



News Release

Office of the Louisiana State Fire Marshal
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.lasfm.org

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Residential Fire Claims Life of Hammond Woman

Tangipahoa Parish- This morning at approximately 6:45 am, firefighters from the Hammond Fire Department responded to a mobile home fire at 19174 Lincoln Lane which resulted in the death of the 51 year old resident, Sonya Richardson.

Upon extinguishing the blaze, first responders discovered the remains of Richardson located in her bedroom. Further investigation by the State Fire Marshal's Office, Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office, and the Hammond Fire Department identified the suspected origin of the fire to be located in the home's kitchen near the cook top and exhaust system. While the investigation remains ongoing, no evidence of arson or criminal activity has been found at the scene.

The Tangipahoa Parish Coroner's Office has scheduled an autopsy to determine the exact cause of death for the deceased resident and positively identify the remains to be Richardson.

Investigators determined the mobile home was equipped with smoke alarms; however, were unable to determine if the alarms were functional at the time of the fire. State Fire Marshal Butch Browning urges all Louisiana citizens to frequently test their home's smoke alarms to ensure they are functioning properly.

Those citizens needing assistance in the purchase or installation of smoke alarms should visit the State Fire Marshal's Office web site at: lasfm.org and click on "Operation Save a Life". There you will find a "Smoke Detector Application and Installation" form to complete and submit online.

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