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NEWS RELEASE

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HUDGENS INVESTIGATES DEADLY BLECKLEY COUNTY FIRE

Atlanta, GA – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens has ruled a house fire that killed a bedridden elderly woman and her son this afternoon as accidental.

Commissioner Hudgens said the victims have been identified as Mrs. Elmon Lee Jackson, 83, and Larry Jackson, 53. An arson investigator with his office determined that the fire started as a result of unattended cooking on the stovetop. A caretaker at the home for the day was able to escape the blaze when she was pushed out the door to safety by Mr. Jackson.

The deadly blaze which broke out around 4:41 p.m. destroyed the rental home, located at 208 W. Peters Street in Cochran, Ga. When firefighters arrived on the scene, the resident was fully involved with flames and smoke. The Cochran Fire Department and Police Department assisted with the investigation, Hudgens said.

These fatalities bring the number of fire deaths in Georgia for 2018 to 65.