



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cullen Man Dies in House Fire

WEBSTER PARISH- State Fire Marshal (SFM) deputies continue to investigate the circumstances surrounding a house fire involving one death in Cullen.

Just before 9 a.m. on Sunday, December 22, the Cullen Fire Department responded to a fire call in the 100 block of James Street. Firefighters later discovered the body of what is believed to be the 83-year-old homeowner in the kitchen. Firefighter also found evidence that the man had attempted to put the fire out on his own.

Official identification and cause of death of the victim is pending an autopsy by the Webster Parish Coroner's Office.

While an exact cause of the fire remains undetermined, SFM investigators believe the fire began in the kitchen.

The SFM would like to implore all residents to "get out and stay out" when a fire occurs. Smoke inhalation, as opposed to burn injuries, is the most common cause of death in fire victims in our state. In minutes, smoke can not only be disorienting, but it can quickly displace the oxygen in a room rendering it difficult to breathe. This is why the SFM reminds all residents that smoke alarms make a significant difference in your chances of surviving a fire. Operation Save-A-Life partners with local fire departments and districts to install smoke alarms for families that need them. You can find more information on the program on our website lasfm.org.

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