



# NEWS RELEASE

## OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections • Public Safety Services

8181 Independence Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70806

[www.lasfm.org](http://www.lasfm.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Chief Deputy Brant Thompson

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**PHONE:** 225-247-6251

## War Veteran, State Fire Marshal Explosive Detection Canine Euthanized Due to Health Issues

**Baton Rouge, LA** – The State Fire Marshal is mourning the death of one of its explosive ordinance detection (EOD) canines after she was diagnosed late Wednesday with an aggressive form of kidney cancer.

Xena, a 9-year-old black Labrador who joined the State Fire Marshal's Office in November 2012, was euthanized Wednesday afternoon after LSU veterinarians discovered cancerous tumors in both of her kidneys.

After being transferred to the State Fire Marshal's Office in 2012 from the U.S. Marine Corps, where she served two (2) terms in Afghanistan identifying areas where explosives posed threats to U.S. troops, Xena immediately adapted to her new environment and handler Cpl. Garrett Reeves.

During her service with the State Fire Marshal's Office, Xena participated in numerous detection sweeps at major events in Louisiana including LSU and University of Lafayette sporting events, Mardi Gras festivities in New Orleans, and pre-inaugural events for Gov. John Bel Edwards.

"An end of watch for law enforcement officers is a solemn time of reflection as to the service that the officer provided," said State Fire Marshal H. "Butch" Browning, Jr. "It's the same for canines who constantly prove their worth to the citizens they help protect. Xena was one of those special souls that will never be forgotten."

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Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal

**NEWS RELEASE – ADDENDUM**

**Death of State Fire Marshal Explosive Ordinance Detection  
Canine – October 18, 2017**



State Fire Marshal Cpl. Garrett Reeves with Xena in March 2015.

Photo courtesy of the Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal

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**NEWS RELEASE – ADDENDUM**



State Fire Marshal Cpl. Garrett Reeves with Xena at New Orleans Mardi Gras – 2016.

Photo courtesy of the Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal

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**NEWS RELEASE – ADDENDUM**



Xena with former handler and U.S. Marine Dan Ranum in Afghanistan.

