

Woman indicted on four counts of second-degree murder in fatal Worcester fire

“A 36-year-old woman was indicted on four counts of second-degree murder in connection with a May 2022 Worcester fire that claimed the lives of four people, according to Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early, Jr.

Yvonne Ngoiri, who has a last known address in Worcester, was also indicted by a Worcester County Grand Jury on two counts of arson of a dwelling, two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and one count of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon causing serious bodily injury.

Public safety personnel from Worcester were called to a four-alarm fire at a three-decker home on 2 Gage St. at 3:31 a.m. on May 14, 2022.

During the fire, one resident jumped from a window to escape the flames and was seriously injured. Two other residents were also taken to a Worcester hospital where they were treated for smoke inhalation.

Four people died because of the fire.

These four people were identified as: Joseph Garchali, 47; Christopher Lozeau, 53; Vincent Page, 41; and Marcel Fontaine, 29. The cause of their deaths involved smoke inhalation and thermal injuries.

Investigators determined that the origin of the fire was an area in the rear of 2 Gage St. and the cause was determined to be incendiary.

Ngoiri is a former resident of 2 Gage St.

The fire also damaged 5 Eastern Ave., a nearby building.

The indictments are a result of an extensive joint investigation by members of the Worcester Police Department Detective Bureau and Crime Scene Unit, Worcester Fire Department Investigative Unit, Massachusetts State Police Detectives assigned to the State Fire Marshal's Office, the Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives along with prosecutors from the Worcester County District Attorney's Office.

Ngoiri was taken into custody by Worcester Police on Thursday and is expected to be arraigned in Worcester Superior Court on Friday."-Worcester District Attorney Joseph Early Jr.