



News Release

Office of the Louisiana State Fire Marshal
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State Fire Marshal Investigates Arson Fire Set at Church

Abita Springs, LA- The State Fire Marshal's Office is currently investigating a fire that has been ruled intentional at a church in Abita Springs. The fire was quickly extinguished by firefighters but not before causing serious damage.

The Abita Springs Fire Department responded shortly before noon today to the New Hope Baptist Church located at 22216 9th Street for a report that the building was on fire. Firefighters arrived and found that the sanctuary was on fire and was able to control the fire within minutes. The fire has been ruled to be the result of a burglary and arson. The State Fire Marshal's Office and St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office are jointly investigating this fire. Anyone having information as to the persons responsible for this crime can report information anonymously to the Arson Hot Line at 866-946-1097.

State Fire Marshal H. "Butch" Browning stated, "We are working on some leads based on evidence that has been collected and we urge people with information to come forward now and do the right thing".



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