



NEWS RELEASE

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HUDGENS ANNOUNCES ARREST IN WHITFIELD COUNTY ARSON

Atlanta – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens announced today an arrest in connection with an arson fire in Whitfield County.

Matthew C. Gibson, 40, has been arrested and charged with arson in the first degree. On February 16, Gibson allegedly set fire to his home at 692 Eber Road in Dalton, Commissioner Hudgens said. Damage is estimated at more than \$130,000.

Gibson has been booked into the Whitfield County Jail and bond is set at \$1,000.

First-degree arson is a felony with a penalty of one to 20 years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$50,000.

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