



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUSPECT SOUGHT IN DERIDDER CAR DEALERSHIP FIRE INVESTIGATION

BEAUREGARD PARISH- The State Fire Marshal's Office (SFM) is actively seeking the public's assistance in identifying and locating a suspect wanted in connection with a car dealership fire in the Deridder area in November.

Around 4:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 18, the Rosepine Fire Department responded to a call for a fire at the Benoit Ford dealership located in the 18000 block of Johnnie B Hall Memorial Highway in Deridder. The extensive fire consumed the building and all of the dealership's contents and inventory.

During the investigation into the origin and cause of the fire, tips, pictures and videos from the public helped deputies determine the fire was intentionally set. Now, deputies need the public's help again to identify and locate the person responsible.

In the attached still images, what appears to be a young male, standing around 6 feet tall and wearing a dark-colored hoodie and skinny jeans, can be seen walking around the dealership's property around 4 a.m. A passerby reported the fire 30 minutes later.

The SFM is asking anyone with information about this person's identity and whereabouts to contact the SFM Arson Hotline at 1-844-954-1221 or share the information through our online tip form found at lasfm.org.

The SFM thanks the community, in advance, for any assistance provided to help get answers in this case.



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