

Arson charge in 'Burning Man' torching

by UPI

RENO, Nev. - A San Francisco man faces arson charges in Arizona after the annual Burning Man festival's 40-foot wooden effigy was set ablaze four days early. Paul Addis, 35, was booked into the Pershing County jail and booked on felony charges of arson and destruction of property and misdemeanor possession of fireworks and resisting a public officer, the Reno (Nev.) Gazette-Journal reported Wednesday. The namesake of the festival in the Black Rock Desert began burning early Tuesday, and crews took 23 minutes to extinguish it, the report said. The structure was due to be burned on Saturday night at the culmination of the event, described by organizers as being dedicated to self-expression, self-reliance and art as the center of a (temporary) community. Andie Grace, the event's communications manager said repairs will be made. "The event continues on scheduled and the man will burn on Saturday night," he said.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Arson charge in 'Burning Man' torching by UPI