

FIRE INVESTIGATION REPORT

2 College Hill, Freemans Bay, Auckland, 1011



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Author's brief

My full name is Colin Paul Melville. I am a Specialist Fire Investigator for Fire and Emergency New Zealand (Fire and Emergency).

I have served with Fire and Emergency, since February 2022. I have been responsible for determining the origin and cause of fires since 2022. Prior to joining Fire and Emergency New Zealand, I served as a Senior Scene of Crime Officer with the New Zealand Police from 2005 to 2022. I was responsible for determining the origin and cause of fires while serving within the New Zealand Police from 2010.

I have completed the following training courses:

- Fire Investigation 1, 2010
- Fire Investigation 2, 2022
- Wildfire Investigation 2, 2024

I have completed training courses with the San Deigo Fire Academy, Vancouver Fire Marshall's Office, Honolulu Rescue Fire, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Country Fire Authority (CFA), Scappoose Fire Department and the Victoria Police Academy in both urban, marine and wildfire fire investigation. I have also completed 332 hours of tested training, (94 modules) within CFI-Trainer Net.

I have attained the following tertiary level qualification: Master Fire Investigation, Charles Sturt University, 2016

I have attained the following qualifications:

Certified Fire Investigator, IAAI-CFI (V), 2019 Certified Instructor, IAAI-CI, 2019 Certified Evidence Collection Technician, IAAI-ECT, 2018 Member Institute of Fire Engineers, MIFireE, 2019 Member New Zealand Fire Brigades' Institute, MNZFBI, 1998

I have the following memberships:

- Membership of the Institution of Fire Engineers
- Membership International Association Arson Investigators"
- Membership International Association Bomb Technicians and Investigator's

I have the following additional experience: NFPA Fire Instructor 1, NFPA1041 (Pro Board Certified).

As a Specialist Fire Investigator for Fire and Emergency I am required to respond to significant fires in accordance with Operational Instructions with the principal objectives being to co-ordinate, supervise or undertake investigations into major and serious fires, including fatal fires, by determining the point of origin of a fire and from this establishing the cause of a fire.

I have previously given testimony in Coroners Inquests, the District Court, the High Court.

I have read the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses, Schedule 4 of the High Court Rules 2016, and agree to abide with them.

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Executive summary

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At 11:17 a.m. Tuesday 17 June 2025, a manual PFA (private fire alarm) activation was received by the Fire and Emergency Communication Centre (PFA number 115634), relating to the New World supermarket, (Victoria Park), 2 College Hill, Freemans Bay, Auckland.

Shortly after the private fire alarm activation, multiple 111 telephone calls were received by the FENZ Communication Centre reporting the building being on fire.

Upon arrival of the first fire appliance at 11:23 a.m. the supermarket was found to be well involved in fire. The incident was escalated to a fifth alarm status with fire appliances responded from the greater Auckland area, and from the Waikato district.

Following an origin and cause examination by a Specialist Fire Investigator, this incident has been classified as being 'Accidental'.

The building was extensively damaged as a result of the fire. Fire and Emergency Fire Engineers are undertaking a separate Post Incident Analysis of this incident.

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Terms of Reference

Sponsor: Mackereth, Vaughan - District Manager

Incident Background

The Officer in Charge (OIC) of this incident considered the circumstances of the fire met the criteria requiring the attendance of a Specialist Fire Investigator (SFI) as per National Commander's Instruction P3. The OIC made this request through the Fire and Emergency Communications Centre who summoned the author of this report to attend the incident as an SFI.

The reason for the attendance of a SFI was: Significant economic impact

Objectives

Determine the origin and cause of the fire through best practice analysis and investigative processes

Scope

- Focus on this incident specifically but consider historical data and information from this site and other similar incidents, and other incident information that may have a bearing or contributed to the outcome.
- Analysis of the circumstances and factors, including the occupant(s) actions, building fire
 loading and design, fire protection/suppression systems performance, circumstances of the fire,
 and result of the fire.
- Where evidence or suspicion of a deliberate fire start is discovered, the matter is to be referred to the Police who will then have the responsibility for further investigation. The Police may request that the Fire and Emergency SFI assist with the origin and cause determination.
- Produce a completed report for the report sponsor outlining all relevant findings.

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Building Use and Description

Building Description

Building Type Commercial

Occupation Type Owner occupied

More Details New World Supermarket, Victoria Park.

Number of Level 2

Building Size Floor area = 4261m2, land area = 7698m2.

More Details New World, Victoria Park.

Building Use Other

Service Power overhead service Water town supply

Construction Related Information

Framing

- Steel
- Wooden

Cladding

- Cement Board
- Concrete

Interior Lining

- Plyboard
- High density wood fibre board

Floor & Covering

• Concrete, Linoleum type - Linoleum type coverings within the retail supermarket area.

Roof & Style

Profiled metal (corrugated iron) - Flat

Interior Lighting and Type of Lighting

Ceiling mounted - Fluorescent

Fire Alarm Systems

Fire Alarm System	Type six
Oystelli	

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Make	Information available at the time of investigation would suggest that the system may not have functioned as designed and had been isolated pre-incident. (Tyco DBA type make).		
Activated	No	Reason	System Isolated

New World Victoria Park.

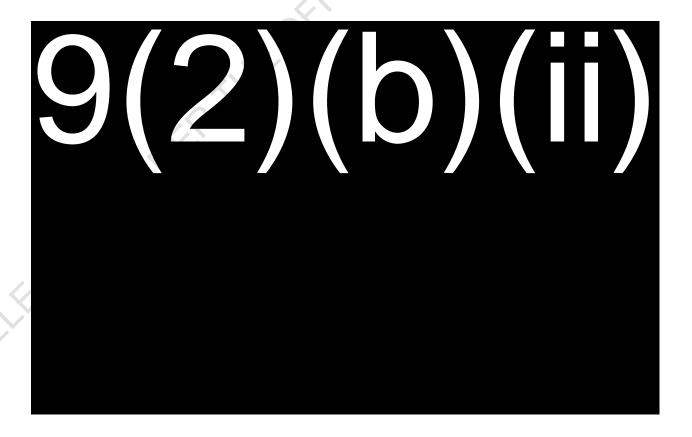
The premise was an existing supermarket comprising a carpark on the basement level, and a supermarket retail with back of house preparation and storage areas on the ground floor. There was also a mezzanine floor which was accessed from the staff area.

The building was bound by a neighbouring property to the east side of the building, Victoria Street West/College Hill to the north, Scotland Street to the west, and Franklin Road to the south.

Built within the 1990's, the building had a floor area of 4261m2, and a land area of 7698m2.

A Type 6 fire alarm system was also installed along with CCTV cameras. The inwards goods area on the east profile was accessed from Franklin Road. The fire alarm panel, and the sprinkler house were located on the northeast profile.

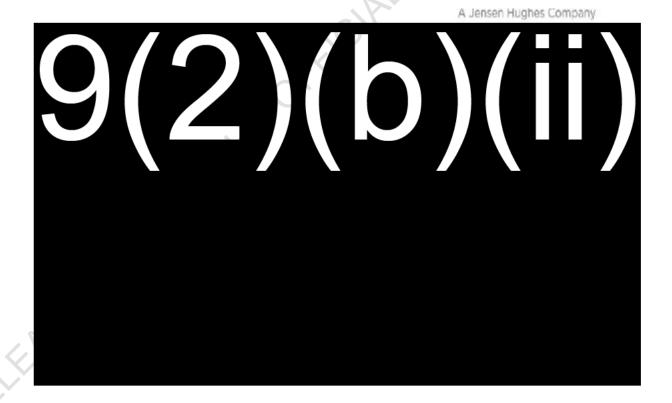
The building stood 12.7 metres in height and had an iron roof and a mix of timber and metal framing. The building had concrete floors within the retail area covered with linoleum type material. Fluorescent type lighting was throughout the building. Metal pellet racking was present within the inwards goods area, stock storage area and upon the mezzanine floor. Windows within the retail area comprised of aluminium joinery. External walls were a mix of concrete and fibre cement type product.



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Image Number 2: Floor Plan. (Obtained from building plans).



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Pre-Incident Events

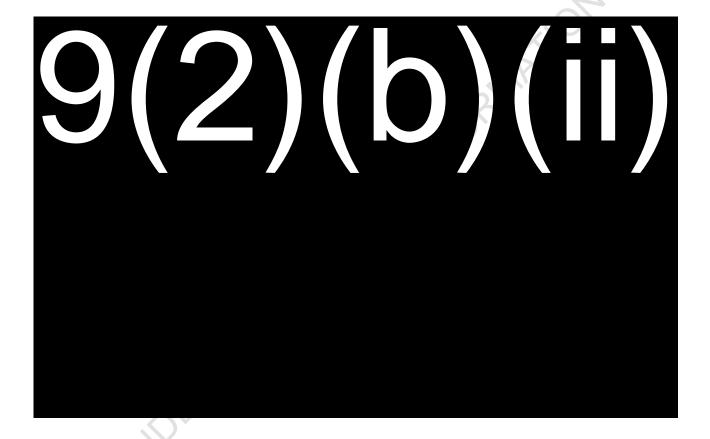
At the time of the incident construction work was taking place, comprising of planned internal alterations to the layout of the store, with travellators from the ground floor carpark being installed. Entries from both Victoria and Scotland Streets were being extended, and alterations to the basement carpark were to be made.

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Discovery of Fire
9(2)(b)(ii)

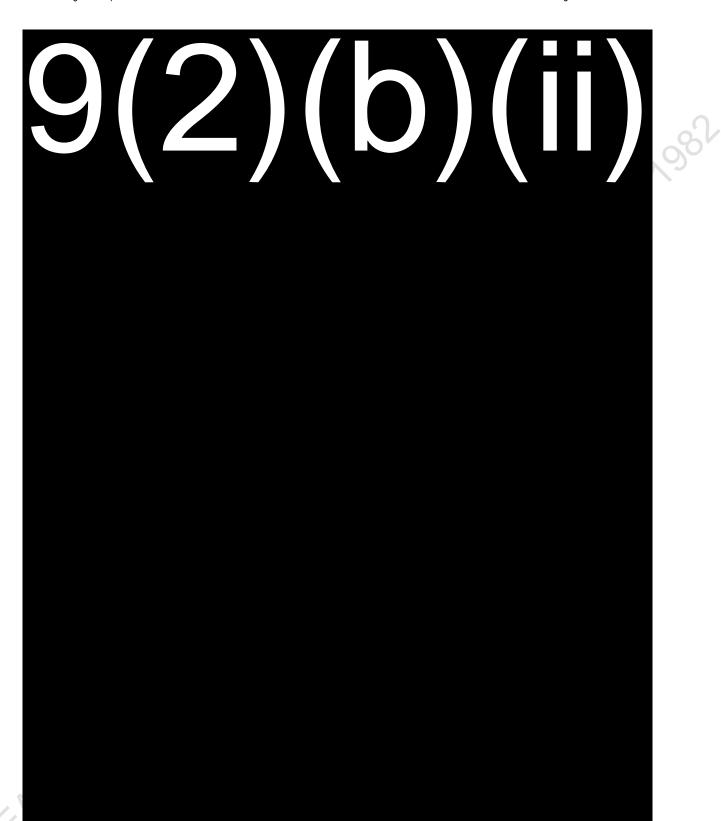
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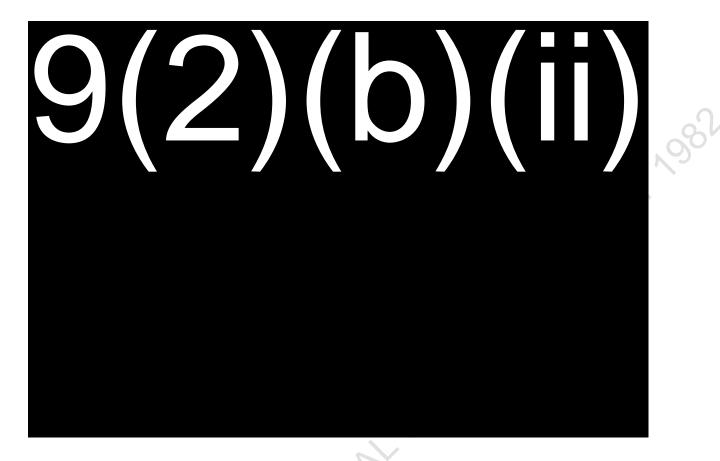
A manual PFA (private fire alarm) activation was received by the Fire and Emergency Communication Centre at 11:17 a.m. (PFA number 115634).



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The fire continued to grow in size and multiple 111 telephone calls were received by the Fire and Emergency Communication Centre shortly after the alarm activation reporting the building was on fire.

At the time of the incident, the supermarket was occupied with staff and customers and was trading as normal. Upon activation of the fire alarm, the members of the public and staff safely evacuated the supermarket without injury.

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Fire and Emergency New Zealand Response

Information sourced from Fire and Emergency Computer Aided Despatch Incident Report.

Incident Number	F4235145
Incident Date Time	17 Jun 2025, 11:17:00 AM
Call Type	
Method Call Received	PFA
First Arriving Fire Appliance	PARN251
First Fire Appliance Arrival Time	11:24 AM
Second Arriving Fire Appliance	AUCK2018
Second Fire Appliance Arrival Time	11:26 AM

At 11:17 a.m. Tuesday 17 June 2025, the Fire and Emergency Communication Centre received a private fire alarm (PFA) activation, (manual system, PFA number 115634) to the New World supermarket, 2 College Hill, Freeman's Bay, Auckland.

Four fire appliances were responded to the incident from the Auckland city fire station.

Multiple 111 telephone calls were received by the Fire and Emergency Communication Centre reporting that the building was on fire.

While still enroute to the incident, the Officer in Charge, (OIC) of fire appliance Auckland 207 transmitted a 'priority message' to the Communication Centre at 11:21 a.m. stating 'large amounts of smoke showing, transmit a second alarm'.

Upon arrival of the first arriving fire appliance, Auckland 207, at 11:23 a.m. (as per Fire and Emergency incident report), the mezzanine floor and roof area of the building were found to be well involved in fire.

This incident was escalated to a 'fifth alarm', which involved fire appliances being responded to the incident from across the greater Auckland district. A specialist aerial fire appliance was also responded to the incident from the Waikato district.

A Specialist Fire Investigator, (SFI) was requested to attend the incident to undertake an origin and cause examination. Despite not being the 'on-call' SFI, I was tasked with undertaking the examination.

I was paged to attend the incident at 12:18 p.m. and arrived at the scene at 12:22 p.m.

I was assisted at the scene by Fire Investigator Nicky Lafferty, (in training).

Fire Engineers were also requested to attend the incident for a post fire analysis. 9(2)(b)(ii)

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Image Number 4; (ATOC camera image). Upon arrival of the first fire appliance, (Auckland 207) at 11:23 a.m., the mezzanine floor and roof area of the supermarket were found to be well involved in fire.

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Scene Examination

Scene Examination-Exterior

At the time of the incident, windows within the supermarket were secure/ and the windows were closed. The doors within the loading dock/inwards goods area were unlocked and open.

Construction work was taking place, comprising of planned internal alterations to the layout of the store, with travellators from the ground floor carpark being installed. Entries from both Victoria and Scotland Streets were being extended, and alterations were being made to the basement carpark.

9(2)(b)(ii)

The supermarket's retail area was functioning with staff and customers present when the fire was discovered, (normal trading hours).

Images shared to social media; from both drone footage and that obtained by the Westpac rescue helicopter showed a well involved fire within the mezzanine floor area where construction was taking place, during the time of the incident. Shared social media images also showed the fire spreading within the roof space, the office area on the mezzanine level and towards the northwest profile, (College Hill/Victoria Street) side of the supermarket's retail area. Images also showed the paint blistering due to exposure to elevated temperatures over an extended time period, and the fire breaching the external, north profile wall at the mezzanine level.

The exterior east profile wall, (Franklin Road) side had lost its integrity at the level of the mezzanine floor and the exposed timber framing was charred.

The west profile, (Scotland Street) side had some smoke staining, however the exterior wall, glass within the windows and the doors leading into the supermarket's retail area had remained intact. The aluminium window and door frames were also undamaged.

Pedestrian access for the public into the supermarket's retail area was via doors the Scotland Street side of the building.

Water from fire suppression activities was running down the gradient of Scotland Street on the west profile, front of the building. Water was also flowing from within the supermarket retail area, down the pedestrian access stairs onto Scotland Street.

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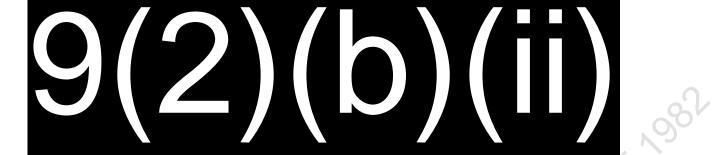
Photograph Number 5: West profile, (Scotland Street) side

Left, north profile, (Victoria Street West/College Hill) side:



Paint was blistered on the exterior wall closer to the northwest corner at the mezzanine level. The fire had breached the external, north profile wall at the height of the mezzanine level.

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9(2)(b)(ii)

9(2)(b)(ii)

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Several motor vehicles were parked alongside the north profile wall. These motor vehicles had received water damage from fire suppression activities.

A food caravan, which retailed in coffee and ice cream, was positioned against the exterior north profile wall. It was undamaged by the fire.



Photograph Number 10: Food caravan on the carpark level, north profile of the building undamaged by the fire.

Rear, east profile. (Franklin Road) side:

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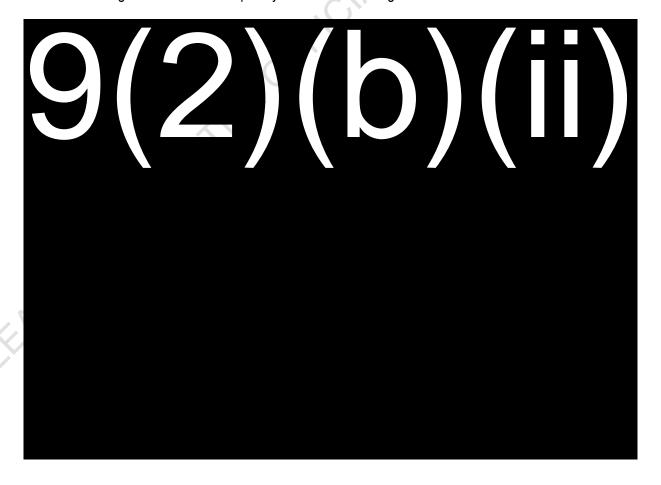
The exterior east profile side of the building on the Franklin Road, side, consisted of the inwards goods area. Fire damage was predominantly to the mezzanine level. Two fork hoists were within the courtyard, along with several pallets of stock wrapped in plastic shrink wrap.

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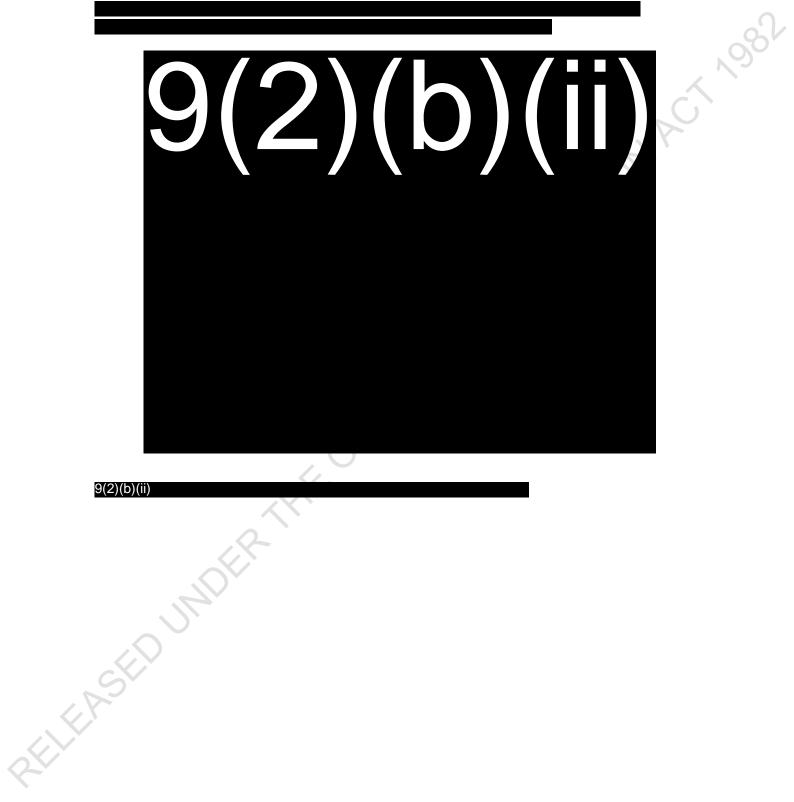


Photograph Number 11: East profile, (Franklin Road) side. Fire at the mezzanine floor level.

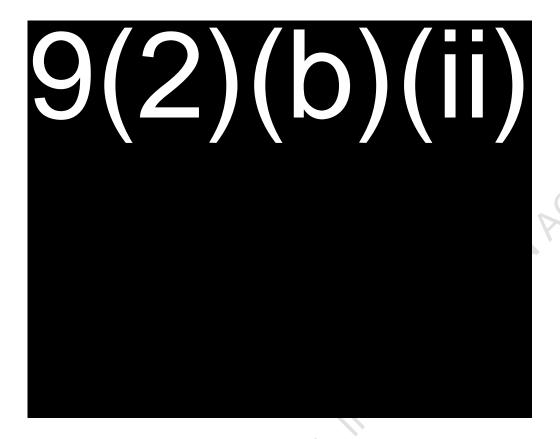
The two fork hoists were parked adjacent to the inwards goods delivery door. Neither of the fork hoists were fire damaged and were subsequently eliminated as being the cause of the fire.



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Right, south profile on the Scotland Street side:

The exterior, south profile of the building was undamaged by the fire.



Photograph Number 15: The exterior, south profile.

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Photograph Number 16: The exterior, south profile of the building was undamaged by the fire.

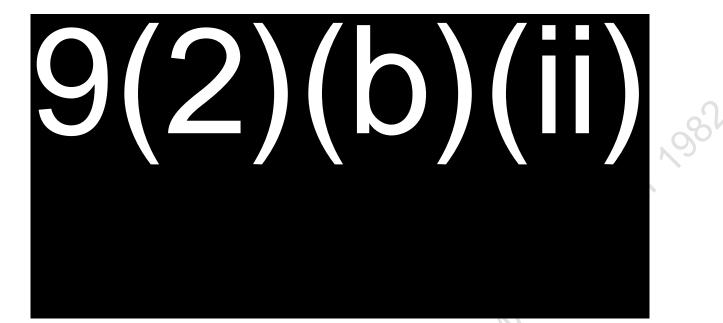
Roof:

Fire damage to the external air-conditioning units mounted on the roof of the building appeared to be consistent with exposure to an external heat source. Examination of aerial photographs taken during the fire revealed no smoke or fire venting from within the roofing air conditioning units. Images show fire and smoke venting out of the eaves and apex of the building surrounding the vents. Therefore, roof mounted air conditioning units were eliminated as a cause of the fire.

Images shared to social media, fire patterns, such as charring and mass loss to external wall cladding, indicated a fire had spread from inside the northeast profile of the mezzanine floor, towards the adjacent offices at the mezzanine level and into the northwest profile of the supermarket's retail area.



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Scene Examination-Interior

The interior of the building, including the bulk store, mezzanine floor, offices and the retail supermarket area were extensively fire damaged.

9(2)(b)(ii)

Evident drop-down and radiant heat damage had initiated fires within stock stored on shelving within the supermarket's retail area below.

9(2)(b)(ii)

Supermarket Retail Area:

At the time of the incident, the supermarket was trading as normal.

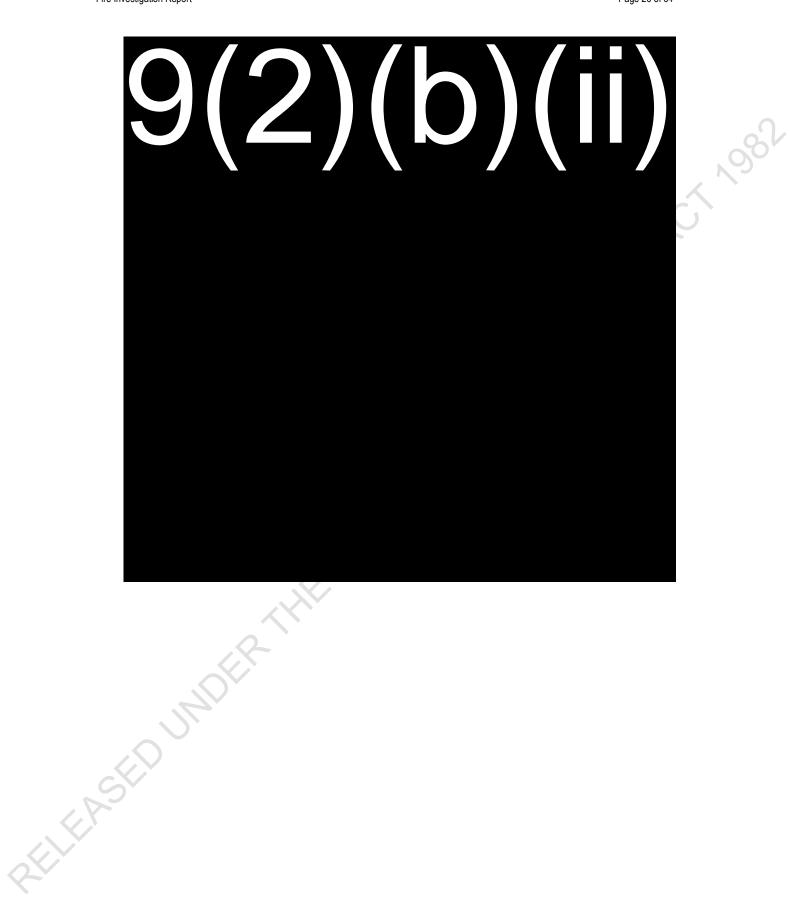
Following a risk assessment, some areas of the retail area were deemed as being too dangerous to enter into at the time of my investigation. Unstable roofing structure, roofing tiles, lighting and shelving was observed.

9(2)(b)(ii)

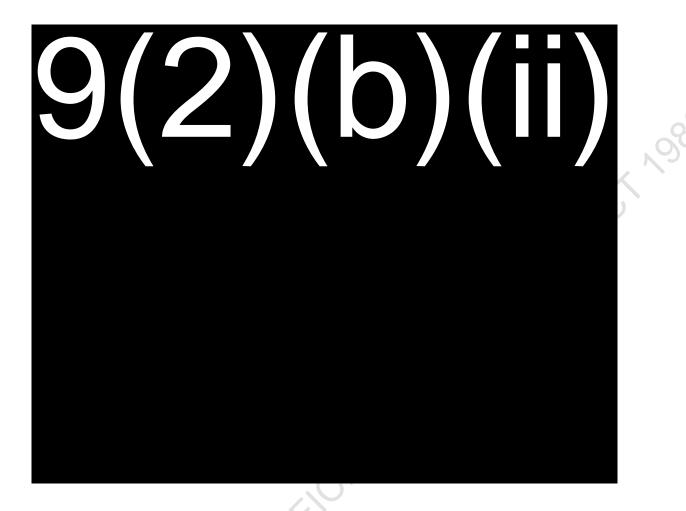
Wall coverings

on the north profile wall, within the area of the offices and bakery department were also compromised, being burnt through.

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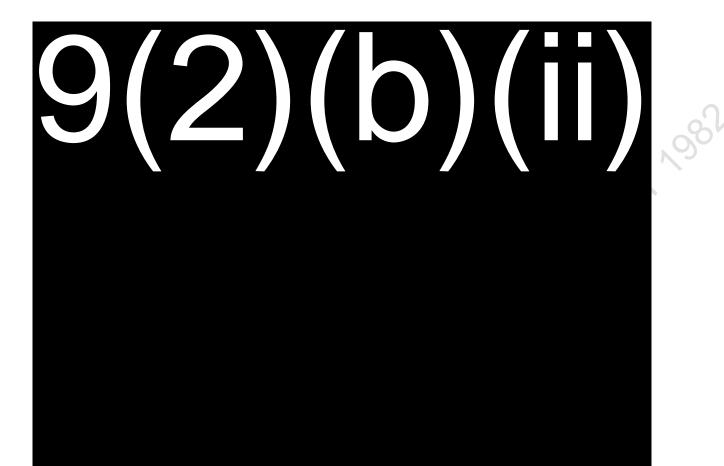


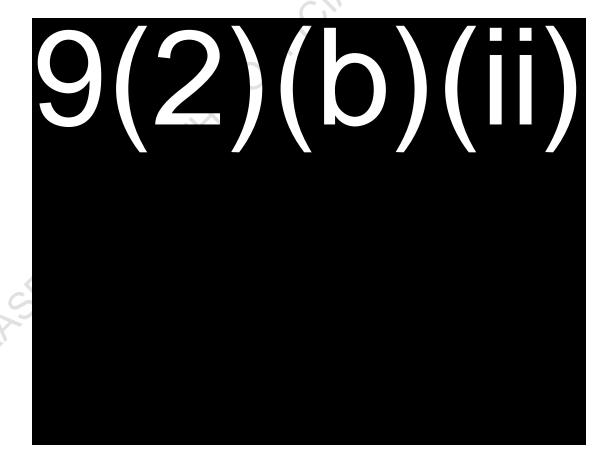
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The south profile, (fruit and vegetable department) had significantly more intact suspended roofing panels present. The demarcation line of where the hot gas layer had descended to during the fire was visible about one third of the way down the vertical wall surfaces. Stock and shelving were relatively intact however smoke, and water damaged. Fire damage and smoke staining patterns were consistent with late fire spread having occurred into this area.

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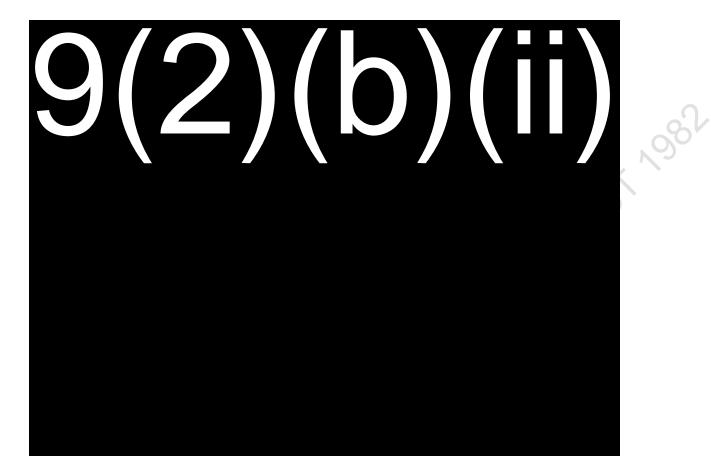


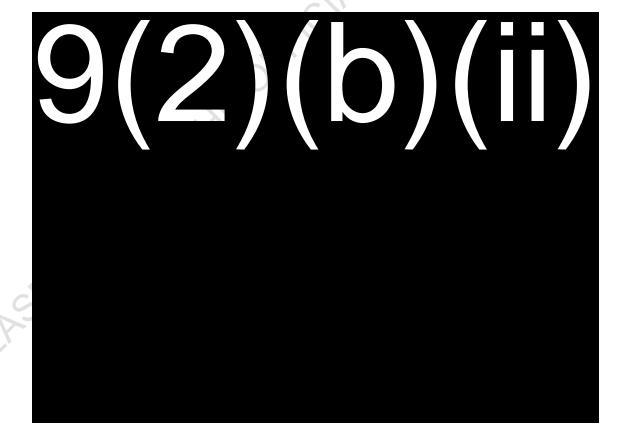
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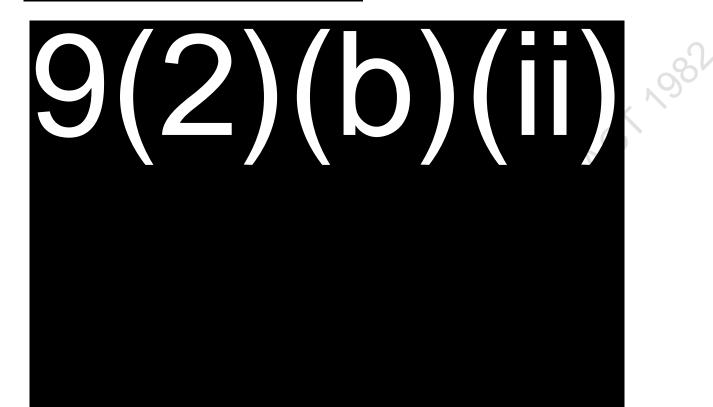
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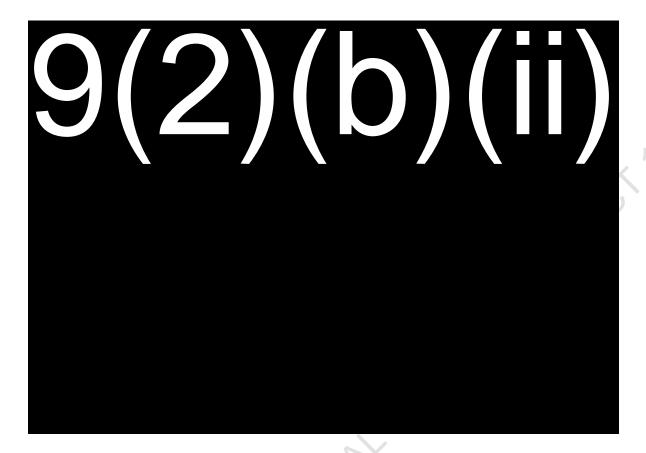


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9(2)(b)(ii)



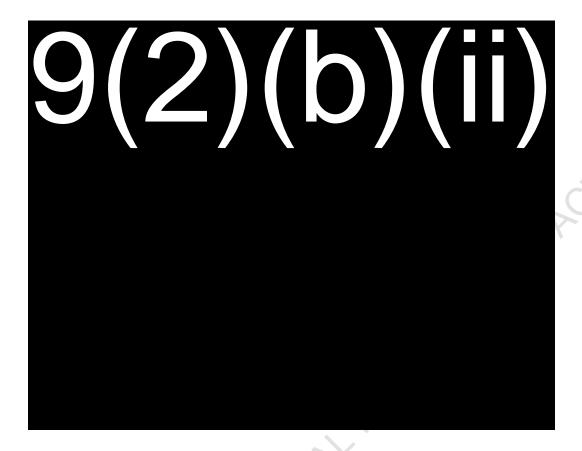
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9(2)(b)(ii)

The wine and beer department was located within the southeast profile of the supermarkets retail area. This area had significantly more intact suspended roofing panels present, with the hot gas layer about one third of the way down the vertical wall surfaces. 9(2)(b)(ii)

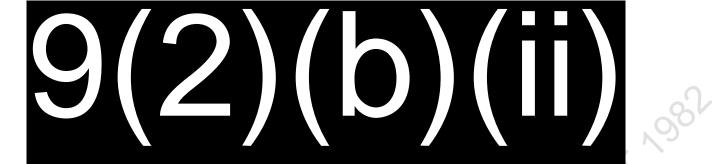
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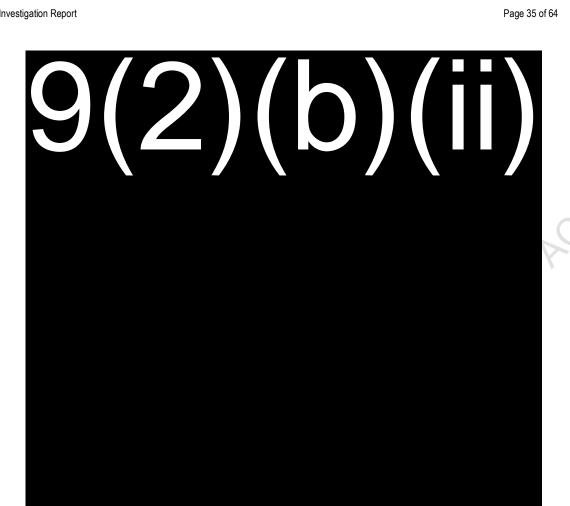
Due to several safety issues involved it was only possible to undertake a visual examination of some potential ignition sources. I was also cognisant of future examination/s to be performed by private investigators and the possibility of any potential spoilation.

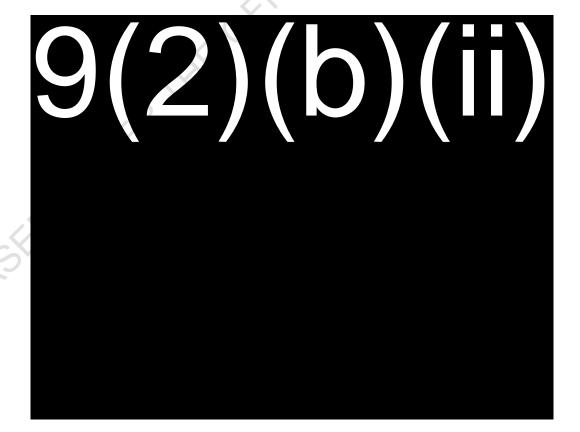
Smaller electrical appliances such as point-of-sale terminals, cash registers, lotto terminal and an ATM machine were found to be either undamaged, or smoke damaged only. These items were therefore excluded as a potential cause of the fire.

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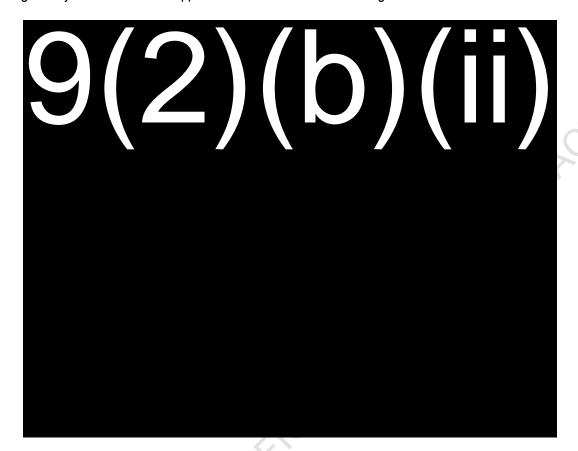
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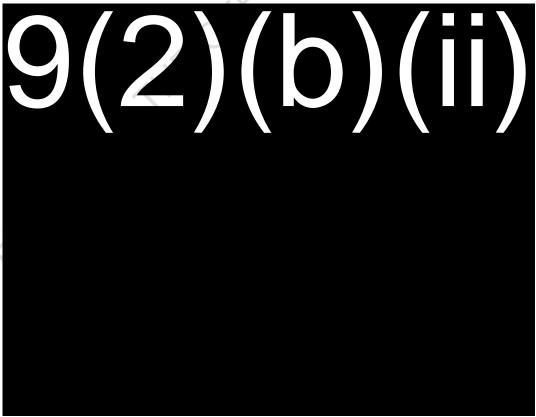




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Chillers and freezers within the supermarkets retail area were found to be either undamaged, or smoke damaged only. These electrical appliances were eliminated as being the cause of the fire.





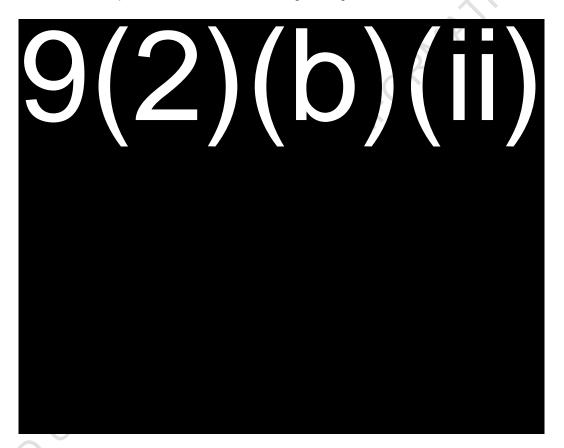
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Damage to the ovens within the bakery department were consistent with exposure from an external heat source.

Those electrical outlets which were able to be safely examined were found to either be undamaged, or damage was found to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source.

9(2)(b)(ii)

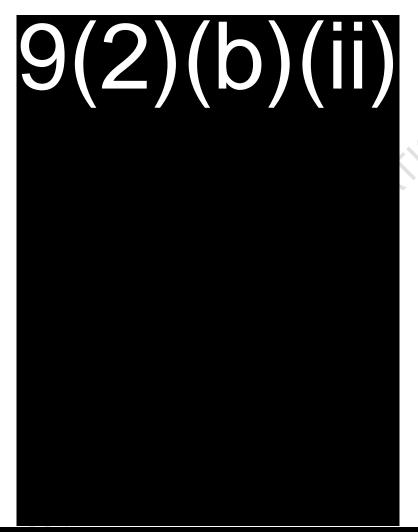
Damage to lighting within the supermarket, retail area appeared to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source. Patterns of fire spread indicated smoke and heat impinged onto light fittings, and there was no centre of spread of fire from around the light fittings.



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Storage, east profile, Franklin Road, side:

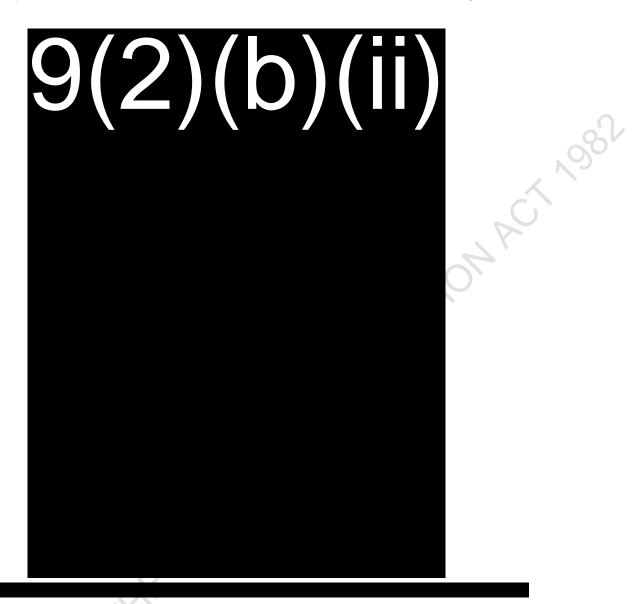
The inwards goods, storage area was located on the east profile of the building, accessed from the Franklin Road entrance. The floor within both the inwards goods and the adjoining storeroom was water damaged and covered in fire debris.



9(2)(b)(ii)

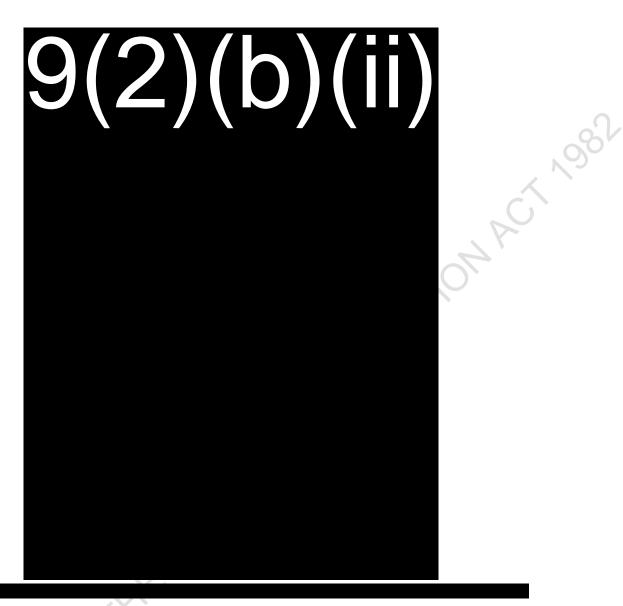
A line of demarcation indicating the lower extent that the hot fire gases had lowered during the fire was observed about a quarter of the way down the vertical wall surfaces within the inwards goods area. A fire pattern of smoke and soot staining was visible above the roller door leading into the courtyard which spread up and away from the top of the door. This indicated that heat and smoke had spread into this area during the fire.

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9(2)(b)(ii)

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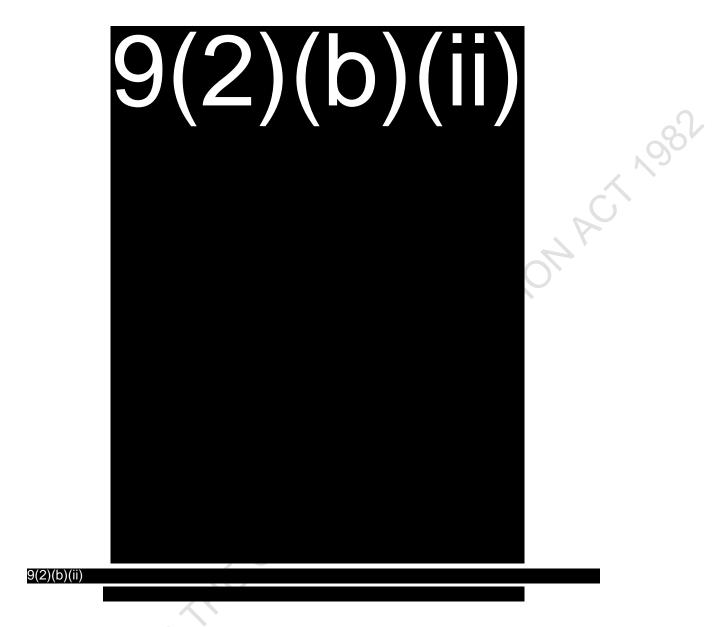


9(2)(b)(ii)

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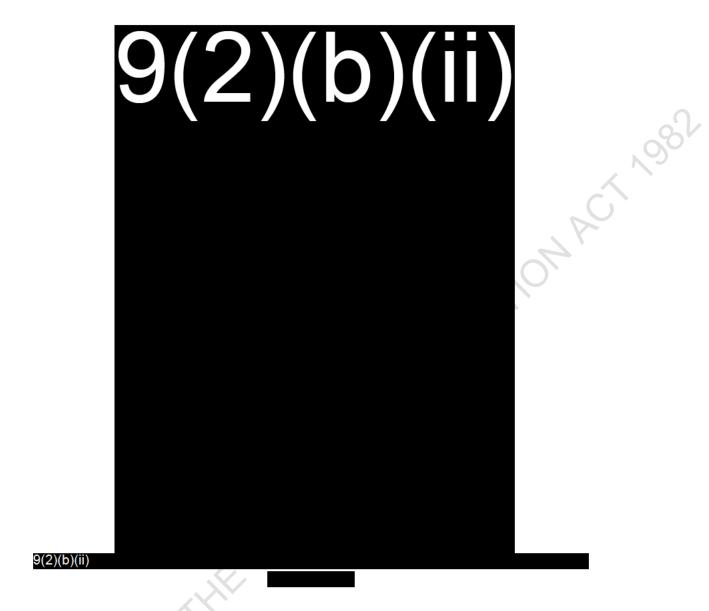
A line of demarcation indicating the lower extent that the hot fire gases had lowered during the fire was observed about one third of the way down the vertical wall surfaces. Plastic wrapped around pellets of stock on shelves higher off the floor had melted from exposure to radiant heat. Some stock on the upper-level pallets had ignited from drop down of burning material from above.

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In contrast, stock within walkways and at lower levels was smoke damaged only.

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The ceiling lining, and above the metal mesh was more degraded closer to the area of origin; in contrast the ceiling linings were more intact further away. Roofing materials were semi-protected from shadowing effect from direction of heat travel. (Areas which were protected from the full intensity of the fire's heat due to an obstruction), indicating direction of fire, heat and smoke spread.

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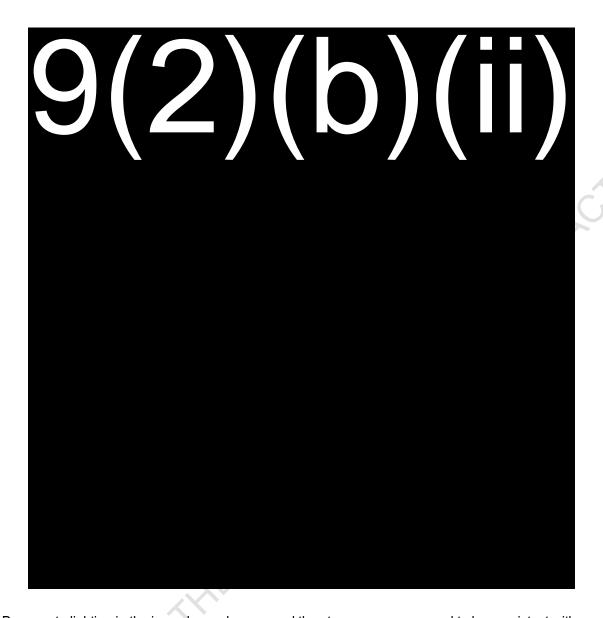


9(2)(b)(ii)

Fire damage to timber studs at the gable end of the roofline provided a directional indicator to the fire's direction of travel. 9(2)(b)(ii)

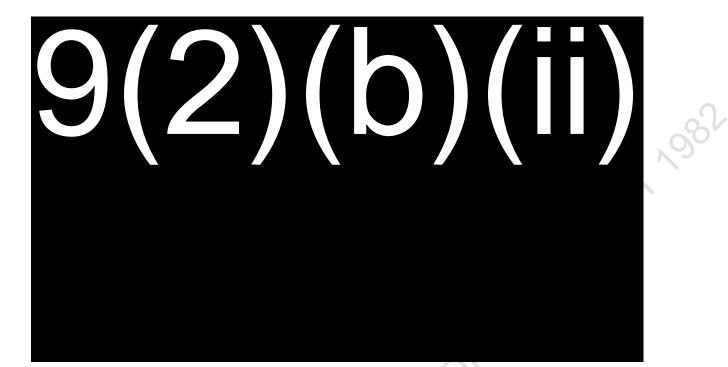
Electrical outlets within the inward goods area and the storeroom were examined. There were no apparent indications of arcing or other electrical event having occurred in these fittings as they were relatively intact; therefore, a fault within an electrical outlet within the inwards goods area or storeroom was subsequently eliminated as being the cause of the fire. No significant fire damage was present in the room; therefore, electrical components in the room were excluded as being the cause of the fire.

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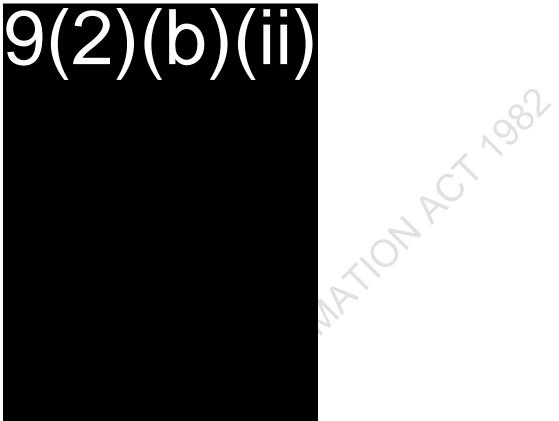


Damage to lighting in the inwards goods area, and the storage area appeared to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source. A fault within the lighting system was considered and dismissed as being the cause of the fire, as they were found to be relatively intact.

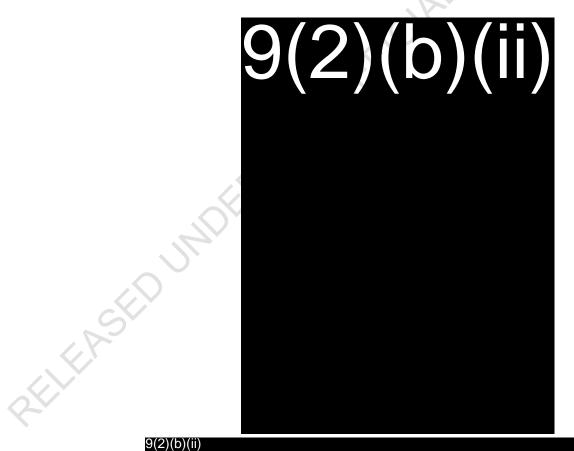
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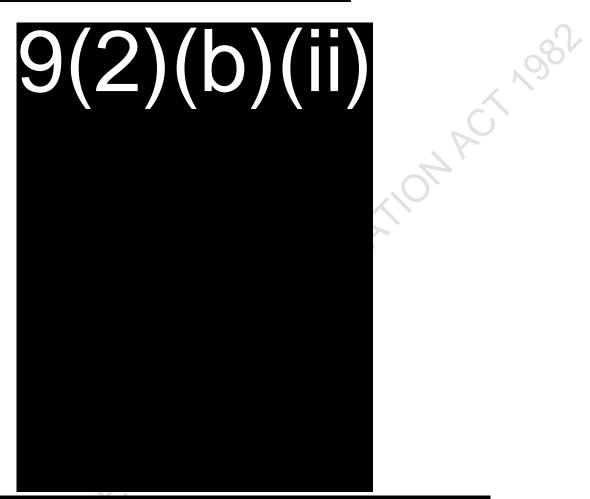


9(2)(b)(ii)

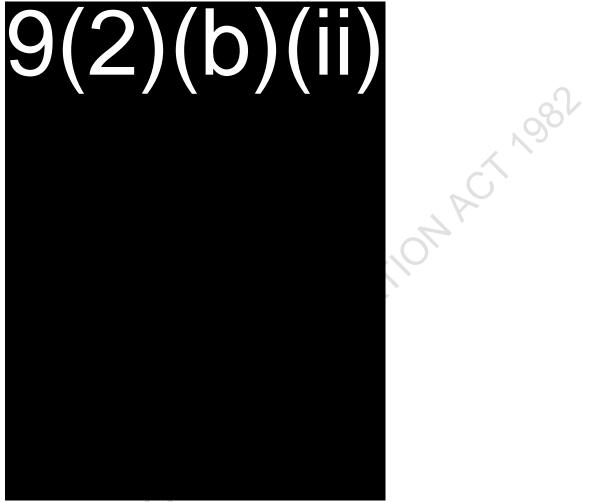


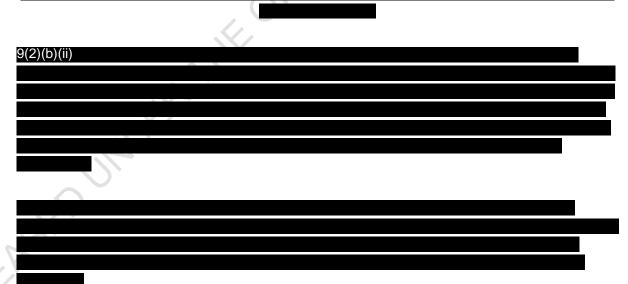
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9(2)(b)(ii)

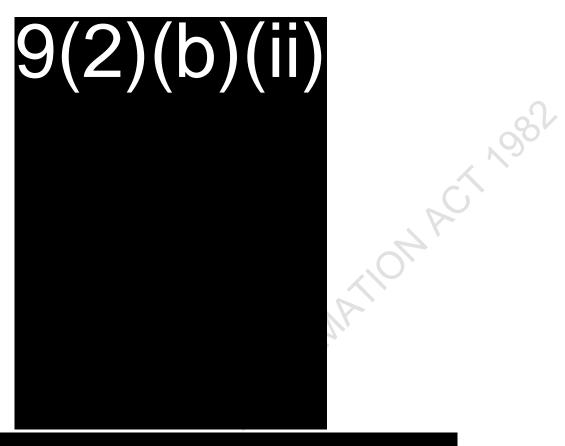


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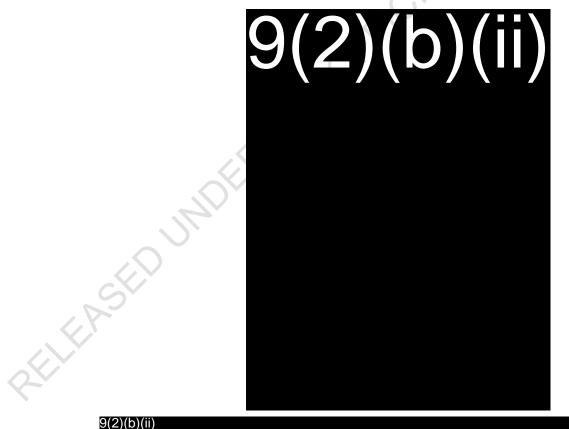




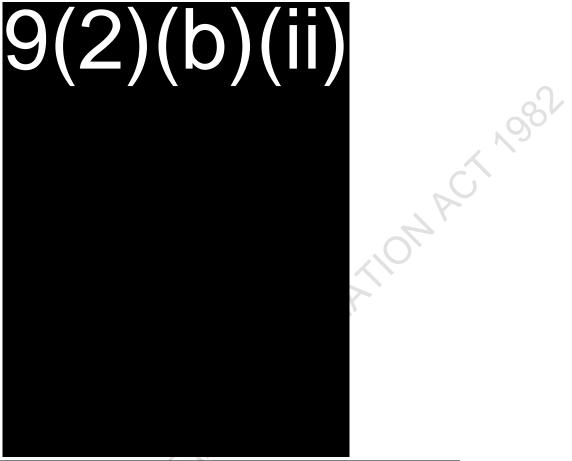
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9(2)(b)(ii)



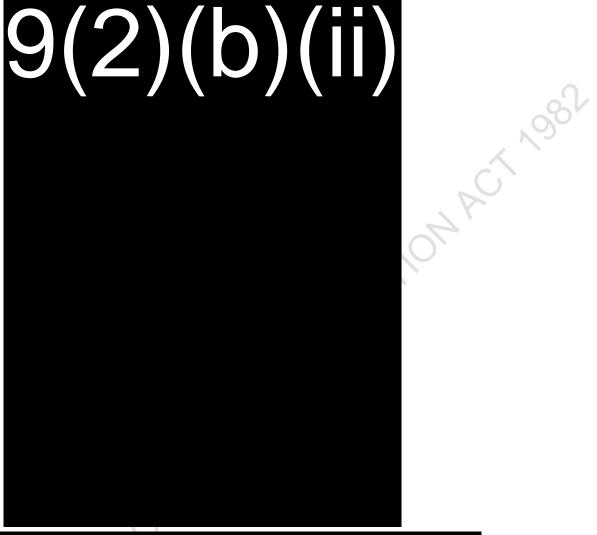
Fire Investigation Report Page 50 of 64



9(2)(b)(ii)

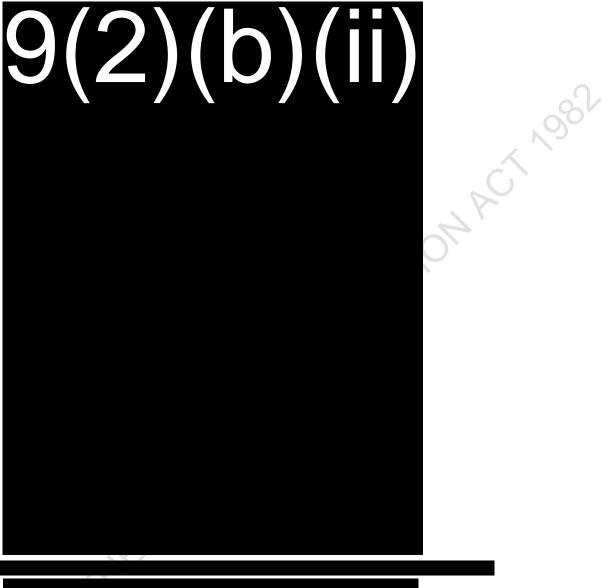
9(2)(b)(ii)

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9(2)(b)(ii)

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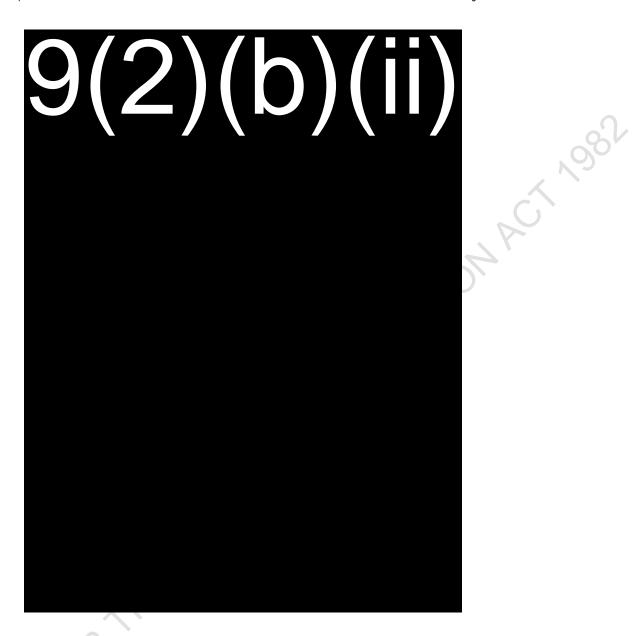


9(2)(b)(ii)

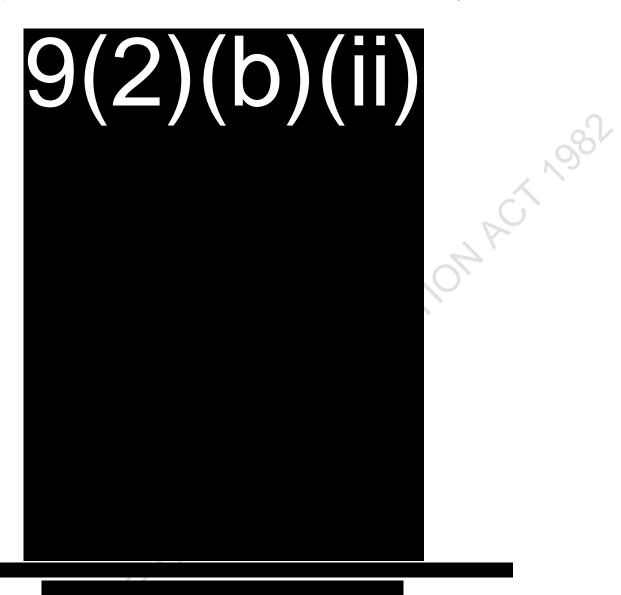
9(2)(b)(ii)

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9(2)(b)(ii)

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Conclusions

Area of Origin 9(2)(b)(ii) Point of Origin 9(2)(b)(ii) Ignition Source 9(2)(b)(ii)

First Fuel Ignited

The first fuel ignited was unable to be established with a degree of certainty given the extent of fire damage within the area of origin. It is possible however, given the rapid fire spread that building paper, buildup of dust, paper particles or pipe lagging within the area of origin was the first fuel ignited.

Building paper and as well as buildup of dust, paper particles or pipe lagging within the area of origin could exacerbate fire spread, if it ignited and allow flames to travel along its surface or within wall cavities. Drop down of burning particles to the readily combustible paper products underneath would further exacerbate and support rapid spread of the fire.

Circumstances of Ignition

9(2)(b)(ii)

Supposed Cause

9(2)(b)(ii)

Fire Classification

Accidental

Elimination of Other Possible Causes

Ignition Source Light refraction. (No Damage)	
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More Details	No items possible of light refraction were observed within the area of origin.	
Ignition Source	Careless disposal of smoking materials. (No Damage)	
More Details	No discarded smoking materials were observed within the area of origin.	
Ignition Source	Other (No Damage)	
More Details	The motor on the electric sliding gates, giving access from Franklin Road to the inwards goods area was examined and was found to be undamaged.	
Ignition Source	Other (No Damage)	
More Details	The motor on the electric sliding gates, giving access from Franklin Road to the inwards goods area was examined and was found to be undamaged.	
Ignition Source	Other (No Damage)	
More Details	Two fork hoists were parked adjacent to the inwards good delivery door. Neither of the fork hoists were fire damaged and were subsequently eliminated as being the cause of the fire.	
Ignition Source	Other (No Damage)	
More Details	Food caravan: A food caravan, which retailed in coffee and ice cream, positioned against the exterior, North profile wall was undamaged by the fire.	
Ignition Source	Electrical outlets (No Damage)	
More Details	Smoke staining only.	

Elimination of Competent Ignition Sources

Ignition Source	Other (Fire Damage - Competent)	
More Details External air-conditioning units. Fire damage to the air-condition mounted on the roof of the building appeared consistent with e to an external heat source.		
Fire Damage Information	External air-conditioning units. Fire damage to the air-conditioning units mounted on the roof of the building appeared consistent with exposure to an external heat source.	
Reason for elimination	External air-conditioning units. Fire damage to the air-conditioning units mounted on the roof of the building appeared consistent with exposure to an external heat source.	
Ignition Source	Other (Fire Damage - Competent)	

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The author acknowledges that due to a number of risks involved it was only possible to undertake a visual examination of some potential ignition sources. The author also was aware of the examination/s being performed by private investigators and the possibility of any spoilation	
Smaller electrical appliances such as point-of-sale terminals, cash registers, lotto terminal and an ATM machine were found to be either undamaged, or smoke damaged only.	
Smaller electrical appliances such as point-of-sale terminals, cash registers, lotto terminal and an ATM machine were found to be either undamaged, or smoke damaged only.	
Other (Fire Damage - Competent)	
The author acknowledges that due to a number of risks involved it was only possible to undertake a visual examination of some potential ignition sources. The author also was aware of the examination/s being performed by private investigators and the possibility of any spoilation	
Chillers and freezers within the supermarkets retail area were found to be either undamaged, or smoke damaged only.	
Chillers and freezers within the supermarkets retail area were found to be either undamaged, or smoke damaged only.	
Oven (Fire Damage - Competent)	
The author acknowledges that due to a number of risks involved it was only possible to undertake a visual examination of some potential ignition sources. The author also was aware of the examination/s being performed by private investigators and the possibility of any spoilation	
Damage to the ovens within the bakery department was consistent with exposure from an external heat source.	
Damage to the ovens within the bakery department was consistent with exposure from an external heat source.	
Electrical outlets (Fire Damage - Competent)	
The author acknowledges that due to a number of risks involved it was only possible to undertake a visual examination of some potential ignition sources. The author also was aware of the examination/s being performed by private investigators and the possibility of any spoilation.	
Those electrical outlets which were able to be safely examined were found to either be undamaged, or damage was found to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source.	
Those electrical outlets which were able to be safely examined were found to either be undamaged, or damage was found to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source.	

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Ignition Source	Lighting (Fire Damage - Competent)
More Details	The author acknowledges that due to a number of risks involved it was only possible to undertake a visual examination of some potential ignition sources. The author also was aware of the examination/s being performed by private investigators and the possibility of any spoilation. Numerous ceiling mounted lights within the retail area were either destroyed by the fire or were hanging loose from the ceiling.
Fire Damage Information	Damage would appear to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source. Was not in the area of origin.
Reason for elimination	Damage would appear to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source. Was not in the area of origin.
Ignition Source	Lighting (Fire Damage - Competent)
More Details	Damage appeared to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source.
Fire Damage Information	Damage appeared to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source
Reason for elimination	Damage appeared to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source
Ignition Source	Lighting (Fire Damage - Competent)
More Details	Lighting, where safe to do so was visually examined. Damage appears to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source.
Fire Damage Information	Lighting, where safe to do so was visually examined. Damage appears to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source.
Reason for elimination	Lighting, where safe to do so was visually examined. Damage appears to be consistent with exposure from an external heat source.
SEDUNDE	

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Report Approvals

Investigation and report completed for and on behalf of Fire and Emergency by:

Investigator

Name : Melville, Colin Job Title : Fire Investigator Date : 08 Jul 2025 05:42 AM

I confirm the truth and accuracy of this report. I make this statement with the knowledge that the report may be used in legal proceedings. I am aware that it is an offence to make a statement that is known by me to be false or intended by me to mislead.

A technical review of this report has been completed by:

Name: Bredenbeck, Mark

Job Title: Fire Research and Investigation Unit

Date: 26 Aug 2025 02:44 PM

This report has been approved by:

Name: Menzies, Glenn

Job Title: Community Risk Manager Date: 27 Aug 2025 08:22 AM

Investigation and report completed for and on behalf of Fire and Emergency by:

Investigator

Name : Melville, Colin Job Title : Fire Investigator Date : 08 Jul 2025 05:42 AM

I confirm the truth and accuracy of this report. I make this statement with the knowledge that the report may be used in legal proceedings. I am aware that it is an offence to make a statement that is known by me to be false or intended by me to mislead.

A technical review of this report has been completed by:

Name: Bredenbeck, Mark

Job Title: Fire Research and Investigation Unit

Date: 26 Aug 2025 02:44 PM

This report has been approved by:

Fire Investigation Report Page 60 of 64

Name: Menzies, Glenn

Job Title: Community Risk Manager Date: 27 Aug 2025 08:23 AM

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Investigator

Name: Melville, Colin Job Title: Fire Investigator Date: 08 Jul 2025 05:42 AM

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Job Title: Fire Research and Investigation Unit

Date: 26 Aug 2025 02:44 PM

This report has been approved by:

Name: Menzies, Glenn

Fire Investigation Report Page 61 of 64

Job Title: Community Risk Manager Date: 27 Aug 2025 09:28 AM

Investigation and report completed for and on behalf of Fire and Emergency by:

Investigator

Name: Melville, Colin Job Title: Fire Investigator Date: 08 Jul 2025 05:42 AM

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Date: 26 Aug 2025 02:44 PM

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Name: Menzies, Glenn

Job Title: Community Risk Manager Date: 27 Aug 2025 09:28 AM

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Job Title: Fire Research and Investigation Unit

Date: 26 Aug 2025 02:44 PM

This report has been approved by:

Name: Menzies, Glenn

Job Title: Community Risk Manager Date: 27 Aug 2025 09:29 AM Fire Investigation Report Page 62 of 64

Investigation and report completed for and on behalf of Fire and Emergency by:

Investigator

Name : Melville, Colin Job Title : Fire Investigator Date : 08 Jul 2025 05:42 AM

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Date: 26 Aug 2025 02:44 PM

This report has been approved by:

Name: Menzies, Glenn

Job Title: Community Risk Manager Date: 27 Aug 2025 09:30 AM

Investigation and report completed for and on behalf of Fire and Emergency by:

Investigator

Name : Melville, Colin Job Title : Fire Investigator Date : 08 Jul 2025 05:42 AM

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Name: Bredenbeck, Mark

Job Title: Fire Research and Investigation Unit

Date: 26 Aug 2025 02:44 PM

This report has been approved by:

Name: Menzies, Glenn

Job Title: Community Risk Manager Date: 27 Aug 2025 01:22 PM

Investigation and report completed for and on behalf of Fire and Emergency by:

Fire Investigation Report Page 63 of 64

Investigator

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Job Title: Fire Research and Investigation Unit

Date: 26 Aug 2025 02:44 PM

This report has been approved by:

Name: Menzies, Glenn

Job Title: Community Risk Manager Date: 28 Aug 2025 03:40 PM

Investigation and report completed for and on behalf of Fire and Emergency by:

Investigator

Page 64 of 64 Fire Investigation Report

Name: Melville, Colin Job Title: Fire Investigator Date: 08 Jul 2025 05:42 AM

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