



NEWS RELEASE

RALPH T. HUDGENS
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER
INDUSTRIAL LOAN COMMISSIONER
COMPTROLLER GENERAL

Seventh Floor, West Tower
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
www.oci.ga.gov

For Immediate Release
October 6, 2011

Contact: Mitch Madaglia
404-651-7902
media@oci.ga.gov

HUDGENS ANNOUNCES 2011 WINNERS OF LIFE, FIRE & SAFETY AWARDS

Atlanta – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph T. Hudgens will present awards, recognizing Georgia fire personnel and citizens for outstanding service in fighting fires and saving lives at the 19th Annual “Life, Fire & Safety” Awards Luncheon.

The awards banquet will be held at **11:00 a.m.** on **Tuesday, October 11**, at the **Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth, Georgia**.

Winners of the “Excellence in Fire Safety” Awards are:

- **Firefighter of the Year** – Jeff Jones, Barrow County Department of Fire & Emergency Services
- **Fire Safety Educator of the Year** – Chris Cooper, City of Roswell Fire Department
- **Fire Safety Prevention Program of the Year** – Kingsland Fire Rescue
- **Citizen’s Courage Award** – Dustin Elliott, Lamar County, Georgia
- **Citizen’s Courage Award** – Chris Cota, Spalding County, Georgia

Contestants in the poster and essay contests were required to reflect this year’s theme, “Protect Your Family From Fire” in the entries they submitted.

First-place winners of the Fire Safety Poster Contest were:

- **Kindergarten** – Arielle Grier – Fairview Elementary School – Stockbridge
- **1st Grade** – Kelly Hanna Jeong – Wilson Creek Elementary School – Johns Creek
- **2nd Grade** – Sydney McGill – Blue Ridge Elementary School – Blue Ridge
- **3rd Grade** – Miracle Griffin – Charles L. Gideons Elementary School – Atlanta
- **4th Grade** – Shae Thaxton – Pike County Elementary School – Zebulon
- **5th Grade** – Avery Dixon – Georgia Cyber Academy – Atlanta

---continue--

Life, Fire and Safety Awards

Page 2

First-Place winner of the Fire Safety House Essay Contest was:

- **3rd Grade** – Brandon Dominguez – W.G. Nunn Elementary School - Valdosta

First-place winners of the Fire Safety Essay Contest were:

- **6th Grade** – Rachael Montera – J.L. Newbern Middle School – Valdosta
- **7th Grade** – Sydney McGinnis – Dawson County Middle School – Dawsonville
- **8th Grade** – Starla Adams – Southeast Bulloch Middle School – Brooklet
- **9th Grade** – DeVontae Leary – Valdosta Early College Academy – Valdosta
- **10th Grade** – Christian Farrar – Sequoyah High School – Canton
- **11th Grade** – Zach Kemler – Faith Christian Academy – Griffin
- **12th Grade** – Jarrod Fouts – Faith Christian Academy – Griffin

2011 Fire Safety Tips Calendar Contest Winners, Whose Artwork Will Be In The 2012 Fire Safety Tips Calendar, were:

- **Cover** – Christine Anna Jeong, 4th Grade – Wilson Creek Elementary School – Johns Creek
- **January** – Jeffrey Smith, 3rd Grade – Oakcliff Theme School – Doraville
- **February** – Brandon Hawkinson, K – Harvester Christian Academy – Douglasville
- **February** – Will Kimbrough, K – Harvester Christian Academy – Douglasville
- **March** – Dalton Simms, 4th Grade – Pike County Elementary School – Zebulon
- **April** – Kai O’Neill, 1st Grade – Pike County Primary School – Zebulon
- **May** – Bob Schofield, 4th Grade – David A. Perdue Elementary School – Warner Robins
- **June** – Julia Schwane, 4th Grade – Clear Creek Elementary School – Cartersville
- **July** – Kaitlyn Wester, 4th Grade – David A. Perdue Elementary School – Warner Robins
- **August** – Isabel McClelland, 4th Grade – Pike County Elementary School – Zebulon
- **September** – Bailee Brown, 2nd Grade – Pike County Primary School – Zebulon
- **October** – Lyrica Miron, 5th Grade – Mission Road Elementary School – Cartersville
- **November** – Kelsea Camp, 1st Grade – Harvester Christian Academy – Douglasville
- **December** – Peter Gardner, 4th Grade – Heard Elementary School - Savannah

Second-place winners of the Fire Safety Poster Contest were:

- **Kindergarten** – Kenleigh Smith – Pike County Primary School – Zebulon
- **1st Grade** – Tyler Pierce – Pike County Primary School – Zebulon
- **2nd Grade** – Audrey Anderson – Pike County Primary School – Zebulon
- **3rd Grade** – Jaden Musacchio – Clear Creek Elementary School - Cartersville
- **4th Grade** – Alyssa Bonifacio – David A. Perdue Elementary School – Warner Robins
- **5th Grade** – Renee Garman – Ebenezer Elementary School – Rincon

Life, Fire and Safety Awards
Page 3

Second-place winner of the Fire Safety House Essay Contest was:

- **3rd Grade** – Ayonne White – W.G. Nunn Elementary School - Valdosta

Second-place winners of the Fire Safety Essay Contest were:

- **6th Grade** – Lauren Busman – Sumter County Middle School - Americus
- **7th Grade** – Addie Huthwaite – Dawson County Middle School – Dawsonville
- **8th Grade** – Destiny Vaughan – Dawson County Middle School – Dawsonville
- **9th Grade** – Jewan Johnson – Faith Christian Academy – Griffin
- **10th Grade** – Collin Flake – Faith Christian Academy – Griffin
- **11th Grade** – Martha Michael– Valdosta High School – Valdosta
- **12th Grade** – Carlito Wilmoth – Faith Christian Academy – Griffin

Third-place winners of the Fire Safety Poster Contest were:

- **Kindergarten** – Andrew Edwards – Pike County Primary School – Zebulon
- **1st Grade** – Madison Gonzales – Oak Hill Elementary School – Covington
- **2nd Grade** – Craig Smokes – Hesse Elementary School – Savannah
- **3rd Grade** – Brady Martin – Blue Ridge Elementary School – Blue Ridge
- **4th Grade** – Chemica Griffin – Charles L. Gideons Elementary School – Atlanta
- **5th Grade** – Savannah Hallmark – Ephesus Elementary School – Roopville

Third-place winner of the Fire Safety House Essay Contest was:

- **2nd Grade** – Susannah O’Steen – Pike County Primary School – Zebulon

Third-place winners of the Fire Safety Essay Contest were:

- **6th Grade** – Selena George – J.L. Newborn Middle School – Valdosta
- **7th Grade** – Jaylee Leete – Dawson County Middle School – Dawsonville
- **8th Grade** – Mahdi Nourbakhsh – Dawson County Middle School – Dawsonville
- **9th Grade** – Ara Kimberly Davis – Faith Christian Academy – Griffin
- **10th Grade** – Morgon Howard – Faith Christian Academy – Griffin
- **11th Grade** – Kayla Pitts – Faith Christian Academy – Griffin
- **12th Grade** – Christopher Flake – Faith Christian Academy – Griffin

###