

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TWO ACCUSED IN FATAL HOUSE FIRE

JACKSON, Miss. – 50-year-old Carolyn Mansfield is charged with First Degree Murder and Arson in the death of 75-year-old Earnest Gleese. Mansfield is accused of setting a house on fire on Friday, February 2, 2024, with Gleese inside, after arguing over drugs. The house is located at 508 ½ Speed Street in Vicksburg.

Mansfield was taken into custody on Wednesday, February 7, 2024 after confessing to setting the fire. Her bond is set at \$1.75 million.

74-year-old Albert Thomas also faces charges of First Degree Murder and Arson. A bench warrant has been issued for his arrest. He is an accomplice and the boyfriend of Mansfield.

SFMO Fire Marshal Supervisor Kevin Butler was the lead investigator in this case. The Vicksburg Fire Department and the Vicksburg Police Department assisted him.

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