



# News Release

Office of the Louisiana State Fire Marshal  
8181 Independence Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT: MARSHAL BUTCH BROWNING**  
**225-925-4911**  
**1-800-256-5452**  
**225-806-0803 (cell)**

## **Renter Arrested in Maurice Fire**

Maurice LA, State Fire Marshal H. "Butch" Browning released today, information in reference to the arrest of a woman for committing arson to her rental home that she was recently evicted from.

The Maurice Volunteer Fire Department responded on February 14, 2011 to a report that a residence located at 131 Chargois Street was on fire. Firefighters arrived minutes later to discover that the home was totally involved in flames. The fire was quickly extinguished and no injuries were reported. It is estimated that in excess of \$50,000 in damage occurred to this home.

The Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office was called to investigate this fire. Investigators determined that this fire was intentionally set, ordinary combustibles were used in the commission of this crime. An arrest warrant was obtained for Michele E. St. Julien (DOB. 4-20-73). She has been charged with simple arson and is being held on a \$40,000 bond at the Vermillion Parish Jail. Mrs. St. Julien was recently evicted from this building weeks before the fire and this is believed to be her motive for allegedly setting this fire.

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