



# NEWS RELEASE

## OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections • Public Safety Services

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DATE:** September 17, 2016

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## Richland Parish Woman Dies in House Fire

**Rayville, LA** - State Fire Marshal investigators continue to examine the circumstances surrounding the cause of a residential structure fire that claimed the life of an elderly woman Friday afternoon.

Investigators were summoned to 2057 Highway 183 in Rayville after firefighters responded to the home where the body of 73 year-old Ossie Bryant was located in the living room of the wood-framed structure. The bodies of three family pets were also found within the burned out residence.

Interviews revealed that the victim's mobility was greatly diminished and that she had mostly been confined to a wheelchair.

After being examined by investigators, the victim's body was released to the Richland Parish coroner for autopsy.

While an official cause of the fire has not been determined, investigators have established that the fire originated from within a bedroom before spreading throughout the home.

The investigation into the cause of this fire continues.

**END - END - END**

Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal

**NEWS RELEASE – ADDENDUM**

**Richland Parish Fatal Fire – September 16, 2016**



Photograph courtesy of the Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal