Home Severely Damaged in Early Morning Fire; One Dead

Roseland, LA – State Fire Marshal investigators are currently on the scene of a fire that claimed one life and severely damaged a residence. Authorities were alerted to the fire at 12582 Tangipahoa Avenue in the community of Roseland just after 4:00 a.m. this morning.

Upon arrival, firefighters of the Roseland Volunteer Fire Department and the Amite Fire Department, respectively, found the small two-bedroom wood frame house venting flames from the rear, south side, of the home.

After the fire was extinguished, firefighters entered the structure and found the body of 60 year-old Woodrow H. Ford, Jr. on a recliner which was located in a bedroom adjacent to the kitchen. The Tangipahoa Parish Coroner’s Office later arrived and pronounced Ford dead. An autopsy, scheduled for tomorrow morning, will definitively determine the cause and manner of Ford’s death.

While investigators remain on scene sifting through the fire debris in order to determine the cause of the fire, it is believed that the fire originated in the area of the kitchen. The investigation has also included interviews with neighbors and family members.

Investigators determined that the home was not equipped with working smoke alarms.
North view of 12582 Tangipahoa Avenue; Roseland, LA (12/10/14).
South view of 12582 Tangipahoa Avenue (12/10/14).
East, south end, view of 12582 Tangipahoa Avenue (12/10/14).
Office of State Fire Marshal investigators sifting through damage (12582 Tangipahoa Avenue; 12/10/14).