


<b>East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District</b>		
	<b><i>SOP 407 Youth Fire Setter Program</i></b>	
	<b>Implementation Date: 11/2000</b>	<b>Revision Date(s): 03/16/2015</b>
		<b>Reviewed Date(s):</b>
	<b>Forms or Attachments: None</b>	

If a youth is involved in fire setting or play, the Officer-In-Charge shall fill out the Youth Fire Setter Program Referral Form (407.1) and contact the Fire Marshal.

The East Lake Fire Rescue Youth Fire Setters Program is designed to reduce the incidence of injuries, deaths and property damage due to Youth fire setting activities.

Goals & Objectives:

- Families will understand why all members of the household are involved
- Students will understand the dangers of fire setting.
- Students will understand the consequences of fire setting.
- Students will learn that fire is a tool, not a toy and that it is for adults only to handle.
- Students will learn fire safety and prevention strategies to share with all family members.

Program rules:

1. No gum, drinks, or food allowed in the program
2. All pagers and phones will be shut off for the duration of the class
3. All will sit up, pay attention and participate or be asked to leave

Discuss Diversion vs. Detention:

1. “Get Out of Jail Card” used tonight
2. Intervention program means you’re allowed to go through only once

Describe Reason for Program/ Reason all in attendance are there:

1. Voluntary attendees vs. court ordered
2. Instructors, parents, guardians, siblings

Meeting schedule:

1. Watch video - “In an Instant”
2. Group is separated, adults taken to another classroom
3. Both groups learn the same safety concepts (60 mins.)
4. Group is reunited and allowed to quiz each other on what was learned. (10-15 mins)

5. Watch another video together “In a Flash” (12 mins)
6. Questions/ Answers and distribution of certificates (5-10 mins.)

The Fire Marshal has the contents of the entire program.

## Pinellas County Juvenile Arbitration

### Juvenile Arbitration Prevention/Diversion Fire Setters Program

The Juvenile Arbitration program provides assistance to local fire departments and parents/guardians of children who are involved in fire related incidents by providing an individualized diversion/prevention plan that may consist of counseling, a Youth fire setter program, educational classes, essays, posters, and a letter of apology.

This program allows non-judicial diversion services which enables a child to be diverted away from the criminal justice system and to not have a record or be referred to the State Attorney’s Office for possible prosecution. The Juvenile Arbitration program involves an initial appointment whereby the child and parents meet with a hearing officer who will assign the appropriate educational classes and individualized program that best meet the child’s needs.

A follow-up appointment is also held with parents and the child to review the child’s completion of assignments. Upon successful completion a final report is sent to the referring fire department or fire official thereby preventing a criminal record and entry into the juvenile justice system.

If referred to the program the parents/guardians will receive a notice from Juvenile Arbitration with the date and time of the child’s appointment.

If there are any questions about the Juvenile Arbitration Program call 727-582-7400.