

Friday fire claims two lives

Photo credit: Jackson Co Sheriff's Office

(KNZA)--A Jackson County residential fire claims two lives.

Jackson County Sheriff Tim Morse, said the fire was reported late Friday morning in Netawaka.

A dozen fire department from the surrounding areas, including the Netawaka Fire Department, responded to 421 Whiteway Street, shortly after 10:00, and battled the deadly blaze for just over an hour.

“There was really nothing anybody could do to be able to enter the residence. It was just too far gone at that point,” Morse said.

The flames had fully engulfed the two story structure, and threatened a residence located to the east.

Morse said it was after the fire was extinguished that the two persons were found inside.

The two victims are not immediately identified, and the Jackson County Coroner has ordered autopsies to be conducted.

A family dog was able to be rescued.

The home is considered a total loss.

The cause of the deadly blaze remains under investigation, with the Jackson County Sheriff's Office and the Kansas State Fire Marshal's Office conducting the probe.

“They did use a wood stove to heat the residence, so that's all being taken under consideration as well,” Morse said.

As of late Friday afternoon, Morse said his office's three fire investigators remained on the scene, working with the Fire Marshal's investigators.