



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Woman Dies in Jackson House Fire

EAST FELICIANA PARISH- State Fire Marshal (SFM) deputies continue to investigate a house fire in Jackson that claimed the life of a woman staying in the home.

Around 5:15 p.m. on Friday, December 22, the Jackson Fire Department, with assistance from several fire agencies in East Feliciana and the West Feliciana Fire Department as well as the Jackson Police Department and East Feliciana Sheriff's Office, responded to a call for a house fire located in the 2700 block of Carolyn Sue Drive. Firefighters later located the body of a woman in a bedroom.

While official identification and cause of death are pending with the parish Coroner's Office, at this time, the victim is believed to be a 52-year-old woman staying at the home with the tenant who was not there at the time of the fire.

Following an assessment of the scene and conducting witness statements, deputies have determined the fire began in the living room area of the home. While the investigation into the exact cause of the fire continues, deputies have been unable to rule out the possibility of an electrical malfunction or improper smoking practices as potential contributing factors.

While many fire hazards can lead to tragedy in our homes, one of the most common fatal home fire causes, electrical malfunction, can be avoided by having a licensed electrician inspect and repair any concerning electrical activity. In addition, the SFM recommends always smoking outdoors and ensuring all smoking materials are fully extinguished in appropriate containers.

Lastly, deputies were unable to locate 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. If you need assistance obtaining smoke alarms for your home, Operation Save-A-Life can help. To learn more about Operation Save-A-Life, or to register for a free smoke alarm, visit our website at lasfm.org or contact your local fire department to request a free smoke alarm installation.

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