

Crime scene blazed: Undetermined cause

Written by

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A fire that destroyed the scene of a Saturday shooting has no confirmed cause.

According to Wilkes Fire Marshal Nick Hamby, the cause is listed officially as "undetermined." At this time, there are several possibilities Hamby cannot rule out, including electrical problems and arson.

The Desperado Road trailer was completely destroyed in the blaze.

The trailer was in the news over the weekend when its occupant, 41-year-old Randall Whitley allegedly shot 45-year-old Tim Potts. Whitley lived in the home with girlfriend, Barbara Cleary, neither of whom was home when firefighters arrived on the scene.

According to Hamby, the fire was fully engaged when Traphill and Mountain View Fire Departments arrived. Firefighters were able to work quickly and efficiently to control the blaze, according to Hamby, but did not arrive in time to save the single-wide trailer.