

Tenn. officials charge boy, 9, with arson

by UPI

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. -- A 9-year-old boy faces an aggravated arson charge for a store fire he admitted starting, Chattanooga, Tenn., fire officials said.

Lt. Anthony Moore of the Chattanooga Fire Investigation Division said the boy, whose identity was not reported, confessed to starting the Tuesday fire that destroyed a Dollar General Store in Hixson, Tenn., Chattanooga.com reported Wednesday.

Fire investigators said the boy's mother told them her son had started the fire.

The boy told firefighters he started the fire using matches and rolls of toilet paper in the store's bathroom, firefighters said. The child said he started the blaze because he was mad at his mother, investigators said.

No one was injured and firefighters stopped the blaze from destroying nearby buildings.

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