



# NEWS RELEASE

## OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Ashley Rodrigue  
Public Affairs Director

**DATE:** 3/3/20

**PHONE:** 225-620-5115  
[ashley.rodrigue@la.gov](mailto:ashley.rodrigue@la.gov)

### **State Fire Marshal Updates Angola Maintenance Warehouse Fire Investigation**

**WEST FELICIANA PARISH-** State Fire Marshal (SFM) deputies have concluded their investigation into a fire at a maintenance warehouse at Louisiana State Penitentiary, also known as Angola Prison.

On Friday, February 28, around 5:30 p.m., the Angola fire response team responded to the prison's maintenance warehouse after fire was noticed by an employee in another building. The team later requested the assistance of the SFM in determining the origin and cause of the fire.

After an assessment of the scene, SFM investigators determined the likely origin of the fire was in the middle of the structure where plumbing work was usually conducted. While deputies were unable to determine an exact cause, they did find evidence of electrical malfunction inside of the main electrical panel for the building.

State Fire Marshal Chief H. "Butch" Browning not only wants to commend Angola's fire team for their efforts to fight this very large fire, but also for the mutual aid efforts of the volunteer fire departments in the areas surrounding the prison property.

"This is what the fire service is all about- team work," he said, "In addition, this is what true dedication to safety looks like because those who responded to this fire wear many hats in their roles at Angola and volunteer firefighter, which can be tough but rewarding, is one of them."

"We are very appreciative of our partners in the West Feliciana Fire Protection and the St. Francisville Fire Department for their assistance in fighting this huge fire," said Secretary Jimmy Le Blanc, Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections. "I'd also like to thank State Fire Marshal Butch Browning and his staff for their thorough investigation of this incident."

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