

# Placerville Police News Release



## For Immediate Release

**Contact:** Comdr. Dan Maciel (530)642-5210

**Release Date:** April 8, 2021

**Case Number:** PG2100609



## PLACERVILLE WOMAN ARRESTED FOR RECKLESSLY STARTING FIRE

### NEWS RELEASE

**Placerville Police Department**  
Media Relations  
Office of the Chief of Police  
730 Main Street, Placerville, CA 95667

**Placerville, CA** – On April 7, 2021 at 9:42 pm, employees from the Pizza Factory called 911 regarding a structure fire at the Wells Fargo bank, located at 1244 Broadway Drive. The reporting parties told responding officers that a female was seen starting the fire near the front door of the bank.

The El Dorado County Fire, Diamond Spring Fire and Cameron Park Fire Departments responded and were able to successfully extinguish the fire. At the time of the fire the building was not occupied and nobody was injured in this incident.

Placerville police officers conducted an investigation into the report of the female who started the fire. Searching the area, a female transient, identified as Doris Askeland, was located by Placerville Police Officers. Askeland admitted to lighting a candle next to the building for no other reason than to see if her candle still worked.

Officers determined Askeland had unlawfully and recklessly started a fire that spread to the side of Wells Fargo causing damage. Askeland was taken into custody and booked at the El Dorado County Jail for causing a fire to a structure, where her bail was set at \$40,000.

The Placerville Police Department has a "Zero Tolerance" stance on illegal open fires and we will enforce all applicable laws in response to those violations. We would like to remind members of our community that we are heading into what is being predicted to be an extreme fire season. We all must remain vigilant so our community is safe from fire danger.

We would like to thank the reporting parties at Pizza Factory who quickly alerted first responders. We would also like to thank the El Dorado County Fire District, Diamond Spring Fire and Cameron Park Fire for quickly extinguishing this structure fire and limiting the damage.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Officer Tutuwan at (530) 642-5210.