



Allen County Coroner

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Dr. Craig Nelson, DDS*
Allen County Coroner

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

December 6, 2016

To: All Media Outlets
From: Michael Burris
Chief Investigator
Allen County Coroner's Office

The autopsy has been completed and the next of kin has been notified for Joseph I. Thomas, male white 65 years of age from Fort Wayne, Indiana. Joseph Thomas was found inside his home in the 6900 block of Penrose Drive, during the afternoon hours of December 5, 2016, after a reported fire was brought under control by the Fort Wayne Fire Department. Joseph Thomas was pronounced dead at the scene.

The Cause of Death has been determined to be Smoke Inhalation and Thermal Burns. The Manner of Death is Accident.

This incident remains under investigation by the Fort Wayne Fire Department and the Allen County Coroner's Office.

Michael Burris
Chief Investigator
Allen County Coroner's Office

Michael Burris*	Patt Kite*	Becky Stuttle*	Kevin Rarey*	Eric Balliet*	Dick Alfeld*
Chief Investigator	Investigator	Deputy	Deputy	Deputy	Deputy

*Indiana Certified Medicolegal Death Investigator