



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Reserve Man Arrested for Laplace Commercial Building Fire

ST. JOHN PARISH- State Fire Marshal Chief Bryan J Adams is announcing the arrest of a Reserve man accused of setting fire to a daycare facility in Laplace.

Timothy Charles, Jr., 39, has been booked into the St. John Parish Correctional Center on one count each of Aggravated Arson and Simple Burglary.

At 11:30 p.m., on Thursday, May 16, the St. John Parish Fire Department responded to a call for a commercial structure fire located in the 100 block of West 5th Street in Laplace. The building was most recently being used as a daycare, but it is better known in the community as a former church. The fire threatened an occupied neighboring home and destroyed three vehicles.

During the investigation which included assistance from the St. John Sheriff's Office, deputies determined the fire was intentionally set and identified Charles, the ex-husband of the daycare owner, as the suspect.

A warrant was obtained for Charles' arrest and he was taken into custody Saturday morning, May 18.

The SFM would like to thank the St. John Parish Sheriff's Office for their partnership in closing this case so quickly.

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