NEWS RELEASE

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Fire Marshal Investigating Recent Fires At Two Vacant Homes

SUFFOLK, Virginia (May 4, 2015) The Suffolk Fire Marshal's Office is currently investigating two recent fires at vacant homes in the City, however, these incidents are not believed to be related.

Shortly after midnight on May 1, 2015, Suffolk Fire & Rescue responded to a residential structure fire in the 100 block of North 10th Street in downtown Suffolk. Upon arrival firefighters found the two-story home heavily involved. It was unknown if the home was occupied at the time, but was later confirmed to be vacant.

At 1:49 a.m. on May 2, 2015, their crews responded to a residential structure fire in the 300 block of Boat Street in the Saratoga neighborhood and found a small fire in the back portion of the vacant residence.

The Suffolk Fire Marshal's Office is investigating both of these incidents as the fires are believed to be suspicious in nature.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Line at 1-888-Lock-U-Up^{sм}. When calling Crime Line, callers do not have to give their names or appear in

court. Citizens can also utilize TipSoft to anonymously submit crime-related tips through the Web, a text message, or from any Android or iPhone mobile device with the <u>TipSubmit mobile app</u>. Tips can be submitted by visiting <u>www.suffolkva.us/crimelinetips</u>, or by texting the word "CRIMES" (274637) with the keyword SPDVATIP. TipSoft also supports users' ability to submit videos or photos using the TipSoft mobile app. If information leads to an arrest, the caller or "tipster" could qualify for a reward of up to \$1,000.