

February 28, 2013

News Release

*For Immediate Release*

### **Update on House Fire at 1450 N. Texas**

Springfield Police Department detectives continue the investigation into the house fire and the deaths of three individuals at 1450 N. Texas Avenue on Saturday, Feb. 23. After responding to the scene, investigators observed injuries to the children unrelated to the fire, including what appeared to be ligature marks and stab wounds.

The deceased have been identified as Jassez Sager, a 27-year-old female, and her children: a four-year-old boy named Noah Adams and a two-year-old girl named Lilly Adams. The family had recently moved to Springfield. Family members of the deceased have been notified.

Autopsies have been completed and the preliminary results indicate the children died as a result of injuries that were not related to the fire; however, Ms. Sager did have injuries related to the fire that likely contributed to her death. A final determination as to the cause of death for all three individuals has not been made at this time. Indications are the fire was intentionally set in the bedroom of the house.

The children's deaths are being investigated as homicides; however, no suspects are being sought at this time and there is no indication of danger to others in the area. SPD detectives are working in cooperation with Springfield Fire Department investigators as the investigation continues.

Lt. Tad Peters is available for interviews this morning. Please call him directly at 864-1752 to schedule.