



News Release

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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One Dead, One Critical in Pineville Fire

Pineville, LA – State Fire Marshal investigators continue to examine the circumstances surrounding the cause of a fire that claimed the life of a resident of a camper trailer and critically injured a second occupant.

Investigators were summoned by officials of the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department after firefighters responded to the blaze at approximately 1:00 a.m., Saturday morning, involving a camper trailer located at 2186 Hickory Hill Road in Pineville.

Firefighters informed investigators that upon their entering the structure after suppression efforts were initiated, they found the body of homeowner Neida Reeves, 58, on the bedroom floor next to the bed. A second occupant, Kenneth Ashworth, 56, was removed from the camper and transported to an area hospital in critical condition, suffering second and third degree burns to two-thirds of his body.

After being examined by investigators, Reeves' body, which suffered severe thermal injuries, was later released to the Rapides Parish coroner's office for autopsy.

While the cause of the fire is still under investigation, State Fire Marshal investigators were able to determine that the origin of the fire, which destroyed the camper, began in the bedroom where Reeves' body was found.

The investigation into this tragic fire is continuing.

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