Pismo Beach Police Department

PRESS RELEASE

Contact:	Commander Chris Trimble	**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**	
Phone:	(805) 773-2208	Date:	August 31, 2026
Email:	ctrimble@pismobeach.org	Time:	09:00 a.m.

Arson Arrest in Pismo Beach

Pismo Beach, CA – Details: On August 30, 2026, at approximately 1:24 p.m., the Pismo Beach Police Department received several 911 calls reporting a fire in the 2000 block of Costa Brava.

Witnesses advised they observed a male subject setting fire to a tent then walking away from the area. The fire then quickly spread up the hill toward the north. Officers responded immediately and located a male subject who matched the description of the person seen lighting the fire. The male subject was detained and found to be in possession of fuel and an ignition source.

The fire spread quickly up the hill, north of Pismo Beach city limits and was ultimately extinguished after several hours and a heavy response from Cal Fire Pismo Beach. The fire burned approximately 9.5 acres and no structures were damaged. Witnesses positively identified the male subject as the person who started the fire. He was identified as **Cortlan Jarrod Soles, 30 years old, from Los Angeles, Ca**. With the assistance of Cal Fire Investigators, the Pismo Beach Police Department arrested Soles for PC 451(c)-Felony Arson, and he was booked at the San Luis Obispo County Jail without incident. Soles remains in custody with a bail set at $100,000.

Investigators have determined this to be an isolated incident. There is no ongoing threat to the public, and there is no indication that additional suspects are involved.

The investigation remains active, and no further information is being released at this time.

Anyone with information related to this incident is encouraged to contact the Pismo Beach Police Department.

Cortlan Soles booking photo ok to be released.