



Sheriff

John R. Halferty
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NEWS RELEASE

Sunday, March 17th, 2024
Press Release: Residential House Fire
Case #24-007455

On March 16th, at approximately 10:43 p.m. Jasper County Communications received a 911 call of a residential house fire at 8858 S 52nd Ave W, 1.5 miles southeast of Colfax. Upon arrival, the home was fully involved with flames with unknown occupants. As crews from multiple departments worked to extinguish the fire, it was determined that one individual was believed to be inside the home. Agencies worked throughout the night and as of 9:00 a.m. Sunday, crew are still on scene conducting a search and recovery for the occupant, but due to the heat of the fire and removal of debris by heavy equipment, the process remains slow.

Agencies from Baxter, Knoxville, Mingo, Mitchellville, Monroe, Newton, Prairie City, Iowa State Fire Marshall's Office, and the Jasper County Sheriff's Office have provided mutual aid to the Colfax Fire Department with the extinguishing, search, recovery, and ongoing investigation into the cause of the fire. Due to the ongoing investigation and the search, recovery and identification of the occupant, no further information will be available at this time. As more information is made available through the investigation, this office will work to provide additional information.

NEWS RELEASE UPDATE

Sunday, March 17, 2024 @ 11:10 a.m.
Press Release: Fatal Residential House Fire
Case #24-007455

On March 17, 2024, at approximately 10:45 a.m., search and rescue crews located the body of a deceased individual in the basement of the home. The individual will be taken to the Iowa State Medical Examiner's Office in Ankeny for identification and autopsy. The investigation into the cause of the fire is ongoing and further details will be released by this office during this investigation.



NEWS RELEASE UPDATE

Wednesday May 1, 2024 @11:15 a.m.

Press Release: Fatal Residential House Fire Identification

Case #24-007455

On May 1st, 2024, the Jasper County Sheriff's Office was notified by the State of Iowa Medical Examiner's Office the identification of the deceased individual found in a March 17th, 2024, residential house fire as Dale Albert Schmidt, age 64, of that address. The identification of Dale Albert Schmidt was confirmed through the process of DNA matching. The investigation into the cause of the fire is still ongoing.

For immediate release: Authority Sheriff John R. Halferty

Lieutenant Brad M. Shutts 50-36
Communications and 911 Services
Jasper County Sheriff's Office
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