# CATA SEA

# North Dakota Office of the State Fire Marshal (ND)

#### INCIDENT REPORT

Official Law Enforcement Report - Unauthorized Dissemination is Prohibited

Incident Type: Fire

Agency Incident ID: NDSFM25-027 BATS ID: 1549851

**Investigation Title:** CASSELTON EARLS REPAIR FIRE



#### **Incident Date/Time/Location**

**Status** Jurisdiction

Investigation Closed Primary

**Start Date/Time** 

3/17/2025 00:00 Monday

**Address** 

1250 Front St

City/State/Zip County

Casselton, ND 58012 Cass County

**Investigator Information** 

Name Phone Email

Kirstin Greaney Stanger 701-799-3648 kstanger@nd.gov

**Title** 

Deputy State Fire Marshal

**Property Use or Target Information** 

Type Subtype Status

Mercantile Vehicle/Boat Sales/Repair Occupied And Operating

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#### **Scene Details**

# Damage and Casualties

# **Number of Injured**

1

### Miscellaneous Information

Latitude Longitude

46.900361 -97.203699

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# **Person/Organization Information**

Name Business Name

KITZAN, LANCE CASS COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT

**Race** 

White

Sex

M

**Juvenile** 

No

Relationship(s)

Law Enforcement Official

#### **Notes**

Investigator assigned to the fire.

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#### **Business Name**

CASS COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT

### **Juvenile**

No

#### **Notes**

Requesting/notifying agency

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#### **Business Name**

CASSELTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

### **Juvenile**

No

#### **Notes**

Responding agency

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Name Business Name

HANSON, CHRISTIAN Earls Repair

DOB Race Ethnicity

2001

Sex Age at time of Incident

M 23

Juvenile

No

Relationship(s)

Injured

**Notes** 

Sustained burn injuries

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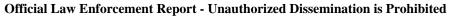


Attachments					
Filename	Description	Date			
NDSFM25-027.pdf		3/25/2025			

# No image specified

# North Dakota Office of the State Fire Marshal (ND)

#### INCIDENT REPORT



Incident Type: Fire

**Agency Incident ID: BATS ID: 1549851** NDSFM25-027

**Investigation Title:** CASSELTON EARLS REPAIR FIRE



Narrative(s)

**Title Author** 

Contacts Kirstin Greaney Stanger

7017993648

kstanger@nd.gov

**Description** 

Distribution by email only:

Detective Lance Kitzan, Cass County Sheriff's Department, KitzanL@casscountynd.gov Fire Chief John Hejl, Casselton Fire Department, hejl87@aol.com

# CREAT SEA

# North Dakota Office of the State Fire Marshal (ND)

#### INCIDENT REPORT

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Incident Type: Fire

Investigator/Agent - Greaney Stanger, Kirstin

Approving Official

Agency Incident ID: NDSFM25-027 BATS ID: 1549851

**Investigation Title:** CASSELTON EARLS REPAIR FIRE



Date

Date



### North Dakota State Fire Marshals Office (ND)

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT NARRATIVE

Official Law Enforcement Report - Unauthorized Dissemination is Prohibited

Incident Type: Fire/Arson

Agency Incident ID: NDSFM25-027 BATS ID: i-1549851

Investigation Title: CASSELTON EARLS REPAIR FIRE



Lead Fire/Explosion Origin and Cause Investigator:				
Name	Agency	Case Reference if Available		
Lance Kitzan	Cass County Sheriff's Office	2025-08825		

Fatalities/Injuries:				
Name	Fatality/Injury:	Notes/Other Information:		
Christian Hanson	Injury	Burns to both hands and side of face.		

#### **Reason For Supplemental Report:**

I, Kirstin Greaney-Stanger, Deputy Fire Marshal was contacted by Deputy State Fire Marshal Doug Pierre about a fire that occurred at 1250 Front St., Casselton, ND on Monday, March 18, 2025. This report was to document the fire occurrence. No response from the North Dakota State Fire Marshal's Office was requested.

#### Remarks:

I contacted Cass County Sheriff's Department Detective Lance Kitzan. Lance Kitzan stated the Cass County Sheriff's department was notified of a fire that resulted in one injury the Casselton Fire Department had responded to.

Detective Lance Kitzan stated they received further information on the fire at Earls Repair located at 1250 Front St., Casselton, ND. Detective Lance Kitzan stated the information obtain confirmed the fire occurred after the regulator on the top of an acetylene tank was snapped off. Detective Lance Kitzan stated the burn victim Christian Hanson raised a vehicle up on a hoist to heat up car parts for repairs. Detective Lance Kitzan stated the controls for the vehicle hoist were approximately five feet from the hoist on the wall. Christian Hanson left the vehicle to conduct another task, when Christian Hanson returned to the vehicle, they lowered the hoist without moving the acetylene tank. When Christian Hanson lowered the vehicle down on the hoist, the vehicle or hoist came down on top of the acetylene tank and snapped off the regulator. Detective Lance Kitzan stated Christian Hanson grabbed the welding cart with the acetylene tank on it and pulled it out from under the vehicle and placed it at the rear side of the vehicle. Detective Lance Kitzan stated the acetylene gas ignited causing the flames to go up towards the ceiling. Detective Lance Kitzan stated the ignition of the gas caused a loud explosion boom sound that was loud enough the boom was heard in the office, causing an employee in the office to take shelter.

The 9-1-1 call for the fire came in at 11:26 AM on Monday, March 17, 2025. Detective Lance Kitzan stated the Casselton Fire Department responded to the fire. The Casselton Fire Department personnel walked up to the acetylene tank, turned off the tank, and removed the welding unit with the acetylene tank from the building.

Detective Lance Kitzan stated Christian Hanson had placed their gloved hand on the top of the tank and when Christian Hanson removed their hand from the tank the acetylene gas ignited. As the acetylene gas ignited Christian Hanson pulled their head back causing the fire to singe the side of their face resulting in 1<sup>st</sup> degree burns. Detective Lance Kitzan stated Christian Hanson also sustained 2<sup>nd</sup> degree burn injuries to the back of their hands. Christian Hanson had sought medical treatment at the clinic in Casselton, ND.

Detective Lance Kitzan stated there was no structural fire damage or smoke damage to the interior of the building. Detective Lance Kitzan stated the only fire damage was sustained to the welding cart, consisting of charring to the top of the tanks, and melting to the welding hoses. Detective Lance Kitzan stated they were not requesting assistance, they just wanted to pass the information along. Detective Lance Kitzan stated the Cass County Sheriff's Department was investigating the incident as an accident and not as a fire.

I contacted the Casselton Fire Chief John Hejl for further information on the fire. No contact was made and no phone call was returned from Fire Chief John Hejl.

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