

# SHREVEPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT

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## PRESS RELEASE

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## Arrests Made in Fatal 2025 Milton St. House Fire

**Shreveport, LA-** The Shreveport Fire Department announces the arrests of two individuals following an extensive investigation into the October 13, 2025 house fire that occurred in the 3100 block of Milton Street. The early morning fire tragically claimed the lives of two children, Aaliyah Robinson, age 8, and Danielle Spearman, age 5.

Since the incident, Shreveport Fire Arson Investigators have worked diligently and methodically to determine the cause and circumstances surrounding this devastating fire. As a result of that investigation, the following arrests have been made:

Rita Montgomery: 50 y/o BF (DOB: 03/06/1975 has been arrested and charged with:

- LA R.S. 14:26 – Criminal Conspiracy
- LA R.S. 14.30.1 – Second Degree Murder
- LA R.S. 14:51 – Aggravated Arson
- LA R.S. 22:1924 – Prohibited Activities and Sanctions
- LA R.S. 14:54.2 – Manufacture and Possession of Delayed Action Incendiary Devices
- LA R.S. 14:92 – Contributing to the Delinquency of Juveniles

Alonza Cooksey: 45 y/o BM (DOB 07/03/1980) has been arrested and charged with:

- LA R.S. 22:1924 – Prohibited Activities and Sanctions
- LA R.S. 14:92 – Contributing to the Delinquency of Juveniles

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CLARENCE J. REESE, JR.  
Fire Chief

“This has been an incredibly complex and emotionally difficult investigation,” said Fire Chief Clarence Reese, Jr. “Our arson investigators have remained committed from day one to uncovering the truth and seeking justice for Aaliyah and Danielle. While nothing can undo this tragic loss, we hope these arrests provide some measure of accountability and reassurance to our community.”

This investigation remains active and ongoing and continues to be worked by Shreveport Fire Arson Investigators. A press conference will be held at a date and time announced later this week. Immediate inquiries regarding these arrests and ongoing investigation should be directed to the Caddo Parish District Attorney’s Office.