



News Release

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

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.lasfm.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE NUMBER: 99002
DATE: September 22, 2011

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

Severe Storms Cause Assumption Parish Truck Stop Fire

Belle Rose, LA- The State Fire Marshal's Office reports, that this afternoon, a severe storm caused a tragic fire at the the Gator Stop Super Truck Stop and Casino located in Assumption Parish.

The Paincourtville and Pierre Part Volunteer Fire Departments were dispatched at 4:14pm this afternoon, to 1230 Hwy 70 to a report that the café portion of the building was on fire, at this address. Firefighters quickly arrived to discover a very extensive fire in the building that was extending to the convenience store and casino portions of the truck stop. It took first responders nearly 30 minutes to control the blaze.

The State Fire Marshal's Office responded to investigate the cause of this serious fire. Witnesses informed Investigators that a very heavy rain with lighting storms had been active for over 5 minutes. They heard a loud "boom" in the building; shortly after this they discovered the attic was on fire. Preliminary findings confirm that this fire was caused by natural causes as a result of lighting. Damage assessments are believed to be over 1 million dollars. There were no injuries reported.

- - - END END END - - -