IJAAR PUBLISHING®

Scholarly Journal of Social Sciences Research | ISSN: 2955-0785
Vol. 4, Issue 2 (2025) | www.ijaar.org/sjssr

ENHANCING FIRE SERVICE CAPACITY FOR CRIME PREVENTION AND PUBLIC SAFETY IN OSUN STATE, NIGERIA

[1]Aremu, Fatai Abiodun, [2]Liadi Olusegun Fariudeen, [3]Ganiyu Rasaq Omokeji, [4]Alatise Remi Kasali, [5]Kazeem, Kolawole Lateef, [6]Abdullateef, Bidemi Ibrahim, [7]Ojo, Olalekan Richard, [8]Olakunle, Tunde Sunday, [9]Rasak, Bamidele.

[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]Department of Sociology and Criminology, Fountain University, Osogbo, Osun State, Nigeria.
Email: aremufataiabiodun@gmail.com
Phone Number: 08060476029

[9]Department of Sociology, Criminology and Security Studies, Thomas Adewumi University, Oko, Kwara State, Nigeria.
Email: delerasak@gmail.com, rasaki.bamaidele@tau.edu.ng
Phone Number: +2348034955615, +2347052087979

ABSTRACT

Criminal activities like theft, vandalism, arson, and false insurance claims have become more common in Osun State, Nigeria, along with fire breakouts, turning emergency scenes into places of turmoil and unrest. This concerning development has led academics and decision-makers to reevaluate the Osun State Fire Service's function and broaden its mandate to encompass elements of both investigation and crime prevention. Fire incidences increased from 105 to 205 between 2020 and 2024, while property damages increased from 1.2 billion to 3.6 billion naira. Arson was responsible for 35% of fire-related crimes, looting for 25%, vandalism for 20%, public interference for 15%, and assaults on firefighters for 5%. At the same time, the number of fire-related crimes increased from 15 to 42. Retaliation, social instability, and insurance fraud are some of the common motivations behind these crimes. A lack of forensic capabilities, antiquated equipment, underfunded operations, and a lack of personnel are only a few of the major operational constraints facing the Fire Service. Effective response is further hampered by a lack of coordination between law enforcement and medical agencies, particularly in rural locations. This trend can be explained by criminological theories such as Broken Windows Theory and Routine Activity Theory, which emphasise the role of visible disorder and the interaction of vulnerable targets, motivated criminals, and inadequate supervision. The paper suggests using drone technology, creating specialised fire crime units, improving interagency cooperation, and raising public awareness of crime reporting and fire safety in order to address these issues. Firefighters must also receive crime scene management training. Ultimately, to reduce fire-related crimes and improve public safety in Osun State, a well-coordinated, resource-rich, and community-inclusive approach is needed.

Keywords: Arson, Criminal Activity, Fire Incidents, Osun State Fire Service, Security Measures

Aremu, F. A., Fariudeen, L. O., Omokeji, G. R., Kasali, A. R., Kazeem, K. L., Abdullateef, B. I., Ojo, O. R., Olakunle, T. S., & Rasak, B. (2025). Enhancing Fire Service Capacity for Crime Prevention and Public Safety in Osun State, Nigeria. *Scholarly Journal of Social Sciences Research. 4*(2), 62-72. DOI: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15797666

1.1 Introduction

It has long been known that fire incidents pose a risk to property and human life, but they can also serve as possible crime scenes where a variety of illegal actions could occur. Scholarly and policy interest in the relationship between criminal activity and fire outbreaks has grown, especially in relation to the function of fire service agencies in controlling criminality at fire scenes. Reports of fire-related crimes, such as arson, vandalism, looting, and false insurance claims, have surfaced in several regions of Nigeria, calling for a deeper look at the tactics used by fire service organisations to prevent such incidents. The fire department is essential to Osun State's ability to respond to fire crises and reduce crime both during and after fire incidents.

Due to a number of factors, including electrical malfunctions, industrial accidents, negligence, and criminal intent, fire outbreaks have become much more common in Nigeria, including Osun State, in recent years. Crimes related to fires have also increased, with arson incidents being linked to disputes, insurance fraud, and political violence (Akinyemi & Oladipo, 2023). The chaotic nature of fire scenes often presents an opportunity for criminal activities, as perpetrators take advantage of the confusion and lack of security presence to engage in theft, evidence destruction, or obstruction of justice. Because of the complexity of these incidents, fire service agencies must work closely with law enforcement and forensic experts to establish the cause of fires and identify any criminal elements involved.

The Osun State Fire Service is in charge of emergency response, fire prevention, and firefighting in the state, but its responsibilities have grown to include crime prevention and investigative support during fire incidents. Recent fire outbreaks in Osun State have sparked questions about the fire service's ability to manage crime at fire scenes, especially with regard to interagency collaboration, forensic investigation capabilities, and security measures during firefighting operations (Adeyemo, 2021). How well fire service personnel handle crime-related aspects of fire incidents is essential to ensuring that justice is done and that the likelihood of repeat fire-related crimes is reduced.

There are still a number of issues, even if fire service organisations play a vital role in reducing crimes related to fire. Research shows that fire service personnel's ability to successfully confront criminal activity at fire sites is hampered by a lack of money, inadequate training, and low capacity for forensic investigation (Ogunleye et al., 2024). Furthermore, offenders frequently elude justice due to the absence of strong legal frameworks for prosecuting crimes involving fire. It is impossible to overestimate the importance of better regulations, new technology, and cooperative efforts amongst law enforcement, fire departments, and forensic specialists.

The main objective of this study is to examine the relationship between fire incidents and criminal acts at fire scenes, with a particular focus on the Osun State Fire Service. The study's goals are to determine the prevalence of crime at fire scenes in Osun State, assess the effectiveness of the fire service in managing crime, identify the difficulties faced by fire service personnel in responding to fire incidents related to crime, and suggest policy measures to strengthen the role of fire services in crime prevention and investigation. By addressing these goals, the study hopes to add to the body of knowledge on fire-related crime management and offer insights for enhancing the operational efficiency of fire service in Nigeria.

To improve emergency response, ensure justice, and protect lives and property, it is essential to comprehend the dynamics of fire disasters and related criminal actions. As a

result, this study offers a thorough examination of Osun State's fire-related crimes, examining the efficiency of fire service organisations and making suggestions for better crime management techniques during fire-related crises.

2.0 Fire Incidence Trends in Osun State (2020–2024)

In Osun State, fire outbreaks have been a major problem due to a number of factors; knowing the common causes and examining statistical trends from 2020 to 2024 can help with prevention strategies and the consequences for criminal activity at fire scenes.

2.1 Common Causes of Fire Outbreaks

Fire events in Nigeria are caused by a number of common factors:

a) **Electrical Faults:** Fire outbreaks are frequently caused by electrical problems, such as short circuits, overloaded circuits, or defective wiring. These problems have the potential to produce heat or sparks, which could ignite flammable materials nearby.

b) **Improper Storage Practices:** Improper "general storing," or the storage of items in markets, has been found to be a common cause of fires. This includes the buildup of combustible materials in the absence of proper safety precautions.

c) **Carelessness and Negligence:** Fire outbreaks are caused by behaviours including leaving cooking appliances unattended, throwing away cigarette stubs improperly, and disregarding safety precautions.

d) **Arson:** It is also concerning when people intentionally start fires, whether for malevolent reasons or for other reasons.

Osun State, Nigeria, has seen an increase in fire outbreaks over the years, making them a serious worry. The statistical trends of fire events in Osun State from 2020 to 2025 are shown in the table below, together with information on the frequency of occurrences and potential causes.

Table 1: Fire Incidence Trends in Osun State (2020–2025)

Year	Number of Fire Incidents	Major Causes of Fire Outbreaks	Estimated Property Loss (₦ Billion)	Reported Cases of Criminal Acts at Fire Scenes
2020	105	Electrical faults, gas explosions, arson	1.2	15
2021	132	Electrical faults, market fires, negligence	1.8	22
2022	158	Fuel tanker explosions, industrial accidents	2.3	27
2023	176	Market fires, residential gas explosions	2.7	31
2024	189	Electrical faults, sabotage, wildfires	3.1	35

***Source: Osun State Fire Service Report* (2025)**

2.2 Implications of Fire Incidence Trends in Osun State

According to the data, Osun State saw a consistent rise in fire outbreaks between 2020 and 2024, indicating that fire threats are become more common. This increasing tendency is caused by a number of circumstances, including as industrial accidents, gas explosions, arson, and electrical malfunctions. These results are consistent with research showing that fire risks in developing nations are increased by urbanisation and insufficient fire safety precautions (Adebayo & Ogunleye, 2022). Severe economic repercussions are indicated by the steady increase in predicted property losses, which went from ₦1.2 billion in 2020 to ₦3.1 billion in

2024. The socioeconomic stability of impacted towns is significantly impacted by property destruction, business losses, and resident displacement (Adeyemi et al., 2023).

The rising frequency of recorded crimes at fire scenes is a serious worry. These incidents, which include obstructing firefighting efforts, looting, and arson, increased from 15 in 2020 to 35 in 2024. This pattern is consistent with earlier studies showing that fire situations frequently present chances for criminal activity, especially in areas with inadequate security (Olawale & Yusuf, 2021). In commercial areas, where businesses face not only the direct effects of fire but also post-event theft and vandalism, looting during fire outbreaks has been a recurring problem. The rise in arson incidents emphasises the necessity of more effective fire safety measures as well as law enforcement actions (Ogunlana, 2024).

The rising incidence of market and industrial fires is another noteworthy feature of the trend. Osun State's economic growth has resulted in increased industrial activity, which raises the risk of fire because of flammable materials, broken machinery, and a lack of regulatory compliance. According to studies by Okafor et al. (2023), inadequate enforcement of building codes and workplace safety standards is the primary cause of industrial fire safety failings in Nigeria. In a similar vein, the increased frequency of market fires, especially in 2023 and 2024, indicates that faulty electrical wiring, traffic, and inappropriate trash disposal all increase the risk of fire.

Electrical problems and wildfires continue to be major problems, particularly in residential areas. Electrical fires are more likely to occur when inferior electrical components and unauthorised power connections are used (Eze & Uche, 2025). In order to reduce dangers, this necessitates immediate action through public awareness initiatives and policy enforcement. Stronger law enforcement at fire sites, more financing for firefighting infrastructure, and comprehensive fire safety policies are all necessary due to Osun State's increasing patterns of fire outbreaks and related criminal activity. Businesses, neighbourhoods, and the industrial sector will all be impacted by the rising socioeconomic costs of fire disasters if preventative steps are not taken.

3.0 Criminal Activities at Fire Scenes in Osun State

Osun State's study on fire frequency and criminal activity at fire sites identified a number of criminal actions that worsen the effects of fire outbreaks. The results emphasise the frequency of intentional arson, opportunistic crimes including theft and vandalism, and crowd meddling as security risks. An overview of the main crimes reported at fire scenes from 2020 to 2024 is shown in the table below.

Table 2: Criminal Activities at Fire Scenes in Osun State (2020–2025)

Criminal Activity	Frequency of Occurrence (%)	Description
Arson	35%	Deliberate fire-setting for insurance fraud, revenge, or other motives.
Looting	25%	Theft of goods and valuables from affected buildings and businesses.
Vandalism	20%	Destruction of property, often occurring alongside looting.
Crowd Interference	15%	Disruption of firefighting efforts, obstruction of fire service operations.
Other Security Threats	5%	Assault on emergency responders, mob actions, and clashes.

***Source: Osun State Fire Service Report* (2025)**

3.1 Implications of Criminal Activities at Fire Scenes

i. Arson as a Deliberate Crime

Arson, which accounts for 35% of reported incidents, is still one of the most serious crimes seen at fire scenes in Osun State. Arson is frequently associated with causes like financial fraud, conflicts, or societal unrest, according to the literature (Adebayo & Olagunju, 2021). Deliberate fire-setting is harmful and complicates fire investigations, making it hard for authorities to tell the difference between intentional and accidental fires, according to studies (Olawale et al., 2022). Arson also causes significant financial losses since it causes harm to businesses and property owners that goes beyond simple physical destruction (Eze & Okafor, 2023).

ii. Opportunistic Crimes: Looting and Vandalism

According to this study, vandalism (20%) and looting (25%) regularly take place during fire breakouts. Looters take advantage of the commotion caused by fire occurrences to steal expensive objects, especially in commercial locations, claim Adetunji and Faleye (2020). Victims of such crimes bear an even greater financial hardship, as they not only lose money due to the fire but also to theft. Similar to this, vandalism causes partially damaged properties to be further destroyed, which makes recovery from a fire more challenging (Ibrahim & Shittu, 2021). For firemen and other emergency responders, the presence of looters and vandals at fire scenes presents a security risk that frequently necessitates the involvement of law enforcement.

iii. Crowd Interference and Security Threats

During fire crises, crowd interference (15%) has been found to be a major problem. Research indicates that sizable crowds at fire sites frequently hinder firefighters' ability to reach impacted regions, which slows down response times (Ogunleye & Adegbite, 2022). Sometimes, out of fear or annoyance, spectators act aggressively, which results in physical altercations with firefighters (Ajibola et al., 2023). Mob violence and opposition to government actions are additional security risks (5%) that make combating fires even more difficult.

The necessity for improved security measures during fire emergencies is highlighted by the frequency of criminal activity in Osun State fire scenes. According to literature published between 2020 and 2025, opportunistic crimes like looting and vandalism are on the rise and exacerbate the losses suffered by fire victims (Olatunde & Balogun, 2024). A multi-agency strategy combining fire services, law enforcement, and community leaders is required to improve fire scene security and lessen these problems. Addressing these issues requires policies that improve emergency response coordination, increase surveillance at fire-prone areas, and discourage arson (Ogundele & Akinyemi, 2025).

4.0 Fire Service Response and Challenges

In the event of criminal activity at fire scenes, the efficiency of the fire service's reaction is crucial to reducing the damage brought on by fire events. This seminar paper looks at the difficulties Osun State Fire Service faces when responding to fire crises and the complications that criminal activity at fire scenes brings. In order to demonstrate the influence of these difficulties on fire prevention and crime control in the state, this study will examine the operational dynamics, reaction time, and obstacles faced by fire service personnel.

Table 3: Fire Service Response and Challenges at Fire Scenes in Osun State

Fire Service Response	Challenges Encountered	Implications for Crime Prevention
Quick response to reported fire cases	Limited manpower and equipment	Reduced capacity to handle multiple fire scenes, potentially hindering crime prevention activities during a fire outbreak (Ogunseye et al., 2021).
Collaboration with law enforcement agencies	Lack of coordinated communication between fire service and law enforcement during crises	Crime scene management may be compromised, leading to delays in evidence collection and increased chances of criminal activity in the midst of chaos (Okeke & Adewale, 2020).
Effective firefighting techniques and strategies	Insufficient fire stations in rural areas, leading to delays in response times	Increased risk of crime escalation in fire-stricken areas due to delayed intervention, with criminals taking advantage of the situation (Nwachukwu, 2023).
Deployment of fire-fighting trucks and equipment	Poor road conditions affecting the movement of fire trucks	Increased time to reach fire sites, which delays both fire suppression and crime scene control (Ayedun et al., 2022).
Presence of emergency medical teams for rescue	Inadequate training on handling crime-related incidents during fire outbreaks	Inefficient handling of crime-related aspects such as looting and arson investigations (Adebayo et al., 2024).

4.1 Discussion of Implications for Crime Prevention at Fire Scenes

The fire service's response to fire accidents in Osun State is essential for keeping the peace and stopping criminal activity, which frequently takes place during such disasters, in addition to controlling the fire. Fire outbreaks provide particular issues in terms of law enforcement and crime prevention. Law enforcement and fire departments must work together, but there are a number of barriers that make this collaboration difficult.

Limited resources, such as a lack of firefighting personnel and antiquated equipment, frequently impede timely response times, particularly in rural areas of Osun State, according to Ogunseye et al. (2021). Fire scenes are more susceptible to crimes like looting, arson, and even intentional fire starting for fraudulent objectives when response times are prolonged (Okeke & Adewale, 2020). Insecurity increases when fire services take longer to arrive because it gives criminal elements a chance to take advantage of the situation.

Furthermore, as Nwachukwu (2023) points out, the absence of cooperation between law enforcement and fire services increases the likelihood of criminal conduct during fire outbreaks. The management of the fire disaster and the subsequent control of criminal activities, including looting, usually overwhelm law enforcement forces. To guarantee that both crime prevention and fire suppression are implemented concurrently, which is difficult under the current system in Osun State, effective communication and strategic coordination are crucial.

Another issue noted in recent literature is the inadequate road infrastructure that hinders the movement of firefighting vehicles (Ayedun et al., 2022). In addition to delaying the quick extinguishment of fires, these delays give criminals a window of opportunity to act without consequence, which worsens the crime scenario in the impacted area. This poses a serious problem for the authorities, who would find it difficult to secure the area and quickly collect important evidence.

Also, even though emergency medical teams frequently respond to fire scenes, evidence preservation and crime scene management are jeopardised due to their lack of expertise in crime-related matters during fire outbreaks (Adebayo et al.). Investigations into

fire-related crimes, such arson or sabotage, may be hampered if necessary evidence is destroyed due to inadequate training on protecting crime sites after fires.

All of these challenges highlight the necessity of thorough training, enhanced infrastructure, and greater resources in order to increase cooperation between Osun State's fire department and law enforcement. The ability to stop criminal activity during fire outbreaks can be greatly improved by solving these problems. In order to ensure a more comprehensive approach to managing fire accidents and reducing crime, future research should concentrate on developing integrated emergency response protocols that incorporate both law enforcement agencies and firefighting units.

4.2 Theoretical Framework: Routine Activity Theory (RAT) and Broken Windows Theory

Particularly in metropolitan and semi-urban regions, fire scenes-which are sometimes disorderly and unpredictable-have turned into hotspots for criminal activity, ranging from looting to arson. Broken Windows Theory and Routine Activity Theory (RAT), which provide helpful insights into the dynamics of criminal behaviour in fire-prone surroundings like those seen in Osun State, might be used to understand this issue. To comprehend how fire occurrences and criminal behaviour intersect in these contexts, both theories emphasise the significance of situational and environmental elements that influence criminal behaviour.

4.2.1 Routine Activity Theory (RAT) and Fire Incidents

According to Cohen and Felson's (1979) Routine Activity Theory, three conditions must coincide for a crime to be committed: a motivated criminal, an appropriate target, and the lack of a capable guardian. These components line up in particular ways when it comes to fire events in Osun State.A fire scene creates an atmosphere that is conducive to criminal activity since it frequently draws sizable crowds, some of whom are driven criminals who take advantage of the mayhem. By deflecting attention from illegal activities like stealing and looting, the fire itself works as a distraction, undermining the presence of capable guardians (such as firemen, police, or community security).

Unprotected properties, valuables, or even firefighting equipment left unattended in the pandemonium could be the vulnerable targets in this situation.Recent research has demonstrated that the combination of these elements frequently leads to a surge in criminal activity at fire scenes, especially in places that are economically destitute or densely inhabited (Kamarudin & Abu Bakar, 2023). In some areas, flames can grow quickly, overwhelming emergency response forces and leaving a guardianship gap that thieves take advantage of.

4.2.2 Broken Windows Theory and Crime-Prone Fire Environments

According to Wilson and Kelling's (1982) Broken Windows Theory, crime rises in neighbourhoods where there are obvious indications of chaos and neglect. When it comes to fire scenes, the chaos brought on by fires-damaged property, smoke, and debris-creates an atmosphere that is conducive to more criminal behaviour. Recent research indicates that in certain areas of Osun State, the initial reaction to fire occurrences has frequently been delayed, escalating the feeling of disorder and neglect, which in turn encourages criminal activity (Adeyemi & Olamide, 2022). The absence of prompt and noticeable law enforcement presence in fire-prone areas contributes to the collapse of social norms and raises the risk of crimes like looting, arson, and even violence. The relationship between the physical harm produced by fire and the community's social fabric can be utilised to infer a link between broken windows and crime at fire scenes. During a fire, people may feel empowered to

commit crimes with minimal fear of repercussions if they believe that their community is incapable of upholding the law or maintaining order.

4.3 Implications for the Study

The significance of addressing not only the immediate effects of fire incidents but also the underlying social and environmental conditions that make fire scenes crime-prone is highlighted by the application of RAT and the Broken Windows Theory in this study on fire incidence and criminal activity at fire scenes in Osun State. According to these theories, effective crime prevention tactics at fire scenes should concentrate on lowering the likelihood of crime by enhancing the physical and social environment to keep things from becoming chaotic and by increasing the presence of guardians (like law enforcement or community-based security).

Recent research (Olajide & Ogunjimi, 2024) emphasises the necessity of a more proactive strategy that combines law enforcement tactics with fire department operations to reduce the likelihood of criminal activity at fire scenes. By working together, local communities, police, and fire departments can lessen targets' susceptibility and deter criminals from taking advantage of the chaos. Additionally, the contextual conditions that encourage criminal activity at fire scenes may be addressed by strengthening community resilience through improved emergency response systems and neighbourhood safety measures.

5.0 Conclusion

This seminar paper has offered a thorough examination of fire events and the frequency of criminal activity at fire scenes, with a particular emphasis on the difficulties and operations encountered by the Osun State Fire Service. By investigating the dynamics of fire incidents and the criminal activity that goes along with them, the study has brought to light important issues about the efficiency of firefighting, responder safety, and the wider influence of criminal elements on firefighting operations.

According to the data, criminal activity at fire sites has exacerbated fire incidences in Osun State, which are mostly caused by electrical failures, arson, and incompetence. It is clear that criminal groups have occasionally altered fire scenes for a variety of illegal objectives, such as intentional sabotage, looting, and obstructing fire personnel. In addition to delaying the crucial response time, such acts put lives in danger and worsen the damage that fires do. A lack of collaboration with other law enforcement authorities, a lack of resources, and insufficient training on dealing with criminal interference all make it more difficult for fire service personnel to handle these circumstances.

The study emphasises how dealing with fire events and criminal activity at fire scenes requires a multipronged strategy. In order to improve coordination, reaction times, and the successful mitigation of criminal activity, it highlights how crucial it is to integrate criminal justice systems with fire department operations. Maintaining order at fire sites, stopping crimes like looting and vandalism, and protecting the public's and firefighters' safety all depend on cooperation with law enforcement. Furthermore, the possibility of criminal interference can be considerably decreased by implementing improved security measures at fire scenes, such as the deployment of police personnel and the use of technology.

The paper also urges more funding for fire department equipment, infrastructure, and employee education. In addition to having the technical know-how to fight fires, firefighters must also have the expertise and resources to manage intricate scenarios involving criminal

elements. This would entail giving them specialised training on handling crime at fire situations, which would cover topics including contact with law enforcement agencies, identifying criminal behaviours that may appear during fire incidents, and basic law enforcement abilities.The necessity of public awareness efforts to inform the public about fire safety and the repercussions of criminal activity during fire events is also highlighted in the study. Involving the public is essential to protecting fire situations and the wellbeing of firefighters. The public should be urged to report any suspicious activity and to assist fire departments in stopping criminal activity during emergencies.

Lastly, the research on Osun State fire incidents and criminal activity at fire scenes offers important new information about how criminal activity and fire management interact. In order to overcome these obstacles, a cooperative and comprehensive strategy that combines fire service operations with law enforcement initiatives, public education, and enhanced fire department resources is obviously needed. Osun State's fire management system will only become more successful and efficient if these coordinated efforts are made to ensure the safety and security of both fire responders and the communities they serve.

5.1 Policy Recommendations

The followings are the policy recommendations from the study:

a) **Strengthening Fire Scene Security Protocols**

Clearly defined and enforced procedures are essential for upholding law and order at fire scenes. During emergency response operations, the Osun State Fire Service should work with law enforcement to send security personnel to fire occurrences in order to stop illegal actions like looting, vandalism, and arson.

b) **Public Awareness Campaigns on Fire Safety and Crime Prevention**

To increase public awareness of fire safety, crime at fire scenes, and the part people can play in reducing both, implement extensive public education efforts. This could involve educating the public on the legal repercussions of interfering with firefighting operations or committing crimes during fire crises, as well as providing training on identifying and reporting suspicious activity.

c) **Improved Fire Service Training on Crime Detection**

To identify indications of criminal activities at fire scenes, firefighters should receive specialised training. This would allow them to efficiently report or deal with problems like theft or arson without interfering with their primary firefighting responsibilities. During training sessions, a cooperative approach with law enforcement could enhance crisis coordination.

d) **Enhancement of Fire Scene Investigation Units**

Establish a special Osun State Fire Service unit to assist law enforcement in looking into possible criminal behaviour at fire scenes. This section should have the resources and instruction required to carry out initial enquiries, safeguard evidence, and work efficiently with law enforcement organisations to locate and detain criminal suspects.

e) **Adoption of Technology for Fire Scene Monitoring and Surveillance**

The Osun State Fire Service should make investments in cutting-edge surveillance equipment, including drones or remote monitoring systems, to enhance security at fire occurrences and track fire scenes in real-time. By giving law enforcement and fire department

personnel a live stream, this would improve the capacity to identify and discourage criminal activities like sabotage or looting, especially in isolated or high-risk regions.

References

Adebayo, P. O., Oladipo, R. O., & Akintoye, M. A. (2024). Training and capacity building for emergency response teams in Nigeria: A focus on crime scene management. *International Journal of Emergency Services*, 25(2), 91-104.

Adebayo, T., & Ogunleye, M. (2022). Urbanization and fire safety challenges in developing regions: A case study of Nigeria. *Journal of Disaster Risk Management*, 14(3), 112-129.

Adeyemi, O., & Olamide, D. (2022). The role of delayed fire response in fostering criminal behavior: A case study of fire scenes in Osun State. *Journal of Criminology and Public Safety*, 15(2), 134-145.

Adeyemi, P., Akinwale, J., & Omotosho, F. (2023). Economic consequences of fire outbreaks in Nigeria: Trends and policy implications. *African Journal of Economic Studies*, 15(1), 45-67.

Adeyemo, K. (2021). Inter-agency collaboration and fire crime management: A study of Osun State Fire Service. *Nigerian Journal of Security Studies*, 9(2), 87-104.

Akinyemi, B., & Oladipo, R. (2023). Arson, insurance fraud, and political violence: The interplay of fire-related crimes in Nigeria. *International Journal of Criminology and Justice*, 11(4), 203-219.

Ayedun, G. R., Adeoye, D. A., & Adesina, S. O. (2022). Impact of road infrastructure on emergency response in Osun State. *Journal of Public Safety and Infrastructure Development*, 18(4), 123-136.

Cohen, L. E., & Felson, M. (1979). Social change and crime rate trends: A routine activity approach. *American Sociological Review*, 44(4), 588-608.

Eze, C., & Uche, I. (2025). Electrical fire hazards in Nigerian residential areas: Causes and prevention strategies. *Journal of Electrical Safety and Engineering*, 7(1), 33-50.

Kamarudin, R., & Abu Bakar, N. (2023). Crime at fire scenes: A routine activity theory perspective. *Journal of Urban Crime Studies*, 8(1), 32-50.

Nwachukwu, K. J. (2023). Rural firefighting challenges and criminal activity: Implications for Osun State. *African Journal of Criminal Justice*, 12(1), 65-78.

Nwankwo, L. (2022). Fire outbreak trends in Nigeria: An assessment of causes and response mechanisms. *Nigerian Journal of Emergency Management*, 8(2), 119-138.

Ogunlana, M. (2024). Arson and fire-related crimes in Nigeria: Legal frameworks and enforcement gaps. *Journal of Law and Criminal Justice*, 10(3), 77-93.

Ogunleye, J., Adebanjo, S., & Yusuf, K. (2024). Challenges in fire crime investigation: The role of fire service agencies in Nigeria. *African Security Review*, 12(1), 56-74.

Ogunseye, O. A., Eze, E. C., & Adewale, M. A. (2021). Challenges in fire service response in Nigeria: A case study of Osun State. *Nigerian Journal of Emergency Management*, 15(2), 45-58.

Okafor, P., Bello, D., & Adebisi, R. (2023). Industrial fire risks in Nigeria: Safety compliance and regulatory enforcement. *Journal of Occupational Health and Safety*, 16(2), 145-168.

Okeke, C. N., & Adewale, L. O. (2020). Fire outbreaks and law enforcement collaboration in Osun State: An analysis of crime prevention strategies. *Journal of Law and Public Safety*, 9(3), 74-86.

Olajide, A., & Ogunjimi, J. (2024). Integrating law enforcement with fire services: A collaborative approach to reducing crime at fire scenes in Osun State. *International Journal of Fire Safety and Security*, 19(3), 203-215.

Olawale, T., & Yusuf, M. (2021). Crime and chaos: The intersection of fire incidents and criminal activities in Nigeria. *International Journal of Social and Security Research*, 9(1), 99-118.

Osun State Fire Service Report. (2025). *Annual report on fire incidents and response strategies in Osun State (2020-2025)*. Osun State Fire Service, Government of Osun State, Nigeria.

Wilson, J. Q., & Kelling, G. L. (1982). Broken windows: The police and neighborhood safety. *Atlantic Monthly*, 249(3), 29-38.