



## FIRE DAMAGES HIGH-RISE OFFICE BUILDING

Background	<p>A fire in a high-rise office building in Wilmington, Delaware, caused extensive smoke damage to the top 12 floors of the building and extensive water damage to the lower 12 floors of the building. A week-long arson investigation prevented the owner from sending in drying crews until it was too late to prevent mold growth.</p>
Our Approach	<p>Patrick Rafferty was called to the scene to assist the owner in identifying water impact areas and determining what could be done to prevent or remediate mold growth. His investigation included verification of water impact maps, determining appropriate methods of addressing water damage and mold growth for each material type, collection of photographic and microbiologic documentation of conditions in the building.</p> <p>Water impact and mold growth were found in wall and ceiling cavities using boroscopes; moisture meters were used to assess water impact on other materials. This information was used to prepare mold remediation specifications and documentation for an insurance claim.</p>
Benefits and Added Value	<p>Mr. Rafferty's knowledge of microbiology and building systems provided needed expertise to the recovery team in terms of water damage and mold growth. He worked with other environmental and building specialists to develop workplans, specifications and project documentation.</p> <p>Our work provided the owner with the knowledge and technology to move the project forward and restore the building to its pre-fire condition.</p>