



# 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:** Ken Pastorick  
Public Affairs Director

**DATE:** 3/23/26

**PHONE:** 225-406-8153  
[ken.pastorick3@la.gov](mailto:ken.pastorick3@la.gov)

### **Livingston Parish Woman Dies in Apartment Fire/Smoke Alarms Save Neighbors**

**LIVINGSTON PARISH (March 23, 2026)** – The Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal (SFM) is investigating a fire that claimed the life of a Springfield woman.

The Springfield Fire Department responded to an apartment fire around 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 22, 2026, in the 25000 block of Blood River Road in Springfield. A 68-year-old woman died as a result of the fire.

Preliminary findings from SFM investigators indicate the fire began in the living room. The exact cause remains under investigation. However, improperly disposed smoking materials or batteries could not be ruled out. The apartment and neighboring units had working smoke alarms, which allowed neighbors to escape unharmed.

SFM officials are using this tragedy to underscore the critical importance of safe smoking.

“Smoking materials remain one of the leading causes of fatal residential fires,” said DPS Principal Assistant, Chief Bryan J Adams. “Residents can reduce their risk by smoking outdoors, using deep, sturdy ashtrays, and avoiding smoking in bed or while drowsy. Always fully extinguish cigarettes with water or sand, never smoke near medical oxygen, and keep matches and lighters out of children’s reach.”

In addition, officials stress that properly installed smoke alarms provide the early warning needed to escape safely, and many fire deaths can be prevented with this simple device. And if your home is on fire, get out and stay out and don’t try to extinguish the fire on your own. The SFM’s Operation Save-A-Life program, provides residents with free smoke alarms and installation to help ensure every household has this essential protection.

For more information about fire safety or to request a free smoke alarm and installation through the Operation Save-A-Life program, contact your local fire department or visit [lasfm.org](http://lasfm.org).

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