



**WESTMORELAND COUNTY  
OFFICE OF THE CORONER**

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Kirk E. Nolan  
Chief Deputy

**Kenneth A. Bacha**  
Coroner

Jeffrey D. Monzo  
Solicitor

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 4, 2021**

<b><u>Nature of Release:</u></b> Residential Structure Fire	<b><u>Date/Time of Incident:</u></b> April 4, 2021 Approximately 12:50 AM
<b><u>Incident Location:</u></b> 1666 State Route 819 Salem Township	
<b><u>Decedent:</u></b> David J. Staats, 57 y/o male <b><u>Address:</u></b> Same as incident location.  <b><u>Date and Time of Death:</u></b> April 4, 2021 at 5:45 AM  <b><u>Cause of Death:</u></b> Pending  <b><u>Manner of Death:</u></b> Pending	<b><u>Decedent:</u></b> Helena A. Staats, 84 y/o female <b><u>Address:</u></b> Same as incident location.  <b><u>Date and Time of Death:</u></b> April 4, 2021 at 7:30 AM  <b><u>Cause of Death:</u></b> Pending  <b><u>Manner of Death:</u></b> Pending
<b><u>Incident Details:</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Westmoreland County Coroner, Kenneth A. Bacha, has released the following information on a residential structure fire in Salem Township.</li><li>▪ Witnesses contacted 911, due to the decedent's residence being on fire.</li><li>▪ Firefighters arrived on scene finding the residence to be fully involved.</li><li>▪ The decedents were discovered within the residence.</li><li>▪ Deputy Coroner Steven M. Grabiak pronounced both decedents dead at the scene.</li><li>▪ An autopsy is scheduled with Dr. Cyril H. Wecht and Pathology Associates.</li><li>▪ Cause and manner of death will be pending autopsy results, toxicology results, and further investigation into the cause of the fire.</li><li>▪ Toxicology results will not be available for several weeks.</li><li>▪ A funeral home has not been chosen for either decedent.</li><li>▪ The Pennsylvania State Police Fire Marshal is investigating.</li></ul>	
<b><u>****No further information is available at this time****</u></b>	