

PRESS RELEASE

Fairfield County Sheriff's Office
Dave Phalen, Sheriff
221 E. Main Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Contact Person: Lt. Marc A. Churchill
Phone: (740) 652-7256

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – INMATE STARTS ELECTRICAL FIRE AT THE MINIMUM SECURITY MISDEMEANOR JAIL

[Lancaster, Ohio, December 6, 2016] On Tuesday, December 6, 2016 two female inmates housed at the Minimum Security Misdemeanor Jail (MSMJ) started an electrical fire using a piece of metal and a wall outlet.

At 12:41 p.m. two female inmates were observed via video camera near a wall outlet approximately 8 feet from the floor. One female was observed standing on a chair in what appears to be an attempt to “spark” the wall outlet. As a result of “sparking” the wall outlet, the outlet caught fire and was extinguished by Jail Staff; no injuries were reported to any inmates.

Inmates in the affected area were evacuated and the Lancaster Fire Department responded to confirm the fire was extinguished. Damage was centralized to the affected outlet only.

The Fairfield County Sheriff's Office Detective Bureau responded to conduct the criminal investigation.

PR120616