



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **HUDGENS ANNOUNCES REWARD IN FULTON COUNTY ARSON CASE**

**Atlanta** - Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens and the Georgia Arson Control Board, Inc., announced today the presentation of a reward check totaling \$3,000 to a Fulton County citizen who provided information that led to the conviction of an arsonist.

The check totaling \$3,000 was presented to City of Forest Park Deputy Fire Chief Matt Jackson in a brief ceremony at the main Fire Department. Deputy Chief Jackson will forward the reward to the recipient, who wishes to remain anonymous, Commissioner Hudgens said.



The reward was given for information provided in a July 2012 fire that destroyed a home located at 5021 West Street in Forest Park, Ga. Based on information provided by the reward recipient, Denis Flores Matamoris, 27, was arrested and eventually convicted on arson charges.

Since its inception in 1979, the Georgia Arson Control Board has approved 560 rewards totaling \$1,617,850. The average reward paid is \$2,889.

Commissioner Hudgens and the Georgia Arson Control Board, Inc., sponsor the Georgia Arson Control Reward Program and the Georgia Arson Hotline. Rewards of up to \$10,000 are given for information leading to the arrest and conviction of an arsonist. Anyone with information about a suspicious fire is asked to call the hotline at 1-800-282-5804. Calls are taken 24 hours a day; callers can choose to remain anonymous.