

## **May 16, 2012 - Natural Gas Leak Forces Evacuation of 30 occupants and staff from Providence House**

*There were no reported injuries*

Shortly after 3:00 p.m., Shreveport Firefighters were dispatched to investigate an odor of natural gas in the Providence House in the 800 block of Cotton Street in Historic Downtown Shreveport. Firefighters used a Combustible Gas Indicator to measure the flammable gas limit which registered 10 percent of the Lower Explosive Limit. A building or area of this reading should not be occupied without proper respiratory protection, therefore the building was evacuated.

CenterPoint Energy was immediately called on-scene and has capped the gas leak which was likely caused by a construction crew digging at the corner Texas Street and Cotton Street early in the day. There were no reported injuries. Fire crews will remain on-scene until it has been deemed safe for occupants to re-enter the Providence House.