

## Former Evergreen police chief arrested in wife's death

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### 2015 Cop Domestic Violence Murder Police Chief Charles Mayeux Jr

Citing the suspicious nature of the fire, authorities in Avoyelles Parish arrested the former police chief of Evergreen on Wednesday after his wife's dead body was found in the charred remains of their Evergreen home in March.

Charles Mayeux Jr. called 911 at about 2 a.m. March 21 to say his Cottage Street house was on fire. Evergreen firefighters, police and paramedics arrived and firefighters extinguished the flames. Inside the house, they found the body of Shelly St. Romain Mayeux in the bedroom, authorities said. The Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Office and the state Fire Marshal's Office were called to assist in the investigation.

Brant Thompson, deputy chief of the state Fire Marshal's Office, said fire investigators immediately became suspicious about the circumstances of the fire and noted that Charles Mayeux was acted suspicious at the scene. Investigators brought Charles Mayeux in for questioning and took his clothing as evidence, Thompson said.

Thompson and representatives with the Avoyelles Sheriff's Office would not delve into specifics about the fire, citing the ongoing investigation. The sheriff's office also did not give Shelly St. Romain Mayeux's cause of death.

Mayeux Jr., of Evergreen, was booked into the Avoyelles Parish Jail on one count each of second-degree murder and aggravated arson. His bail has been set at \$350,000.

During the investigation into Shelly St. Romain Mayeux's death, investigators noticed discrepancies in some of Charles Mayeux's financials. They uncovered evidence that he allegedly filled up his personal vehicles using a village gas account, Avoyelles Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Steven Martel said.

Charles Mayeux was also booked into the parish jail on six counts each of theft and malfeasance in office stemming from that investigation.

Charles Mayeux worked as police chief in the Evergreen Police Department for four years before he and city officials agreed to part ways a few months ago. He also worked as an assistant chief in the Evergreen Fire Department.

At the time of her death, Shelly St. Romain Mayeux was a sergeant with the Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Office and worked in booking in the parish jail, Martel said. She had worked there off and on for five years.