



TEMPLE TERRACE FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARSON SUSPECTED IN SHOPPING CENTER FIRE

(TEMPLE TERRACE, FL. – 1/21/10) – A fire that destroyed a tax-preparation business in Temple Terrace on Monday night appears to have been arson, investigators say.

The fire started around 9:30 p.m. in the rear of Liberty Tax Service, 9271 N. 56th St., in the Temple Terrace Shoppes shopping center. A preliminary investigation indicates an accelerant may have been used, said Temple Terrace Assistant Fire Chief Ian Kemp.

Officials from the State Fire Marshal's office and Temple Terrace Fire Department are continuing to investigate the fire, which caused more than \$100,000 in damage and gutted the tax-preparation business. It is unknown how many tax returns or other documents may have been lost in the blaze.

Businesses adjacent to Liberty sustained smoke damage, including Super Cuts, 9267 N. 56th St., and People's Beauty Supply, 9281 N. 56th St. The businesses were closed at the time of the fire, and there were no injuries.

An investigation into the fire is continuing.

Anyone with information about this incident should contact Temple Terrace Assistant Fire Chief Ian Kemp at (813) 506-6704.

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