

News Release OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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Elderly Man Dies in Anacoco House Fire

Anacoco, **LA** – Late Monday, State Fire Marshal investigators were called upon to investigate the cause of a fire that claimed the life of an 88 year old man.

Just after 9:30 p.m. Monday, Anacoco and Sundown firefighters were dispatched to 192 Watkins Road after a call was made to 911. Upon their arrival, firefighters found the residential structure fully involved in fire.

After extinguishing the blaze, firefighters located the body of 88 year old Donald Beebe in the master bedroom of the residence. Beebe lived at the residence along with his wife, who was away from the home at the time of the fire.

Investigators determined that the fire originated in the living room which was located in the center portion of the residence. Investigators learned from Beebe's wife that earlier in the evening the residence lost electrical service due to a passing weather system and that candles were being used for lighting in that area of the home. While the exact cause of the fire has not been determined, investigators were unable to rule out burning candles as a possible cause of the fire.

The victim's body was processed on the scene by investigators and released to the Vernon Parish Coroner's Office for autopsy. Investigators await the findings of that autopsy which will conclusively determine the cause and manner of death.

This investigation remains active.

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