

# **NEWS RELEASE**

#### OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections • Public Safety Services
8181 Independence Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70806
www.lasfm.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONTACT:** Chief Deputy Brant Thompson

**DATE:** April 12, 2017

**PHONE:** 225-247-6251

## One Dead in Ville Platte House Fire

**Ville Platte, LA** – State Fire Marshal investigators are looking into whether unattended cooking may have led to a house fire where a man's body was recovered late Tuesday night.

Investigators were dispatched to 1314 Dr. Martin Luther King Drive, in Ville Platte, after fire crews responded to a report of a residential structure fire just after 10:00 p.m. Tuesday. While conducting suppression efforts, firefighters discovered the body of 55-year-old Jessie Bias in the living room of the wood-framed structure, which suffered heavy interior damage as a result of the fire.

After being examined by investigators, the victim's body was released to the Evangeline Parish Coroner for autopsy.

While no official determination has been made as to what caused the fire, investigators have established that the fire originated on the stove in the kitchen where melted remnants of a cooking pot were discovered.

The investigation into the fire continues.

END - END - END

OSFM-NEWSREL (5/16) Page 1 of 1

#### Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal

### **NEWS RELEASE - ADDENDUM**

### Ville Platte Fatal Fire - April 11, 2017



Photo courtesy of the Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal

1904