



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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State Fire Marshal Deputies Charged a Man Who Destroyed a Vacant Home

IBERIA PARISH- State Fire Marshal Deputies (SFM) have arrested a Franklin, Louisiana man for setting a fire that destroyed a vacant New Iberia home.

State Fire Marshal Deputies booked Jessie Collson (36) into the Iberia Parish Jail on one count each of Aggravated Arson and Criminal Trespass for the fire.

The New Iberia Fire Department responded shortly before 6 a.m., Monday, April 14, 2025, to a reported fire at 1703 Juanita Street in New Iberia. When they arrived, the abandoned house was fully engulfed in flames.

State Fire Marshal Deputies determined Collson was living in a lean-to that was against the back of the house. The investigation revealed that Collson started a fire inside the lean-to, and it got out of control and spread to the home, destroying both structures.

The Fire Marshal's Office would like to thank the New Iberia Police Department and Fire Department for their assistance in this case.

This investigation is ongoing. Any information about this case, or any fire-related crime, can be shared with the SFM by calling our Arson Hotline at 1-844-954-1221 or by submitting an online tip form on lasfm.org. All information can be shared anonymously.

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