



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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Residential Fire Claims the Life of a Westlake Infant

CALCASIEU PARISH (July 27, 2026) – The Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal (SFM) is investigating a residential fire that claimed the life of an infant in Westlake.

The Westlake Fire Department responded to a mobile home fire around 1:30 a.m. Sunday, July 26, 2026, in the 3200 block of Westwood Road. A Westlake couple and their toddler escaped the fire. Unfortunately, their infant died in the fire.

Preliminary findings from SFM investigators indicate the fire originated in the living room/kitchen area. The exact cause remains under investigation, though investigators have been unable to rule out an electrical fire.

Officials confirmed the home had working smoke alarms at the time of the fire, which alerted the family and allowed three individuals to escape and survive.

"This is a heartbreaking reminder that fires can turn deadly in a matter of minutes," said DPS Principal Assistant, Chief Bryan J Adams. "In this case, working smoke alarms alerted the family to the fire and gave them critical time to escape. Sadly, despite those efforts, an infant lost their life. We strongly urge every household to install and maintain working smoke alarms on every level of the home and inside sleeping areas."

Through the SFM's Operation Save-A-Life program, residents can receive free smoke alarms and professional installation to help ensure they are protected.

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. Residents of Westlake and Ward 4 Fire District 3 can contact the Westlake Fire Department, which provides and installs free smoke alarms in partnership with the SFM and Operation Save-A-Life.

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