



News Release

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections
Public Safety Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Rips Through Vinton Home, Killing Owner

Vinton, LA – State Fire Marshal investigators are continuing to look into the circumstances surrounding an afternoon fire that claimed the life of a 65 year-old Vinton woman.

Investigators responded to a manufactured home fire that occurred at approximately 3:30 p.m., Tuesday, in a mobile home park located at 1201 Hwy 90 East in Vinton.

Upon entry into the home, which was severely damaged by the blaze, firefighters located the lifeless body of the homeowner, Susan Deconge, in a room near the center of the home. After being examined by investigators, Deconge's body was released to the Calcasieu Parish Coroner for autopsy.

While no determination as to the cause of the fire has been made at this time, investigators established that the fire originated in the room where the victim's body was found.

Investigators were informed by a neighbor that Deconge was observed outside of the structure prior to the fire and was alerted about the fire by the neighbor. Deconge, according to the neighbor, then entered the home in an apparent attempt to extinguish the fire.

The neighbor told investigators that while attempting to follow Deconge through the front door, he was overwhelmed by a large amount of smoke coming from the interior of the home. He then ran to the opposite side of the structure where he broke a window in a futile bid at creating an escape for Deconge.

The State Fire Marshal's Office strongly recommends that citizens never enter a burning structure in order to extinguish a fire.

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News Release – Addendum (Vinton Fatal Fire; 9/8/15)



Photograph provided by the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office



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