

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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INFORMATION SOUGHT IN HODGE FIRE INVESTIGATION

JACKSON PARISH- The State Fire Marshal's Office has partnered with Crimestoppers of North Delta in its efforts to obtain additional information, including potential suspect details, in connection with multiple vehicle fires.

Around 2 a.m. on Monday, June 8, Jackson Parish Ward 7 Fire Department responded to the 100 block of Bellwood Drive for a report of several vehicles on fire.

Firefighters arrived at the apartment complex to locate three burning cars; one was damaged inside and out, while the other two had only exterior damage. The vehicles were located 20 feet away from a unit occupied by five people, two of which were children and one who was a disabled adult. One of those occupants was the owner of one of the vehicles.

After an assessment of the scene, deputies determined the fire originated in one of the vehicles, which spread to the other two, and that the original fire was intentionally set.

Deputies learned witnesses reported hearing an explosion before seeing fire in one of the cars and seeing a vehicle speeding away.

The SFM is asking anyone with information about this case to contact Crimestoppers at 318-388-CASH (2274) or visit <u>www.crimestoppersnorthdelta.com</u>. Tips can be shared anonymously and can result in a cash reward if the information leads to an arrest and conviction in the case.

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