



Press Release
Shelby County Sheriff's Office
Bill Oldham, Sheriff

9th Floor, 201 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Public Information Officer: Chip Washington

- Office (901) 222-5523 FAX (901) 222-5504 Cell (901) 481-7289
- E mail: chip.washington@shelby-sheriff.org

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**SCSO Investigates Fatal House Fire on Bethay Drive in
Southeast Shelby County**

Just after 6:00am this morning, Shelby County Fire officials responded to a house fire located on the **4700 block of Bethay Drive**. When they arrived on the scene, part of the house was engulfed in flames. After extinguishing the fire, a search revealed a female, **Gwendolyn Wallace, 45**, inside. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

When detectives arrived on the scene and began working with **Shelby County Fire Investigators**, it was later determined from evidence on the scene that this fire was intentionally set. SCSO Detectives and the County Fire Marshall questioned her **14-year old** son in connection with the case.

He admitted that he was the one who set the fire after an earlier disagreement with his mother.

He has been charged with **First Degree Murder and Aggravated Arson**.