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Fatal Eastham house fire being investigated

1 dead in blaze on Gimlet Way

By **Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT MARCH 19, 2012

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One person died in a fire at an Eastham house Sunday afternoon, authorities said.

Eastham firefighters responded to 4 Gimlet Way at about 4:23 p.m. to find flames engulfing between 70 to 80 percent of the 1,900-square-foot, one-and-a-half-story wood-frame house there, Fire Chief Glenn J. Olson said in a statement.

No firefighters were injured, officials said.

How and where the fire started was not known Sunday, Olson said.

The identity of the victim was being withheld pending family notification, officials said.



The fire was brought under control within about one hour, the chief said.

Fire departments from Truro, Wellfleet, Orleans, Brewster, Chatham, and Harwich assisted either at the scene or by covering for departments that responded to the fire, according to the release.

When emergency responders arrived at the scene, some officials said over the scanner radio that they heard what sounded like ammunition exploding inside the burning home.

But, Eastham fire Captain William Sprague said no ammunition has been found at the scene.

“Reports of sounds of small explosions are common,” he said. “They are usually caused by ordinary household products,” like aerosol cans.



Eastham police referred questions to the Cape and Islands district attorney’s office, where officials could not immediately be reached.

The home, built in 1980 was assessed this year at about \$203,000, according to town records.



State and local police and fire officials and the district attorney’s office are investigating the fire, according to Eastham fire and police officials.

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