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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

**For Immediate Release  
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### **HOUSE FIRE KILLS BARROW COUNTY MAN**

**Atlanta** – A fire investigator with the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner's Office has ruled an early morning house fire in Barrow County that killed a man was accidental.

Discovered in the fire was Richard Holst, 53. His home located at 126 Ashwood Road in Winder, Ga., was heavily damaged by the blaze. The blaze was called in to 911 Dispatch around 7:20 a.m.

Investigators determined that the fire started in the living room area of the home, and was the result of careless use of smoking material by the victim.

So far in 2018, 43 Georgians have died in fires. The Winder Police Department and the Winder Fire Department assisted with the investigation.