



News Release

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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Public Safety Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Husband & Wife Die In Caddo Parish Fire

Autopsy to be conducted to determine cause of deaths

Shreveport, LA – State Fire Marshal investigators are currently analyzing the circumstances surrounding a residential structure fire that heavily damaged a home and claimed the lives of the homeowners.

Caddo Fire District 1 firefighters were dispatched to the 8923 Parkhaven Place in Shreveport, shortly after 2:00 a.m., Monday. Upon their arrival, a significant portion of the single-wide, manufactured home was engulfed in flames.

After entry was made into the structure by firefighters, the body of Richard Fowler, 53, was removed after being found on the living room floor. Firefighters also located and removed the body of Wanda Fowler, 54, which was found lying in the doorway of the master bedroom.

Attempts at resuscitation were unsuccessful and the couple was pronounced dead at the scene. After the bodies were examined by investigators, they were released to the Caddo Parish Coroner for autopsy.

While no determination has been made as to the cause of the fire, investigators have determined that the fire originated in the master bedroom. Investigators were informed by relatives that Richard and Wanda were heavy smokers who suffered from COPD, with Wanda Fowler being restricted to the use of continuous oxygen supply.

Investigators also discovered that the home was equipped with smoke alarms, but due to the amount of heat damage inflicted on the devices, it is unknown as to whether the couple was alerted regarding the fire.

The status of the investigation is active.

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