

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections • Public Safety Services 8181 Independence Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70806

www.lasfm.org

PHONE:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Public Affairs Division

DATE: 7/3/25

225-406-8153 osfm.publicaffairs@la.gov

Investigators Arrest a Fugitive Wanted For a Caddo Fire

CADDO PARISH (July 3, 2025) – State Fire Marshal (SFM) deputies have extradited from Texas a Caddo Parish fugitive wanted for an arson that took place more than three years ago. SFM investigators have arrested and charged 42-year-old Termekia Montgomery with Simple Arson and Insurance Fraud.

"I am immensely proud of our team's dedication and the unwavering focus they demonstrate every day," said DPS Principal Assistant Bryan J. Adams. "Their perseverance over the years to achieve this arrest is a testament to their commitment and resilience. As we continue to build on our successes, I am confident that our team will only grow more effective and accomplished in the future. We are one team!"

A SFM investigation determined that on January 5, 2022, Montgomery set fire to the mobile home she rented in the 3300 block of Lacobee Road in Keithville. At 6 p.m. on that day, Caddo Fire District 5 responded to the mobile home fire.

A few weeks later, the insurance company began its own investigation, and then requested the SFM investigate the fire for suspected arson. A SFM investigation determined the fire was intentionally set, and identified Montgomery as the suspect. Following its investigation, the SFM obtained arrest warrants for Montgomery.

On June 15, 2025, Texas authorities in Harris County arrested Montgomery on unrelated charges and discovered she was wanted by the SFM. On Tuesday, SFM deputies transported her back to Caddo Parish to face charges in Louisiana for the Keithville arson.

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

-END-END-END-END-