



## LANCASTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

# NEWS RELEASE

City of Lancaster  
Bureau of Police, 39 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17603  
[www.lancasterpolice.com](http://www.lancasterpolice.com)

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Contact Number: (717) 735-3300

Date: December 30, 2011

### Arson Arrest

Arrest: John James WARD 22 years of age  
100 blk. E. King St. Lancaster, PA 17602

On Thursday, December 29th, 2011, at approximately 5:32 pm, Lancaster City Fire and Police and were dispatched to an apartment building at 130 N. Prince St. for a report of a structure fire. Upon arrival officers learned that all of the residents of the apartment building were out of the property.

One resident advised officers that due to ongoing problems, an acquaintance, John WARD, was told to leave the apartment prior to the fire. Shortly after WARD left the apartment, the resident heard the smoke detectors sounding. As the resident left his apartment he discovered a fire in the first-floor hallway of the building. The fire was spreading across the carpet, walls and ceiling. The resident extinguished the fire just before emergency equipment arrived.

Trooper First Class Brian Herr, a Pennsylvania State Police Fire Marshal, ruled the fire incendiary in nature. Residents of the building, as well as John WARD, were interviewed by Lancaster City Police detectives. As a result of this investigation WARD was charged with Arson and Related Offenses, a felony, by Detective Toby Hickey.

WARD was arraigned before MDJ Janice Jimenez and committed to the Lancaster County Prison on \$150,000 bail.

*(end of release)*