

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## **OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

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## **Early Morning Fire Claims Lives of Mamou Couple**

**Mamou, LA –** State Fire Marshal investigators are continuing to examine the circumstances surrounding a fire that claimed the lives of a husband and wife early Saturday morning in Mamou.

Investigators were summoned after firefighters responded to a report of a residential structure fire that occurred at 418 Birch Street shortly after 2:00 a.m. Saturday. During suppression efforts, firefighters located the bodies of 55-year-old Regina LeJeune and her husband Michael LeJeune, 57, in a bedroom within the wood-framed, brick veneer home.

After being examined by investigators, the bodies of both victims were released to the Evangeline Parish Coroner for autopsy.

Investigators learned that the couple was observed barbequing under the carport earlier Friday evening. The fire was later reported by neighbors after they noticed smoke and flames emanating from the carport area.

The fire inflicted significant damage to the home, causing the collapse of portions of the structure.

While no official cause of the fire has been determined, investigators established that the fire originated in the area of the carport. Investigators also determined there were no working smoke alarms in the home at the time of the fire.

The investigation into the deadly fire continues.

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