## MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

October 10, 2018

## Sheriff's Office and Fire Marshal's Office Investigating Explosion

On Tuesday, October 9, 2018, at about 9:25 pm, Deputies from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office along with investigators with the Montgomery County Fire Marshal's Office were dispatched to an explosion that occurred at a residence in the 31100 block or Timberloch Trail in Magnolia, TX.

When Deputies arrived they entered the residence and observed a white male without any clothing and 2nd / 3rd degree burns to his body. The male was removed from the residence by Deputies. While exiting the residence, Deputies observed wires and what appeared to be large batteries inside the residence. Concerned that the items might be bomb making materials, Deputies immediately evacuated the area. The male inside the residence was transported to Hermann Memorial in Houston by ambulance.

The Montgomery County Fire Marshal's Office bomb team responded and conducted an investigation. Through interviews and investigation, it is believed the male was attempting to decontaminate himself of bugs by spraying brake cleaner fluid all over his body. The male then attempted to use a vacuum "to remove the bugs" and during the power up process, it is believed the vacuum sparked, causing him and the atmosphere in the structure to ignite. Through the rapid expansion of vapors / gases in the residence, an explosion occurred causing major damage to the residence and injuries to the male. Investigators found numerous empty canisters of brake cleaner fluid scattered about the interior and exterior of the structure. The male is currently in critical condition and unconscious. Investigators will interview the male once he is awake.

There were reports that a female was involved or on location. Law enforcement conducted a search of the residence and surrounding area but no female was ever located. No emergency personnel or public were injured during this event.

If you have any information about this incident please contact the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office at 936-760-5800 or Montgomery County Fire Marshal's Office 936-538-8288.

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