



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey  
LEADING BOLDLY, WORKING TOGETHER*

## **PRESS RELEASE**

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Matthew W. Knott  
Division Chief - Rockford Fire**

---

**August 11, 2013**

**Phone: (815) 987-5645  
E-mail: [matt.knott@rockfordil.gov](mailto:matt.knott@rockfordil.gov)**

### **Arrest Made in Recent Dumpster Fires**

ROCKFORD – At approximately 11:30 p.m. on August 10, 2013, members of the Rockford Police Department witnessed a man matching the description of the possible suspect in the recent arson dumpster fires. The possible suspect was found walking in the area of Avon and South Street. The person, identified as Donald E. Richardson, Jr., was detained and interviewed by members of the Rockford Fire Department Fire Investigation Unit. As a result of the interview, various surveillance camera footage, and physical evidence, Donald E. Richardson, Jr. was charged with two counts of arson as a result of many of the recent dumpster fires.

The Rockford Fire Department would like to thank the cooperation we received from the Rockford Police Department and the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office during this investigation and suspect apprehension.

The charges against the individual are mere accusations and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

###