



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Elderly Man Dies in Norco House Fire

ST. CHARLES PARISH- State Fire Marshal (SFM) deputies are continuing their investigation of a house fire in Norco that claimed the life of the elderly homeowner.

Around 5:45 a.m. on July 10, the Norco Fire Department responded to a call for a house fire located in the 500 block of Spruce Street. When firefighters went inside, they located a male victim in the doorway connecting a bedroom and a hallway.

While official identification and cause of death are pending with the St. Charles Parish Coroner's Office, the victim is believed to be the 90-year-old, disabled homeowner.

Following an assessment of the scene, deputies determined the fire began in a bedroom which was next to the room the victim appeared to be trying to escape from. At this time, deputies have identified an electrical malfunction associated with an active space heater as the source of the fire. The exact cause is still being investigated.

At this time, smoke alarms were located in the home, but it has not been confirmed that they were in working order and activated during this fire. The SFM would like to stress the importance of having working smoke alarms in every Louisiana home as the devices give families critical seconds to escape a fire emergency unharmed.

The SFM's Operation Save-A-Life works with local fire departments to install free smoke alarms in homes that need them most. To register for a free smoke alarm, visit lasfm.org.