



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections • Public Safety Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Father, Grandmother Arrested for Negligent Homicide in Campti Fatal Fire

NATCHITOCHES PARISH- The Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal, with assistance from the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office, has made two arrests in connection with a fatal fire in Campti that claimed the life of a 10-year-old boy.

Billy D. Adams Sr. (DOB 7/3/82), of Natchitoches, was booked into the Natchitoches Parish Detention Center Friday, July 27, 2018, on one count of Negligent Homicide in the fire-related death of his son Billy D. Adams, Jr. Adams, Sr.'s mother, Regina Vanzant (DOB 6/12/64) has a warrant issued for her arrest on the same charge. She will be booked into the Natchitoches Parish Jail pending her current incarceration on unrelated charges in Jackson Parish.

Adams, Jr. was located in a bedroom in the remains of a structure fire on Carter Street in Campti in the early morning hours of Friday, July 20. Adams, Sr. and Vanzant admitted to investigators that they left the child unsupervised while they were under the influence of drugs. The Natchitoches Parish Coroner's Office has determined Adams, Jr.'s preliminary cause of death as smoke inhalation.

Adams, Sr., who evaded authorities from the time of the fire through Monday, July 23, also admitted to investigators that, within the past month, he had connected exposed wiring from the structure he and the child were living in to his mother's trailer next door without following safety codes or legal requirements for installing a power source.

As a result, investigators have deemed the cause of the fire Undetermined with the Inability to Rule Out Electrical Malfunction.

Adams, Sr. and Vanzant have bond set at \$750,000.

The LAOSFM wants to express its appreciation to the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office for its assistance in investigating and locating these two suspects.

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