

Shelby County Fire Department
Headquarters
1075 Mullins Station Rd. Bldg. "C", 2nd floor
Memphis, TN 38134



******* MEDIA RELEASE *******

Date: November 30th, 2011
Address: 3900 Block of Canada Rd. (Lakeland, TN)
Time: 08:50 AM

This morning at 08:50 AM, the Shelby County Fire Department dispatched multiple engine companies to reports of a home fire in Lakeland. Passing motorists were stating that fire was coming through the windows from the inside of a home in the 3900 block of Canada Rd. SCFD Engine 65 arrived on the scene four minutes later, and the firefighters reported heavy fire and smoke coming from virtually the entire 1,000 sq. ft. home. Aggressive efforts to extinguish the blaze started immediately and an initial search of the structure was underway while additional equipment and personnel continued to arrive on the scene.

In all, three engine companies from Shelby County Fire and one from Arlington Fire arrived with some twenty firefighters in all, working to suppress the fire. After roughly thirty minutes, the flames were brought under control and a customary second search of the structure revealed a male senior citizen victim who had perished in the smoke and flames. His name is not being released by this agency until the office of the Medical Examiner concludes their investigation.

Two firefighters received *very* minor burns during the suppression of the fire. They did not require treatment. The home, which was built in 1965 is a complete loss. The Shelby County Fire Department reminds all residents to inspect their home smoke detectors for proper operation and that having an operating smoke detector increases the chance of successfully escaping a fire in the home by more than fifty percent. While we all enter colder seasonal temperatures alternate sources of heating become more frequent associated with an increase of home fires which result from improper operation of these devices. Be sure to read and understand the entire operator handbook that comes with the purchase of an alternate heating source – and to use these devices with good common sense practices.

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