



Office of the District Attorney

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2014**

## Defendant Pleads Guilty to Starting Structural Fire at Albany Medical Center



**ALBANY, NY-** District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that **MICHAEL MCALLISTER**, 54, of Albany, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Arson in the Second Degree, a Class B Felony, (1) Count of Burglary in the Third Degree, a Class D Felony, and (1) Count of Criminal Mischief in the Second Degree, a Class D Felony, before the Honorable Stephen Herrick in Albany County Court this morning.

On August 9, 2013 at 5:00am, the defendant unlawfully entered a building at Albany Medical Center in the City of Albany and started a fire by means of igniting paper, a chair and other items that were in the immediate vicinity. As members of the Albany Fire Department responded to extinguish the fire, the defendant approached a first responder at the scene and admitted to starting the fire.

MCALLISTER faces 9 years in State Prison, to be followed by 5 years of Post Release Supervision when sentenced on March 20, 2014. The defendant remains in custody at the Albany County Correctional Facility to await sentencing.

Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Cheryl Fowler is handling the prosecution of this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh (518) 275-4710.

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