause of the fire is undetermined.

## Hypotheses

### Hypothesis

The fire started in the front compartment of the ATV.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, based on the evidence found, witness statements, and video surveillance footage. The fire determined to be accidental.

## Departure comments

Cleared scene and returned to service

## Fire Incidents

Address	Incident Date/Time	Incident #	Officer in charge	Status
5704 FREEDOM DR, COLUMBIA, MO, 65202	Dec 21, 2024 17:35:58	2416172	DODD, MATTHEW	Authorized

## Vehicle Tires

Prop	Tire type	Wheel type	Tire tread depth	Lugs	Missing
LF					
LR					
SP					
RF					
RR					

## Vehicle Under Hood

Prop	Intact	Missing	Condition	Parts missing
Engine	No	No		
Accessories	No	No		
Battery	No	No		
Belts & Hoses	No	No		
Wiring	No	No		

## Vehicle Fluids

Prop	Condition	Level	Sample taken
Oil			No
Transmission			No
Radiator			No
Pwr Steer			No
Brake			No
Clutch			No

## Vehicle Body Panels

Prop	Construction	Condition	Prior damage
F Bumper			
Grill			
LF Fender			
R Bumper			
RR Quarter			
RF Fender			
Hood			
Roof			
Trunk			
LR Quarter			

## Vehicle Doors

Prop	Glass	Window up	Locked	Open	Prior damage
LF	No	No	No	No	
LR	No	No	No	No	
RF	No	No	No	No	
RR	No	No	No	No	

## Vehicle Interior

Prop	Intact	Missing	Condition	Parts missing
Dash Pod	No	No		
Glove Box	No	No		
Strg Column	No	No		
Ignition	No	No		
Front Seat	No	No		
Rear Seat	No	No		
Rear Deck	No	No		

## Vehicle Floor

Prop	Intact	Missing	Condition	Sample taken
LF	No	No		No
LR	No	No		No
RF	No	No		No
RR	No	No		No

## Vehicle Interior Accessories

Prop	Intact	Missing	Make	Model	Condition
Accessories	No	No			
Stereo	No	No			
Speakers	No	No			

## Investigation Signatures

Investigator Signature



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STEVEN RIGGS

Records Custodian

Unsigned