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**Chadrad Communications, Inc.**  
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337  
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601  
E-mail: [kcsr@chadrad.com](mailto:kcsr@chadrad.com)

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**(Neb.)-Alliance Man Pleads Not Guilty To Charges In House Fire**

By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 01/24/2013 09:51 AM

(Alliance)-An Alliance man accused of setting on fire the house in which he resided has pleaded not guilty. According to KCOW Radio, 40-year-old Isaac Gonzalez is charged with felony third degree arson.

It is alleged that during the early morning hours of December 13, Gonzalez ignited a fire in the basement of the house, owned by Barry Harris. The fire caused a reported \$100,000 damage to the home and its contents. There were also young children living in the home at the time, but they were not in the residence during the fire. Donations were taken from the area for the children, as they lost all of their Christmas presents.

Alliance police discovered Gonzalez in the basement of the house the night of the fire, and pulled him through a window to escape the flames and smoke. Gonzalez was hospitalized in Scottsbluff and turned himself into police on January 8.

On Wednesday morning, Box Butte County District Court Judge Travis O’Gorman set a pre-trial hearing for April 1. Gonzalez is free after posting 10 percent of a \$25,000 bond.

(Story courtesy of KCOW, Alliance)