



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections • Public Safety Services

8181 Independence Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70806

www.lasfm.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Chief Brant Thompson

DATE: July 15, 2016

PHONE: 225-247-6251

Opelousas Fire Claims One Life

Opelousas, LA – State Fire Marshal deputies are investigating the cause of an early morning house fire in Opelousas where the homeowner was found dead. An autopsy will be performed to determine the cause of death.

Investigators were requested after firefighters from St. Landry Fire District #3 responded to the fire located at 140 Jeanette Street in Opelousas at approximately 12:30 a.m. Friday morning. During suppression efforts, firefighters located the lifeless body of Susan Darby, 60, on the kitchen floor of the wood-framed home.

After being processed by investigators, the victim's body, which displayed no obvious signs of pre-fire trauma, was released to officials with the St. Landry Parish Coroner's Office.

While there has been no official determination made as to the cause of the fire, investigators have established that the fire originated in a bedroom of the home typically used by the victim.

The investigation remains active.

END - END - END

Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal

NEWS RELEASE – ADDENDUM

OPELOUSAS FATAL FIRE (July 15, 2016)



Photo courtesy of the Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal

