



# News Release

## OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections  
Public Safety Services

8181 Independence Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Deputy Chief Brant Thompson**

**Release#:**

**Office: 225-925-4604**

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**Cell: 225-247-6251**

## Lake Providence Woman, 63, Dies in House Fire

**Lake Providence, LA** – Early Friday, State Fire Marshal investigators were dispatched to the Town of Lake Providence to investigate the circumstances of a deadly fire that destroyed a home and claimed the life of a 63-year-old resident.

Just after 3:30 a.m., Lake Providence firefighters responded to a residential structure fire at 504 Ransdell Avenue. Despite fervent suppression efforts, the single-story, wood-framed home was completely destroyed by fire.

Investigators located the body of Carrie Bell Phoenix lying in an open passageway between the kitchen and dining room area of the home. The body was processed on the scene by investigators and released to the East Carroll Parish Coroner for autopsy.

The victim shared the residence with her 45-year-old special needs daughter, Carrie Terrell Phoenix, who was able to escape the home unharmed. Carrie Terrell Phoenix told investigators that she alerted her mother to the fire, but that her mother had remained behind in an attempt to extinguish the fire.

Investigators determined that the fire originated in the rear bedroom of the home. Among the charred debris in that bedroom, investigators discovered an electric space heater which was determined to be in use at the time of the fire.

While the official cause remains undetermined, investigators believe that the space heater played a role in the fire, as combustible items were found in proximity to the heater. The investigation remains active.

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# LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

## News Release – Addendum (Lake Providence Fire; 3/6/15)



Photograph provided by the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office