

Shiprock house fire claims life

Written by gallupsun

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SHIPROCK – A house fire in Shiprock claimed the life of an unidentified male Dec. 13. The Navajo Nation Police Department and Fire Department responded to the fire.

The fire was reported to have taken place north of Bluff Road and east of 4th Lane.

The Shiprock Police Department was on-scene within eight minutes after the fire was reported and the Shiprock Fire Department was there within 12 minutes

. Support was also given by the Ojo Amarillo and Newcomb Fire Departments. The NNFD had enough support and manpower that they didn't need to alert the San Juan County Fire Department.

After the fire was extinguished, a burnt, deceased human body was discovered within the residence.

“While we deeply regret hearing that a life was lost in the fire, we applaud the Shiprock Police Department and the fire departments of Shiprock, Ojo Amarillo and Newcomb for coming to the assistance of the family who lost their home and loved one,” President Russell Begaye said.

Begaye said that previously, the fire departments in this area were comprised of volunteers. Currently, these positions are being staffed by fire fighters in paid positions which enables the department to respond quicker.

The president said he appreciates the ability of the Shiprock Fire Department to respond in a quick and timely manner and also for providing protection for the Navajo people.

The case is being referred to the Shiprock Navajo Criminal Investigations in conjunction with the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Office of Medical Investigations.



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