



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Investigators Make Second Arrest in Insurance Fraud Investigation

CALDWELL PARISH (September 11, 2026) – Louisiana State Fire Marshal (SFM) investigators yesterday arrested 39-year-old Kandi Barnett of Columbia in connection to an insurance fraud scheme involving a residential fire in Columbia in June. She is charged with one count of Insurance Fraud.

Barnett is the second person implicated in the crime. Last month, on August 24, 2026, SFM investigators arrested 64-year-old Cynthia Lisenby of Columbia and charged her with one count of Insurance Fraud. Investigators determined Barnett and Lisenby were part of an insurance fraud scheme in connection with the house fire.

The investigation began after the Hebert Fire Department requested assistance from the SFM Fire Investigations Unit following a house fire in the 1700 block of Templeton Bend Road in Columbia.

At approximately 4:30 a.m. on June 22, 2026, the Hebert Fire Department responded to a fire that ultimately destroyed the house.

The Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office reminds the public that anyone with information regarding fire-related crimes is encouraged to submit an anonymous tip by visiting lasfm.org and selecting the "Arson Fires" icon.

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