

Salem Police Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Monday, November 22, 2021

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Greg Walsh, Public Information Officer

City of Salem Fire Department

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Fire leads to death investigation

Press release update:

The Salem Police Department investigation into the residential fire is complete, and detectives have determined no foul play or criminal act was involved in the incident. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

The two deceased individuals inside the residence are identified as Aaron Richard Harris, age 33, and Taylor Alyssa Wallace, age 25. Harris and Wallace were living at the location when the fire occurred.

All inquiries related to the cause of the fire and manner of death should be made to the Salem Fire Department and the Medical Examiner's Office, respectively.

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Original press release published Friday, November 19, 2021:

Salem, Ore. — On Friday, November 19, 2021, at approximately 7:55 a.m., a fire was reported in the 1100 block of 8th ST NW. Witnesses reported smoke coming from a single-story home. The <u>Salem Fire Department</u> response was led by a battalion chief with four fire engines, one ladder truck, and a medic unit. Salem Police officers assisted with traffic control.

A small fire discovered inside the home was contained and extinguished quickly. During the subsequent fire investigation two persons were located inside the home and pronounced deceased at the scene. Three dogs were also found, one inside and two outside the home. The dog inside perished, and the two that survived and are being cared for by neighbors.

No additional information will be released at this time as both the Salem Police and Fire Departments are investigating the incident.