



# Press Release

Lake County Sheriff's Office  
[www.sheriffdunlap.org](http://www.sheriffdunlap.org)

**Daniel A. Dunlap**  
Sheriff

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

October 2, 2014  
Sgt. Pat Paterson

On 10/01/14 at 2249 Hrs., the Lake County Sheriff's Office was dispatched along with the Painesville Township Fire Department to 1639 Sheffield Tr., Painesville Township in reference to a male who was caught on fire in his backyard.

A neighbor who heard the explosion and observed the resident on fire called 911. The Deputy arrived as the Fire Department was transporting the 53 year old victim, identified as Brian Schneider, to Tri-Point Medical Center for severe burns. Mr. Schneider was conscious yet barely able to speak. Schneider advised rescue personnel that he attempted to rid old gas from a container by pouring it onto a small fire pit situated on his concrete patio at the rear of his residence.

The remnants of the plastic gas can container and location of the gasoline dispersement did suggest that the gasoline, while being poured onto an open fire pit, ignited and followed the path back to the container in Mr. Schneider's hand and caused an explosion.

The LCSO received updated information shortly after Mr. Schneider's arrival at Tri-Point Medical Center that he was being transported via rescue squad to Metro Health Medical Center in Cleveland for further treatment. He was reported by hospital staff as being in critical status and remained in the Operating Room as of 0525 hrs., on 10/02/14.

*Frank Leonbruno*

Chief Deputy Frank Leonbruno  
(440)350-5501  
[sheriffdunlap.org](http://sheriffdunlap.org)

