



# News Release

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
CODE ENFORCEMENT AND BUILDING SAFETY  
Department of Public Safety and Corrections  
Public Safety Services  
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Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.lasfm.org](http://www.lasfm.org)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**RELEASE NUMBER:**

**DATE: May 28, 2013**

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## Morning Fire Claims Three Lives in Lake Charles

**LAKE CHARLES** - State Fire Marshal Investigators and Lake Charles officials are on the scene of a fatal fire that occurred this morning in Lake Charles, claiming the lives of a mother and her two children.

Lake Charles firefighters were dispatched to 2913 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue just after 7:00am to find heavy smoke billowing from a single story duplex apartment building. After the fire was brought under control, the bodies 29 year old Nina Williams and her two sons, 4 year old Darion Williams and 2 year old Mikoh Williams, were discovered. The three were together in a bedroom remote from the living room where the fire is believed to have originated. Windows in the bedroom where the bodies were discovered were determined to have been painted and nailed shut.

Through investigation it was learned Nina Williams made the 911 call alerting emergency services to the fire in her home. She could be heard coughing uncontrollably before the 911 call ended. Preliminary findings are that the three died as a result of high levels of carbon monoxide associated with smoke inhalation.

State Fire Marshal Investigators are assisting Lake Charles authorities with identifying the cause of this fire. At this time the cause is being classified as undetermined, but the investigation continues. The home was not equipped with functional smoke alarms at the time of the fire.

Fire Marshal Browning urges all Louisiana citizens to ensure their homes are equipped with at least one smoke alarm and that the smoke alarm is tested frequently to ensure it is functioning properly.

Those citizens needing assistance in the purchase or installation of smoke alarms should visit the State Fire Marshal's Office website at: [lasfm.org](http://lasfm.org) and click on "**Operation Save A Life**". There you will find a "Smoke Detector Application and Installation" form to complete and submit online.

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