



# 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)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### Man Dies in Baton Rouge-Area House Fire

**EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH-** State Fire Marshal (SFM) deputies, in collaboration with the District 6 Fire Department and Baton Rouge Fire Department, are investigating a house fire that involved one death.

District 6 responded around 12:30 a.m. Sunday, March 1, to a call for a house fire located in the 6200 block of Flag Street in the unincorporated, northeastern area of Baton Rouge.

There were two people in the home at the time of the fire. The female tenant, in her late 30s, was able to escape unharmed and called 911. Firefighters later located the body of a 51-year-old male in a bedroom with evidence he had been making an effort to escape. Official identification and cause of death are pending an autopsy by the East Baton Rouge Parish Coroner's Office.

SFM investigators have determined the fire began in the kitchen and unattended cooking is believed to be the cause of the fire. In addition, this home did not have working smoke alarms.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries across the country.

The SFM encourages all residents to follow simple cooking safety practices:

- Stay near any cooking activity
- Keep cooking environments free of clutter and combustible materials
- Avoid cooking when tired or under the influence.
- Keep a lid close by in the event a small, stovetop fire occurs that can be smothered by placing the lid over it and turning off the heat
- If an oven fire occurs, turn off the heat and leave the door closed.
- When a large cooking fire occurs, get yourself and any other occupants out of the home immediately and call 911 for help.

The SFM's 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](http://lasfm.org).

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