



D.C. women's clinic damaged in fire; man arrested

Original article found online at:

http://www.cnn.com/US/9702/19/briefs/womens.clinic.fire.html?_s=PM:US

February 19, 1997

Web posted at: 3:05 p.m. EST (2005 GMT)

FALLS CHURCH, Virginia (CNN) -- A women's clinic that has been a frequent target of anti-abortion protests was set afire and a man was arrested after police caught him inside the suburban Washington building.

James Anthony Mitchell, 38, of Nokesville, Virginia, made it clear he was "protesting abortion," Falls Church Vice Mayor David Snyder said. Mitchell also was charged with possessing burglary tools and burglary with the intent to commit arson.

Tuesday night's fire at the **American Women's Clinic, also known as the Commonwealth Women's Clinic**, engulfed the first floor and caused mostly smoke damage to the second floor, police said. The clinic was not open at the time.