



News Release

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections
Public Safety Services

8181 Independence Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.lasfm.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Deputy Chief Brant Thompson

Release#:

Office: 225-925-4604

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Cell: 225-247-6251

Pineville Man Dies in Fire

Pineville, LA – Investigators of the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office responded to a residential structure fire that claimed the life of a Pineville man early Saturday morning.

The Pineville Fire Department was dispatched to 930 Main Street just before 4:00 a.m., where firefighters found flames emanating from a wood-frame, quadplex apartment structure. Because of the probability that at least one (1) resident may have been in the structure at the time, the services of State Fire Marshal investigators were requested.

Shortly after the arrival of investigators, firefighters discovered the body of resident Robert Rivers, 68, in the charred ruins. Rivers lived in one of the apartments in the northwest quadrant of the structure, which was effectively destroyed by the fire.

After being thoroughly examined by investigators, Rivers' body was later released to the Rapides Parish Coroner for autopsy. In addition, family members informed investigators that Rivers, who was physically-handicapped, had been battling illness for a prolonged period of time.

Initial findings by investigators indicate that the fire originated in the south end of the structure between two (2) of the units, one of which was vacant at the time of the fire. Investigators are still in the process of making a determination as to the cause of the fire, being unable to exclude a utilities-related incident.

The investigation into this deadly fire is active and continuing.

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News Release – Addendum (Pineville Fire; 4/4/15)



Photograph provided by the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office



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