



News Release

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections
Public Safety Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release#:

Date: January 25, 2016

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Man, 66, Perishes in Logansport Fire

Logansport, LA – State Fire Marshal investigators are examining the scene of a deadly overnight fire in Logansport that claimed the life of a 66-year-old man. Overloaded electrical components, including extension cords, are the suspected cause of the blaze.

Desoto Parish fire crews responded to a structure fire involving a double-wide manufactured home located at 579 Wood Springs Road, in the Logansport community shortly after 1:00 a.m. Monday.

During suppression efforts firefighters found the body of the homeowner, Jerry West, Sr., 66, on the ground beneath the kitchen area of the residence, where the floor had been eroded away by the fire.

The discovery of the severely-burned body prompted officials to request assistance from the State Fire Marshal's Office. After an initial examination by investigators, West's body was transported to LSU Medical Center in Shreveport for autopsy. Preliminary indications are that West died as a result of smoke inhalation.

While the official cause of the fire remains undetermined, investigators suspect that an extension cord used to supply electricity to a multi-plug power strip played a role in the fire. Investigators determined that an electric space heater was plugged into the power-strip, along with two additional cords that powered multiple cordless tool battery chargers, which West kept in his home.

The fire, which originated in the living area of the home, remains under investigation.

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News Release – Addendum (Logansport Fatal Fire; 1/25/16)



Photograph courtesy of Louisiana Office of State Marshal.