

The District Attorney (DA) or prosecutor may be able to add enhancements or special allegations to some arson charges where the evidence shows: the fire was committed for financial gain; the fire caused injury to a firefighter, peace officer or emergency worker; the fire burned several structures; victim(s) of the fire suffered great bodily injury (GBI); etc. These enhancements carry up to five additional years in prison.

Possible Consequences

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- County jail or state prison
- Probation or parole
- A criminal record (which may or may not be expunged, reduced or dismissed)
- Fines and fees involving hundreds or even thousands of dollars
- Community service or work (your time and money)
- Restitution or reimbursement to the victim for loss of or damage to property
- Have to provide DNA sample which goes into a nationwide database
- Register as an arson offender
- Constitutes a violent and serious strike, which could result in a longer prison sentence now and if you commit a future felony
- Five-year prior allegation can later add five years to prison sentence if you commit a future felony
- Possible deportation or other immigration consequences
- No longer able to own, use or possess a gun or weapon
- Could affect current job, future employment or professional license
- Could affect your driver=s license
- Could affect right to vote, jury service, and holding public office

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Defenses

Lack of evidence, alibi, witness credibility, and existence of surveillance video footage are all common defenses and issues which have come up during Attorney Grayson's 15 years of successfully fighting arson cases.

Police officers are usually not present when an arson incident occurs, but they can still be important witnesses. They can be important if, for example, during their investigation they locate video footage of you starting a fire or which shows you near the scene of a fire; if you say something incriminating during questioning (never talk to the police); if officers locate fingerprints or DNA on particular items involved in or near the fire (for example, on an unburned

item, door, window, etc.); if the police search you, your property, car, house, etc., and locate incriminating evidence--for example, an accelerant or an incendiary device (never consent or agree to a search).

If you or your property are in fact searched, it is possible that the search was conducted illegally in violation of your Fourth Amendment rights, and if so, the evidence could be suppressed and your case dismissed.

Either way, as an experienced, skilled, and aggressive attorney, Tracy Grayson will thoroughly review, investigate and prepare your case, interview prosecution and defense witnesses, obtain additional discovery, research complexities in the law, prepare motions, appoint or hire experts, aggressively fight for your freedom in court, and make certain that we do everything possible to win your case.

If you want to beat your arson case, [contact attorney Tracy Grayson now!](#)