



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Baton Rouge-area House Fire Claims One Victim

CENTRAL- The Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal is investigating a fatal, residential structure fire that occurred in the early morning hours of Wednesday, May 9.

Deputies were called to the 6200 block of Matthews Street in Central around 6:30 a.m. Prior to that, multiple agencies including District 6 Fire, Central Fire and Baton Rouge Fire had responded to a home that was engulfed in flames.

The body of an older male, possibly in his 60s, was discovered deceased inside. Investigators say he was located in a rear bedroom. The East Baton Rouge Parish Coroner's Office is investigating the cause of death and identification.

Investigators believe the fire started in the home's living room. The structure had not had utilities connected since at least 2016 and it is unknown whether there were working smoke detectors in the house.

Though the exact cause is undetermined at this time, investigators say it will likely be ruled accidental.

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