

News Release

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety and Corrections Public Safety Services

> 8181 Independence Blvd. Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.lasfm.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE RELEASE NUMBER: DATE: January 11, 2014 CONTACT:Deputy Chief Brant ThompsonOFFICE:225-925-4911CELL:225-247-6251EMAIL:Brant.thompson@la.gov

Early Morning House Fire Claims Two Lives in Keithville

Keithville, LA – An early morning house fire claimed two lives in the southern Caddo Parish community of Keithville. State Fire Marshal investigators along with local authorities are currently investigating the cause of this deadly blaze.

Just before 4:00 a.m. Saturday, firefighters and law enforcement authorities were dispatched to the residence located at 11804 Sparks-Davis Road. Upon arriving at the scene, officials observed heavy smoke and flames emanating from the single-wide mobile home. After extinguishing the blaze, firefighters located the bodies of two individuals among the charred remains of the structure. State Fire Marshal investigators were called upon to investigate the cause and circumstances of this deadly fire.

Investigators determined the fire to have originated in the living room of the two bedroom structure at or near a sofa within that room. The fire caused extensive damage to the entire structure, with only a small area of the vertical structure remaining intact. The bodies of the two victims, 46 year old Henry Patton, Jr. and 47 year old Tina Lavergne were recovered from two separate bedrooms within the residence. Both appeared to have been sleeping when the fire started.

Patton had lived in the mobile home, which was situated behind his parent's home, for approximately four months. Prior to Patton moving-in, the home sat unoccupied for an extended period of time. Lavergne, who was an old high school friend of Patton's, was visiting for the weekend. There was no evidence of operable smoke alarms within the residence.

The bodies of the victims were released to the Caddo Parish Coroner for autopsy. The investigation remains active.

- - - END END END - - -