



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bastrop Man Dies in House Fire

MOREHOUSE PARISH- State Fire Marshal (SFM) deputies continue investigating a deadly house fire in Bastrop that claimed the life of a male resident.

Just after 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 26, the Bastrop Fire Department responded to a report of a house fire located in the 100 block of Shady Oaks Lane. Upon arrival, firefighters located a male victim in a bedroom.

Official identification and cause of death are pending with the Morehouse Parish Coroner's Office, however, the victim is believed to be the disabled, 61-year-old sole occupant and resident of the home.

After an assessment of the scene and collecting witness statements, SFM deputies determined the fire started in the bedroom where the victim was found. At this time, deputies have been unable to rule out unsafe smoking practices as a possible cause of this fire.

The SFM is reminding Louisianans to avoid smoking indoors and to ensure all smoking materials are properly and fully extinguished. Also, it is strongly recommended to refrain from any smoking practices when tired or under the influence of alcohol or medications that make you drowsy. In addition, all spark-producing objects, like lighters, should be kept out of the reach of children.

In addition, deputies were unable to confirm the presence of working smoke alarms in the home. The SFM wants to stress to all Louisiana residents that smoke alarms have proven to be the difference between life and death in a fire emergency, no matter the type of home. If you need assistance obtaining smoke alarms for your home, Operations Save-A-Life can help. To learn more about Operation Save-A-Life, visit our website at lasfm.org.

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