



**CITY OF HOOVER, ALABAMA
100 Municipal Drive
Hoover, Alabama 35216**



*Nicholas C. Derzis
Police Chief*

*Charles Wingate
Fire Chief*

***For Immediate Release
January 22, 2010***

Days Inn Fire

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The Hoover Fire Department responded to a 3-alarm fire at the Days Inn, on Saturday, January 16, 2010. Days Inn is located at 1535 Montgomery Highway. The initial call was received at 8:08 pm; the first Engine arrived on the scene at 8:12 pm. The fire was under control an hour later, at 9:12 pm.

Four people died in the fire; all of the victims were located in a room on the second floor.

Due to the magnitude of the fire, and the tragic loss of life, the decision was made to request the ATF National Response Team, and the Alabama State Fire Marshal's Office.

Following a very thorough investigation by the Hoover Fire Department, the Hoover Police Department, the ATF NRT, and the State Fire Marshal, the fire was determined to be accidental. The individual believed to have accidentally started the fire was in violation of Federal Immigration laws; he has been taken into custody by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

On Thursday, January 21, investigators met with family members in order to explain the circumstances of the fire. Following the meeting with the families, a press conference was conducted; representatives from all investigating agencies conducted this media briefing.

The City of Hoover extends its sincere condolences to the families of the victims.