PRESS RELEASE – UPD CASE #20-1953

Date: 09/08/2020

Time of Call: 4:46 AM

Location/Victim: 859 N. State St. Ukiah (Redwood Tree Service Station)

Crime: 451(d) PC-Arson (Felony)
454(a)(2) PC-Arson During a State of Emergency (Felony)
1203.2 PC-Violation of Probation (Misdemeanor)

Suspect: Zakedis, David Michael (54-year-old white male transient)

On 09/08/20 at approx. 4:46 am, Ukiah Valley Fire Authority and UPD officers were dispatched to the Redwood Tree Service Station, 859 N. State St., regarding a fire at the location. Upon arrival, officers found a wooden gazebo, along with the south side of the building was on fire. Ukiah Valley Fire Authority personnel were able to put out the fire. The building sustained major damage to the south side interior and exterior of the building. Smoke was able to enter the building and caused damage as well. The owner was contacted and was unable to provide an estimate on the repair at this time, due to the extent of the damage.

UPD Detectives assumed the investigation. Later in the day, Detectives were able to obtain video surveillance from the business. The video surveillance captured a single subject on the property at the time the fire started. The subject was last seen walking northbound on N. State St. UPD Detectives continued investigating the case and obtained additional information and located additional video surveillance from a business in the area. The additional surveillance showed a subject having similar features and personal items, as the subject seen in the Redwood Tree Service Station surveillance. The information was disseminated to the UPD patrol division, asking them to be on the lookout for a similar subject.

On 09/10/20, UPD patrol officers located a subject matching the description walking in the 800 block of N. State St. UPD Officers made a consensual contact with the subject, later identified as local transient, David Zakedis. UPD Detectives were notified and responded. Zakedis was interviewed at the scene and admitted to being the one responsible for the fire. Zakedis was also in possession of items seen on the video surveillance footage as well. Zakedis was arrested without incident for arson, committing arson during a state of emergency and a violation of probation. Zakedis was lodged at the county jail.

Anyone with any additional information is urged to contact Ukiah PD at 707-463-6262.

Prepared by: Detective Sergeant Pintane #D3