



Texas Department of Insurance

State Fire Marshal's Office Mail Code 112-FM
333 Guadalupe • P. O. Box 149221, Austin, Texas 78714-9221
512-305-7900 • 512-305-7922 fax • www.tdi.texas.gov

April 23, 2013

MEDIA FACT SHEET West, Texas Fertilizer Plant Incident

- State Fire Marshal's Office is conducting a joint investigation with ATF on the origin and cause of the fire/explosion at the fertilizer plant in West, Texas. Approximately 70 investigators are on the scene.
- ATF created a 3D rendering of the crater at the seat of the explosion has been completed. The preliminary measurements of the crater are 93 feet wide and 10 feet deep.
- According to NFPA 921, there are four ways a fire can be classified. The four classifications are: natural, accidental, incendiary, undetermined. Natural has been ruled out.
- SFMO and ATF are working with numerous experts on site to assist with the origin and cause investigation. Upon completion of the investigation, a joint report will be issued based on the collective opinion of all agencies involved in the investigation.