

GRAND JURY TO HEAR ARSON CHARGES AGAINST 5 EX-FIREFIGHTERS

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HUNTINGTON, W.Va. (AP) - A grand jury will hear the cases of five former West Virginia volunteer firefighters accused of intentionally setting fires.

The Herald-Dispatch reports the former Barboursville firefighters waived preliminary hearings on Monday in Cabell County Magistrate Court.

They were charged Feb. 5 in connection with suspicious fires in Barboursville and Lesage between April 2017 and February 2018.

Authorities said 20-year-old Brett Ray, 28-year-old Travis Bailey and 21-year-old Ian Hockenberry are charged with first-degree arson stemming from fires in abandoned residential structures in the Barboursville area. Glenn Harman and Chase Peoples, who are both 20, are charged with second-degree arson in a fire in the Lesage area.

The five were terminated before charges were filed.