



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Apartment Fire Claims the Lives of a Mother and Child

IBERVILLE PARISH (September 1, 2026) – A 22-year-old Maringouin woman and her child died in an apartment fire Monday morning.

The Maringouin Fire Department responded to an apartment fire in the 77000 block of Ridgewood Road in Maringouin around 6:30 a.m. August 31, 2026.

State Fire Marshal investigators determined the fire originated in the kitchen area on the first floor of the unit. The apartment had a smoke alarm. However, investigators have been unable to determine whether it was working at the time of the fire. The exact cause of the fire remains under investigation.

"There is no way to lessen the heartbreak of a mother and child losing their lives in a fire like this, but we can use this tragedy to remind everyone of the importance of having working smoke alarms in their homes," said State Fire Marshal, Chief Chad P. Sonnier. "A working smoke alarm provides the early warning families need to recognize a fire and get out quickly. We urge everyone to make sure they have working smoke alarms, test them every month and make sure every member of the household knows two ways out in the event of a fire."

Through the SFM's Operation Save-A-Life program, residents are eligible to receive free smoke alarms along with professional installation to ensure they are working correctly.

For more information about fire safety or to request a free smoke alarm installation, residents are encouraged to contact their local fire department or visit lasfm.org.

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