



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Police Charge Man With Attempted Murder in Columbia Townhouse Arson

Howard County Police have arrested and charged a 44-year-old Essex man with arson and attempted murder after he set fire to the Columbia townhouse of his estranged girlfriend and her daughter earlier this week.

The incident happened around 7:40 a.m. on Nov. 19, when police believe Scott Allen Pryor of Essex entered the house on Flagflower Place and used an accelerant to set the residence on fire. Pryor, who lived at the residence from 2004 until recently when his relationship with the homeowner ended, was seen leaving the residence just before the fire started.

The homeowner's daughter, 19-year-old Breanna Alman, and 20-year-old Andrew Lee were in the residence when Pryor started the fire. Lee was able to jump from a window to safety, but Alman collapsed at the front door while trying to escape and had to be rescued by fire and rescue personnel. She remains in critical condition at Bayview Burn Center. The owner of the home, Sheryl Alman, was not at home at the time of the fire.

Pryor was located by detectives early this morning in Edgewood and was taken into custody on an arrest warrant. He faces two counts of attempted first degree murder, two counts of attempted second degree murder, first and second degree arson, assault, burglary and other related charges. He remains at the Howard County detention center.

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