



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Howard County Police Investigating Elkridge Firebombing Incident *Police and Store Owner Offering \$5,000 Reward*

In response to a firebombing incident that took place last month at a small restaurant in Elkridge, Howard County Police and the restaurant owner have joined together to offer a \$5,000 reward for information leading to an arrest.

The incident took place on Sept. 19 at Philly's Best Pizza and Sub shop, located in the 6500 blk. of Huntshire Drive. At approximately 1:25 a.m., surveillance cameras captured video of a male suspect smashing the front glass door and then lighting and throwing a firebomb into the restaurant. Police responded minutes later after receiving an alarm from the business and were able to put out the fire. Damage was contained to the front of the shop and is estimated at about \$5,000. The investigation revealed that the firebomb was made from a bottle filled with a flammable liquid.

While this is the only recent firebombing incident at this store, the restaurant had a similar incident in March 2004 when a firebomb was thrown into the restaurant, causing over \$300,000 in damage. No one was arrested in that case.

The suspect in this incident is described as a black male in his early 20's, with short black hair, wearing a black shirt and gloves. Police are asking anyone who may have seen something suspicious in the area or who may have information on the suspect to contact 410-313-3200.

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Editor's Note: The surveillance video of the incident is being released via e-mail. While the video does not provide a frontal view of the suspect, we are making it available in case media outlets decide that it will be helpful. We hope that if you decide that the video is not useful, that you will continue to publicize that there is a \$5,000 reward for information in this incident.