



## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY COUNTY OF MADERA

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2015**

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### **MICHAEL LEE LAPSCHIES CHARGED WITH ARSON**

MADERA, CA. – Today at 1:30 pm in Department 21 of the Madera Superior Court, Michael Lee Lapschies was arraigned on eight felony counts of arson and one felony count of making criminal threats. D.A. Linn appeared for the People and Mr. Lapschies was assigned a public defender.

The fires were located in the Bass Lake area on Road 222 near Pettitt Road; on Road 222 near Miller's Landing Resort; and on Road 223, near Road 426.

Mr. Lapschies is a former resident of Coarsegold and currently resides in Fresno, California.

Presiding Judge Ernest LiCalsi increased Mr. Lapschies bail to \$550,000 and ordered that a pre-preliminary hearing and bail review be held on Tuesday October 6 at 9am in Department 8 of the Madera Superior Court located in Bass Lake California. The case has also been set for a preliminary hearing on October 15 at 10am in the Bass Lake court.

DA Linn stated that the bail amount of \$550,000 was very appropriate in a crime of this magnitude.

Also present at the arraignment was Cal Fire Battalion Chief Bernie Quinn.