



NEWS RELEASE

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

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HUDGENS: FATAL HARALSON COUNTY FIRE RULED ACCIDENTAL

Atlanta -- Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens has ruled an early morning fatal fire in Haralson County accidental.

Cathryn Marie Davenport Pope, 87, died in the blaze; she was home alone at the time of the fire.

Investigators believe that a malfunction of a gas furnace caused the fire, Hudgens said. The fire originated in the crawl space area of the home.

The residence, at 21 Simpson Street, Tallapoosa, Ga., was destroyed. The fire call came in around 7 a.m.