

**07/02/2014**

**Incident:** Arson / Homicide Investigation

**Contact:** Cmdr Darin Schindler 805.339.4341

**Location:** 900 Block of Burlington Ave

**Date/Time Occurred:** June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 2305 hours

**Officer(s) Involved:** Ventura Police Major Crimes, Ventura City Fire Investigators

**Victim(s):** Curtis Baker, 93 yrs, Ventura Resident

**Suspect(s):** Unknown

**Report #s:** 14-8038

**Narrative:**

Follow-up to VFD media release issued on 6-30-14 at 0354 hours:

Major Crimes Investigators with the Ventura Police Department have been working since 6/29/14 in conjunction with Ventura City Fire Investigators to investigate the circumstances surrounding this residential fire. Fire Investigators have ruled the fire to have been incendiary in nature and that it originated in the garage of the residence.

The male homeowner, Curtis Baker, died last night at a local hospital, where he had been admitted since the morning of the fire. The victim resided at the residence with his wife and 6 other tenants who rented three rooms in the downstairs area of the residence.

The Ventura County Medical Examiner's Office has conducted an autopsy and the exact cause of death is pending further investigation. Based on the cause of the fire and the resulting death, VPD Major Crimes Investigators are continuing the investigation as an arson/homicide investigation.

***The investigation into this incident is ongoing. Anyone with information related to this incident is urged to call Ventura Police Department Investigators at 339-4462***