



News Release

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Man Dies in Hammond House Fire

Hammond, LA – Late Friday, State Fire Marshal investigators were called upon to assist local officials with determining the cause of a fire that claimed the life of a 74 year old Hammond resident. That investigation continues today.

Just before 8:30 p.m. Friday, Hammond firefighters were dispatched to 508 Phoenix Square after a neighbor discovered the fire and called 911. Upon their arrival, firefighters found the single-story wood frame structure fully involved in fire. Smoke and flames were observed venting through windows and other small openings around the home.

After extinguishing the blaze, firefighters located the body of 74 year old Nathaniel Kelly, Sr. in a bedroom in the southeast corner of the residence. Kelly, who was the owner of the property, lived alone.

Investigators determined that the fire originated in a hallway near the center of the residence. Several possible heat sources were identified in and around the area where the fire is believed to have originated. The exact cause of the fire has yet to be determined.

The victim's body was processed on the scene by investigators and released to the Tangipahoa Parish Coroner's Office for autopsy. Investigators will attend the autopsy procedure which is scheduled to take place early today. Investigators await the findings of that autopsy which will conclusively determine the cause and manner of death.

State Fire Marshal investigators, along with Hammond officials, continue the investigation into this deadly blaze.

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