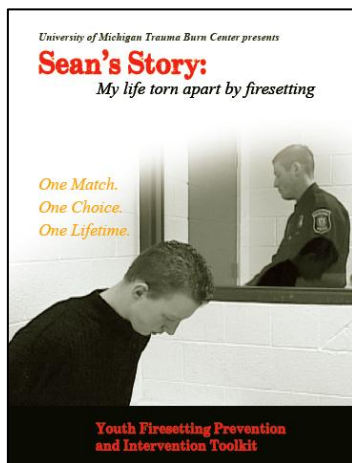


## Sean's Story: National Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Toolkit



Although frequently overlooked by society, youth fire misuse represents a significant problem for families, schools, fire departments, and communities. Fire misuse behaviors (firesetting, arson, playing with lighters, experimenting with bottle bombs, igniting aerosols, etc.) are associated with devastating costs, injuries, and life-changing consequences. Many people are not aware that these behaviors can also result in criminal charges, when in fact children under 18 years old account for nearly 50% of all arson arrests in the United States.

To help communities and agencies address this challenging issue, a video toolkit is being provided free of charge. Funded by a FEMA grant, the “Sean’s Story” toolkit was created by the University of Michigan Trauma Burn Center with input from a large group of multidisciplinary, nationally-recognized experts in youth firesetting prevention and intervention. The “Sean’s Story” toolkit and its associated website ([www.traumaburn.org/Seans-Story](http://www.traumaburn.org/Seans-Story)):

- Tells the true story of a convicted juvenile arsonist and the long-term consequences that can occur if fire misuse behavior is minimized, ignored, unrecognized, or untreated.
- Is a unique prevention and intervention tool for organizations and professionals committed to youth education and safety.
- Facilitates appropriate and constructive discussion regarding high-risk fire misuse behaviors and associated social, financial, medical, career, and legal consequences.
- Includes the following resources:
  - The nationally acclaimed documentary DVD “Sean’s Story: My Life Torn Apart by Firesetting.” This video has been incorporated into the National Fire Academy’s Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention curriculum.
  - Educator’s Guide to facilitate presentations and educational activities.
  - Supplemental materials, such as: pre-/post-tests, youth collage, mental/behavioral health resources, parent guide, signs of fire misuse, media kit, and a community collaboration guide.

### Who Will Find This Video Toolkit Helpful?

Organizations and professionals committed to youth education and safety, including: schools, fire departments, public educators, law enforcement, mental health, juvenile justice, injury prevention programs, youth assistance, hospitals, medical clinics, community organizations, and social service agencies.

To request a free copy of the toolkit, visit: [www.traumaburn.org/Seans-Story](http://www.traumaburn.org/Seans-Story)

For additional information, contact: Karla S. Klas, BSN, RN, CCRP at [kahrns@med.umich.edu](mailto:kahrns@med.umich.edu)



*The University of Michigan Trauma Burn Center is an internationally recognized leader in patient care, research, community and professional education, rehabilitation, and injury prevention.*

