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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Update from the City of Lackawanna Regarding House Explosion with Fire at 91 Bedford Avenue

Lackawanna, N.Y. (Tuesday, July 20, 2021). This morning (Tuesday, July 20) at approximately 7:20a.m., City of Lackawanna Fire and Police Department crews were dispatched to a multi-alarm call of a house explosion with fire at 91 Bedford Avenue, which is located off Abbott Road in the city's Fourth Ward.

Upon arrival, Lackawanna fire and police crews found the 91 Bedford Avenue home completely destroyed with fire burning from the home's foundation and in a portion of the debris field scattered on the north and south ends of the street.

Mrs. Irene Sanok, 92 years old, was pronounced dead at the scene by the Erie County Medical Examiner's Office. At present, it is believed that no other people were inside the residence at the time of the explosion. We are not aware of any injuries sustained by nearby residents or emergency workers.

Seven adjacent homes were damaged by the explosion impact. Lackawanna Code Enforcement Officers are evaluating the extent of those damages.

The cause of the explosion at 91 Bedford Avenue is under investigation by the City of Lackawanna Fire and Police Departments, the Erie County Sheriffs Office and National Fuel. The investigation is expected to take several days. Further updates will be provided as appropriate upon completion of the investigation.

The City of Lackawanna extends its condolences to Mrs. Sanok's family and asks the community to keep her and her family in their thoughts and prayers.