

1. [Home](#)

SFPD Arrests an Arson Suspect in the Richmond District 25-067

May 28, 2025 | 11:30 AM

Share:

- [facebook](#)
- [twitter](#)
- [linkedin](#)
- [email](#)

[View PDF](#)

On May 26, 2025, San Francisco Police officers working in plainclothes capacity were conducting patrol in the Richmond District following recent suspicious fires that occurred in the area.

Officers were around La Playa and Balboa Streets at approximately 1:30 a.m., when they observed a male, later identified as 29-year-old Joseph Martinez, igniting objects while walking in a park. Officers later observed a large active working fire.

The San Francisco Fire Department responded to the scene to extinguish the fire.

Officers canvassed the area and located Martinez and placed him under arrest.

Martinez was booked into San Francisco County Jail for the following charge: arson (451 PC), possession of incendiary device with the intent to set fire to structure or forest land (453 (a) PC), possession of methamphetamine (11377(a) HS), possession of controlled substance (11350(a) HS), and possession of drug paraphernalia (11364 HS).

SFPD is aware of several recent suspicious fires in the Richmond District, and we are

continuing to work with the San Francisco Fire Department in our joint Arson Task Force to investigate these cases.

Although an arrest has been made, this remains an open and active investigation. Anyone with information is asked to contact the SFPD at [415-575-4444](tel:415-575-4444) or *Text a Tip* to [TIP411](#) and begin the message with SFPD.

SFPD Case# 250293302

Tags

Featured

Crime News & Tips

Announcements

News Release

This news content is displayed in its original format and preserved for historical reference. If you need assistance accessing this content in an accessible format, please [contact us](#).

Featured News

[SFPD Arrests Taraval District Homicide Suspect #26-056\(a\)](#)

May 28, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Featured

Crime News & Tips

Announcements

News Release

[SFPD Recognizes Officers of the Month for January, February and March #26-062](#)

May 27, 2026 | 4:30 PM

Featured

Officer of the Month

Announcements

News Release

San Francisco Police Department Holds 10th Annual Crisis Intervention Team Awards #26-061

May 27, 2026 | 1:45 PM

Events

Featured

Announcements

News Release

SFPD Arrests Multiple Chain Snatching Robbery Suspects #26-060

May 27, 2026 | 1:00 PM

Featured

Crime News & Tips

Announcements

News Release