



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Fire Marshal Makes Travel Fire Safety Recommendations Following Many Double Fatal Fire

SABINE PARISH- State Fire Marshal Chief Bryan J. Adams is recommending a series of fire safety measures for families to consider when traveling following a weekend double fatal fire at a fishing camp in Many.

Just before 2 a.m. on Sunday, April 7, the Central Sabine Fire Department responded to a call for a house fire located on Brunson Drive in Many. There were four men in the home at the time of the fire. Two reported waking up to sounds similar to thunder and opening their bedroom doors to smoke. The men escaped the windows in the rooms they were sleeping in before attempting to reach the other two men through the windows of those rooms. Unfortunately, those attempts were unsuccessful and firefighters located the bodies of the two additional men in the same bedroom.

The Sabine Parish Coroner's Office has identified the victims as 70-year-old David Sebastian of Opelousas and 66-year-old David Briley of Ville Platte.

Due to the extent of the damage, State Fire Marshal (SFM) deputies continue to try to determine the origin and cause of this fire. However, deputies do know there were no working smoke alarms in this home and the occupants were all visiting for a weekend fishing trip.

"This is a sad outcome to what was supposed to be a great family bonding experience," said Chief Adams, "But it reminds us that having a fire escape plan for any unfamiliar places you're traveling is just as important as having one for your home," said Chief Adams.

Fire escape plans include:

- Knowing two ways out of every room in a house
- Having a meeting place outside of the home to account for all occupants and to call 911
- Making sure there are working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors present

The SFM advises anyone who welcomes visitors to their properties to have these life-saving devices in the home at all times. If you have smoke alarms in your home, ensure they are working by confirming effective batteries with a

press of the test button today. If you do not have smoke alarms in your home, and you need assistance accessing them, Operation Save-A-Life can help. To learn more about Operation Save-A-Life, or to register for a free smoke alarm installation, visit our website at lasfm.org or contact your local fire department to request a free smoke alarm installation.

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