

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



MEDIA RELEASE

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AUTHORITY: Detective Sgt. MP Mayer

PHONE 715-839-4701

On Friday, August 21, 2015 at about 448pm the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office responded to fire at a residence, formally St. Peters Lutheran Church, S8805 County Highway V in the town of Lincoln. It was also reported that there might be a male adult still inside the residence. Initial attempts by law enforcement and fire personnel to locate the male occupant were unsuccessful.

The victim has later recovered from the scene on Saturday, August 22nd and has been identified as Blake M. Bichanich, white male, age 56, and owner of the property.

Fire suppression and recovery assistance was provided by the following fire departments; Fall Creek Area, Augusta - Bridge Creek, Fairchild, Altoona, Township and City of Eau Claire Fire.

Fire investigation is being conducted by the State of Wisconsin Department of Criminal Investigation-State Fire Marshall's Office and Eau Claire Co Sheriff's Office along with the assistance of fire personnel on scene. Preliminary investigation shows the fire originated at the front/west side of the building. The fire is still being investigated and at this time there has been no reason to suspect any foul play.