



News Release

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL CODE ENFORCEMENT AND BUILDING SAFETY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE NUMBER:
DATE: October 03, 2013

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EARLY EVENING FIRE CLAIMS LIFE OF DELHI MAN

Delhi, LA - Early evening Wednesday State Fire Marshal investigators responded to a residential structure fire in the Town of Delhi, which claimed the life of the homeowner's son and sole occupant at the time of the fire.

Just before 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, Delhi Police and firefighters were dispatched to a residential structure fire at 707 Kentucky Street. Upon their arrival, officials noted thick smoke venting from the front of the single story, wood-frame home. After gaining entry, and extinguishing the smoldering fire, it was determined that the home's sole occupant had not escaped the blaze. Delhi officials requested assistance from the State Fire Marshal's Office to determine the origin and cause of the deadly fire.

Investigators recovered the body of 59 year old Donald Fuller in the living room of the three-bedroom home. The fire was determined to have originated on a couch within that room, with the majority of the fire damage being confined to that area of the residence. The remainder of the home sustained heavy smoke and soot damage. No neighboring properties were affected by the fire.

Investigators identified no suspicious circumstances associated with the fire and noted the presence of smoking materials in and around the area of the fire's origin. While investigators have yet to determine the exact cause of the fire, evidence of unsafe smoking practices were prevalent throughout the home.

Fuller's remains were examined by investigators and then released to the Richland Parish Coroner's Office for an autopsy. The autopsy will be performed in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Investigators await the findings of the autopsy which will definitively determine the cause of death. The case remains under investigation at this time.

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