

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Marshal Deputies Make Arrest in Nearly Year Old Franklin Car Fire

ST. MARY PARISH (July 1, 2025) – State Fire Marshal (SFM) investigators made an arrest in a nearly year-old St. Mary Parish vehicle fire. On Friday, June 27, 2025, SFM deputies charged 22-year-old Jamerie T. Gash of Morgan City with several crimes including Criminal Conspiracy and Arson With Intent to Defraud for his part in setting a vehicle on fire in a Franklin cane field.

On July 13, 2024, around 11:30 p.m., the Franklin Fire Department responded to a vehicle fire off of Yokely Road in a cane field. The vehicle had been reported stolen from a Walmart, less than two miles away.

Following a request for SFM deputies to investigate the fire, SFM determined the fire was intentionally set. Through the investigation, Gash was identified as the suspect.

Anyone with information regarding any suspected arson case is asked to submit tips through our Arson Hotline at 1-844-954-1221 or online at <u>lasfm.org</u>. All tips can be submitted anonymously.

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