

**Lincoln County Government**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****April 18, 2024****Update on Fatal Cloudburst Circle Fire**

(Lincolnton) The Lincoln County Fire Marshal's office along with North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation determined Wednesday's house fire on Cloudburst Circle was accidental and caused by improperly discarded smoking materials.

Improperly discarded smoking materials can cause devastating home fires.

- If you smoke, use only fire-safe cigarettes.
- If you smoke, smoke outside. Most deaths result from fires that started in living rooms, family rooms and dens or in bedrooms.
- Keep cigarettes, lighters, matches, and other smoking materials up high out of reach of children, in a locked cabinet.
- Use a deep, sturdy ashtray. Place it away from anything that can burn.
- Do not discard cigarettes in vegetation such as mulch, potted plants or landscaping, peat moss, dried grasses, leaves, or other things that could ignite easily.

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Press Release from April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Three Victims Found in Fatal House Fire**

(Lincolnton) On Wednesday, April 17th, 2024, at approximately 2:46 am, Lincoln County E911 Communications was alerted to a residential fire at 1661 Cloudburst Circle, Lincolnton. North 321 Fire Department responded and found heavy fire involvement throughout the house. The caller communicated there were people inside the home.



Maiden Fire Department, Pumpkin Center Fire Department and Lincolnton Fire Department assisted in controlling the fire within 20 minutes. Firefighters found three victims in the home, two adults and one child. One firefighter sustained minor injuries while battling the fire. The injury was a result of a structural collapse while attempting rescue of the victims. He was treated and has been released.

The investigation into the origin and cause of the fire is pending. The Lincoln County Fire Marshal's Office, Lincoln County Emergency Medical Services, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, and North Carolina ATF are assisting in the investigation.