



Office of
Commissioner of Insurance

NEWS RELEASE

Ralph Hudgens
Commissioner of Insurance
Safety Fire Commissioner
Industrial Loan Commissioner

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SPALDING COUNTY FATAL FIRE RULED ACCIDENTAL

Atlanta – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens said an investigation by his office revealed that an early morning house fire in Spalding County that claimed the life of a mother and severely injured her son, was caused by careless smoking.

Christie Lewis, 44, died in the fire today at her home located at 408 E. Macintosh Road, in Griffin, Ga. Her son, Zachary Shavers Tobias Sevenstar, 6, was severely injured and transported to the Burn Center in Augusta, Ga. The investigation revealed that the improper discarding of a cigarette into a trash can started the blaze, Commissioner Hudgens said.

Commissioner Hudgens said the fire was reported around 9:30 a.m. and the blaze was extinguished by the Spalding County Fire Department.

This death brings Georgia's fire fatality total to 65 for 2017.