

Man who torched son sentenced to 25 years

by UPI

SAN FRANCISCO -- A California appeals court says a man convicted of trying to burn his young son to death in 1983 was properly sentenced to a 25 years in prison. The appellate court in San Francisco upheld a judge's decision last April that Charley Charles was not entitled to leniency for the attack on his 6-year-old son, the San Francisco Chronicle said Wednesday. Charles was sentenced to 25 years to life in prison under the "three strikes" law for two recent weapons convictions. Charles was sentenced to 13 years in prison but was released in 1990 after serving half his sentence. He was arrested in 2001 on weapons charges but sentenced as a second-strike defendant to just over seven years in prison. The appellate court ruled that the 1983 convictions could be considered two strikes because they involved multiple acts and multiple victims, the newspaper said.

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