



**BELIZE**

**FIRE (NEGLIGENT USE OF) ACT  
CHAPTER 117**

**REVISED EDITION 2000**  
SHOWING THE LAW AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 2000

This is a revised edition of the law, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 1980 - 1990.

This edition contains a consolidation of the following laws-	Page
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<b>FIRE (NEGLIGENT USE OF) ACT</b>	4
Amendments in force as at 31st December, 2000.	



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**CHAPTER 117**

**FIRE (NEGLIGENT USE OF)**

**ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

1. Short title.
2. Interpretation.
3. Penalty for negligent use of fire.
4. *Prima facie* liability of occupier.
5. Power to make regulations, regulating, setting and management of fire.

**CHAPTER 89****FIRE (NEGLIGENT USE OF)**

[15th August, 1912]

Ch. 23,  
R.L., 1958.  
CAP. 89,  
R.E. 1980-1990.  
40 of 1963.  
Short title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Fire (Negligent use of) Act.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, “occupier” means the person having the immediate charge of any land or place.

Penalty for  
negligent use of  
fire.

3. Every occupier or other person who-

- (a) sets any fire in or upon any land or place; or
- (b) negligently, carelessly or improperly uses or manages any fire in or upon any land or place; or
- (c) permits or allows the negligent, careless or improper use or management of any fire, in or upon any land or place; or
- (d) uses or carries any lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette, torch or other matter or thing in a state of ignition, not sufficiently guarded or enclosed to prevent danger from fire, whereby danger results or may result to any land, forest, wood, cultivated or uncultivated tree, plant or other produce of the soil, or any building, engine, carriage, train, railway line, fence or other property of whatever nature or kind,

is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and term of imprisonment.

4. The occupier shall be deemed to be *prima facie* liable for the setting or negligent, careless or improper use or management of any fire in or upon any land or place.

*Prima facie*  
liability of  
occupier.

5. The Minister may from time to time make regulations of general application, or confined to specified local areas, to regulate the burning of land for cultivation, and the use or management of fire in contravention of any such regulations shall be deemed to be negligent use or management within the meaning of section 3.

Power to make  
regulations,  
regulating,  
setting and  
management of  
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40 of 1963.