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SFPD Arrests Arson Suspect 25-155

December 17, 2025 | 12:30 PM

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Religious organization was damaged

On December 5, 2025, at approximately 1:55 p.m., officers responded to a religious organization located on the unit block of Banbury Drive for a report of a fire. Officers arrived on scene and observed San Francisco Fire Department personnel extinguishing a fire that had damaged the occupied building, but no injuries were reported. The fire was set outside the building, which caused damage to the structure. The preliminary investigation discovered evidence to believe that the fire was suspicious in nature and may have been intentionally started.

The San Francisco Police Department Arson Task Force is leading the investigation. Through the course of the investigation, investigators identified and located the suspect, who was in custody in San Francisco County Jail for an unrelated matter. Investigators developed probable cause to arrest the suspect, identified as a 36-year-old male from San Francisco, Mitchell Hoyt.

On December 16, 2025, Hoyt was booked for causing a fire to an inhabited structure (452(b) PC) and setting property on fire (452(d) PC).

At this time, there is no probable cause to arrest Hoyt for a hate crime. Although an arrest has been made, this remains an open and active investigation.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the SFPD at [1-415-575-4444](tel:1-415-575-4444) or *Text-A-Tip* to [TIP411](tel:1-415-575-4444) and begin the message with SFPD.

SFPD CASE# 250-681-832

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