



Texas Department of Insurance

State Fire Marshal's Office Mail Code 112-FM
333 Guadalupe • P. O. Box 149221, Austin, Texas 78714-9221
512-305-7900 • 512-305-7922 fax • www.tdi.texas.gov

May 10, 2013

FACT SHEET West, Texas Fertilizer Plant Incident

- The State Fire Marshal's Office and ATF have maintained, from the beginning of the investigation into the origin and cause of the West Fertilizer Plant fire, that an intentional act or a criminal act could not be eliminated. The investigation always has been, and will continue to be handled as a criminal investigation.
- At no time was the investigation limited to an industrial accident.
- Investigators continue their work based on two state district court search warrants. The warrants were issued shortly after investigators arrived at the scene of the explosion.
- The decision to maintain a criminal investigation is the result of:
 - Approximately 250 leads that have been developed.
 - Over 400 people that have been interviewed.
 - Approximately 20,000 hours of labor, to date, conducting the investigation.
- With the re-entry of DPS to the investigation, SFMO and ATF will work with DPS the same as they did when DPS was involved at the beginning of the investigation. The SFMO and ATF will work side-by-side with DPS as they have with the 20 plus other agencies over the last three weeks.
- Any request for information relating to the arrest of Bryce Reed should be sent to ATF's PIO, Franceska Perot, (281) 914-8124 or Franceska.Perot@atf.gov.