



# 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:** Ashley Rodrigue  
Public Affairs Director

**DATE:** 9/30/21

**PHONE:** 225-620-5115  
[ashley.rodrigue@la.gov](mailto:ashley.rodrigue@la.gov)

### **Elderly Woman Dies in Lake Arthur Fire**

**JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH-** State Fire Marshal (SFM) deputies continue investigating the circumstances surrounding an afternoon house fire that claimed the life of a Lake Arthur woman.

Around 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 29, the Lake Arthur Fire Department responded to a fire call at a home located in the 600 block of Calcasieu Avenue. Firefighters located the body of an elderly female inside of the home's kitchen.

While official identification and cause of death are pending with the Jefferson Davis Parish Coroner's Office, the victim is believed to be a 92-year-old resident of the home.

Following an assessment of the scene, deputies determined the fire began in a bedroom of the home. At this time, the cause of the fire remains undetermined, however, deputies have located evidence of improper electrical wiring in multiple areas of the home.

The SFM would like to remind Louisiana residents that when it comes to electrical safety, avoid connecting extension cords and power strips to create power sources where a wall outlet does not exist and don't overload those cords and strips if using them for temporary purposes. Plug all appliances, including space heaters, directly into wall outlets to prevent overheating of wires. And if your home is experiencing electrical issues, have a licensed electrician evaluate the situation and make any needed repairs.

In addition, at this time, deputies have been unable to locate any working smoke alarms or home sprinkler systems. Smoke alarms are a proven tool to alert residents to a fire danger in order to escape safely while home fire sprinklers can immediately limit the threat to life and damage to property.

The SFM's Operation Save-A-Life partners with local fire departments to install smoke alarms for free for families that need them most. To learn more about Operation Save-A-Life, or to register for a smoke alarm installation, visit [lasfm.org](http://lasfm.org).

**-END - END - END - END-**