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STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

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DIRECTOR

# Memorandum

**DATE:** January 6, 2023  
**TO:** Michigan Fire Service  
**FROM:** Kevin J. Sehlmeier, State Fire Marshal/Director  
**SUBJECT:** YFIRES Database and Youth Firesetting Data

YFIRES is a data collection and national repository project originally developed by the International Association of Fire Fighters Charitable Foundation Burn Fund. It was originally funded through DHS/FEMA's Grant Program Directorate for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program – Fire Prevention and Safety Grants. The goal of this project was to create a centralized data collection tool to assist youth firesetting (YFS) intervention services in several disciplines (fire, law enforcement, and mental health) by assembling a body of information to enhance the national understanding of youth firesetting behavior and help in developing evidence-based intervention strategies.

MI Prevention was recently made aware that current database users are being asked to pay an annual subscription fee of \$480.00 to continue entering data. At this time, it is recommended that you **do not** purchase any subscription to the YFIRES database.

In late January 2023, Vision 20/20 (a national community risk reduction organization) will be taking over YFIRES and their goal is for YFIRES to not be a fee-based database. A national press release will be issued later this month with details regarding the transition. Please wait for the transition of organizations to take over this database and the next steps are released before using YFIRES.

MI Prevention and the State Fire Marshal's Office have been working to improve the education, resources, and tools needed for Michigan fire departments to deal with youth firesetting issues. We understand youth firesetting is a concern for many communities and are working to improve this process. We encourage the use of the YFIRES database once the transition of organizations has taken place and will keep you informed about the latest developments of this transition.

To be placed on an email list for future communication about the YFIRES database and youth firesetting training and support, please complete and submit the YFS Prevention

and Intervention form available through the following link:

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/MIPrevention/mipreventionyfspreventionandintervention>

If you have any questions about the YFIRES database or youth firesetting training and support, please contact:

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