



JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

**McLean County Coroner's Office
Bloomington Fire Department & Bloomington Police Department**

For Immediate Release: August 19, 2025

Fatal Fire on West Elm Street Remains Under Investigation

BLOOMINGTON, IL – On Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at approximately 7:57 a.m., the Bloomington Fire Department and Bloomington Police Department responded to a structure fire in the 1300 block of West Elm Street.

Upon arrival, firefighters observed heavy smoke and fire conditions coming from the attic of a single-story, single-family residence. Initial crews began extinguishment efforts while simultaneously initiating a search for a reported missing occupant.

During the search, firefighters located an adult male inside the residence. He was pronounced deceased at the scene by the McLean County Coroner's Office. An autopsy is pending, and his identity is being withheld pending positive identification and notification of next of kin.

The residence sustained extensive damage and is considered a total loss.

This incident remains under investigation by the Bloomington Fire Department, Bloomington Police Department, and the McLean County Coroner's Office.

Ameren, Nicor, and the City's Building Development Division also responded to the scene.

Bloomington Police Chief Jamal Simington stated, "Bloomington Police Department specialized detectives are working with Bloomington Fire Department arson investigators to determine the origin of the fire. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the impacted family of the deceased."

Anyone with information related to this incident is encouraged to contact the Bloomington Police Department at 309-820-8888.

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Media Contacts:

Dr. Kathleen Yoder
McLean County Coroner's Office
104 W. Front Street
P.O. Box 2400
Bloomington, IL 61701
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Captain Frank Friend
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310 N. Lee St.
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If you wish to submit a crime tip and remain anonymous, please contact the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit (CIAU) at 309-434-2963 or email CIAU@cityblm.org. You can also text the number 847411 by texting the word "BPD TIPS", then a space, followed by your tip information.

The tip line is not monitored 24/7. The CIAU office is staffed from 8am-4:30pm, weekdays. If no one is available to answer your call, please leave the information on the voicemail or send it by e-mail.

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