

New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 13, 2010
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FATAL FIRE RV/Camper fire claims one victim

WINCHESTER - State Fire Marshal J. William Degnan, Winchester Police Chief Gary A. Phillips, and Winchester Fire Chief Barry Kellom announce that a camper fire reported at 15 Old Mill Court Road at 2:03 am this morning has claimed one life.

Despite the quick response of the Winchester Fire Department, the fire had already consumed a significant portion of the camper upon their arrival. The heavy smoke and fire created untenable conditions inside the camper and prevented any meaningful interior fire attack. Upon completion of fire suppression efforts, one female victim was located deceased inside the camper.

Investigators have determined that the fire originated near the front of the camper, and while the exact cause of the fire remains under investigation at this time, an electric space heater and several uncontained candles that were being used in the area of origin are being looked at as a possible fire cause. It should be noted that no working smoke detectors could be located inside the camper.

New Hampshire State Medical Examiner Dr. Thomas Andrew performed an autopsy this morning and subsequently listed the cause of death as smoke inhalation and ruled the manner of death as accidental. The positive identification of the victim is still pending at this time.

Anyone with additional information about this fire is urged to contact the NH State Fire Marshal's Office at 603-223-4289 or the Winchester Police Department at 603-239-4814.