



# INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

- State of Georgia -

## *NEWS RELEASE*

**John F. King**

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## **BARTOW COUNTY FIREFIGHTER CHARGED WITH 16 FELONIES**

**ATLANTA** – On October 11, investigators with the Safety Fire Commissioner’s Office arrested Bartow County Firefighter Carey Wolfe, 36, of Cartersville, Georgia, and charged him with 1 Count of First Degree Arson, 1 Count of Aggravated Battery, 1 Count of Possession of a Firearm in Commission of a Felony, 3 Counts of Burglary, 5 Counts of Theft by Receiving, 3 Counts of Theft by Deception, 1 Count of Violation of Oath by a Public Officer, and 1 Count of Arson of Woodlands.

“The arson charges stem from Mr. Wolfe’s alleged involvement in setting fire to a structure off of Old Mill Road in White, Georgia, on the afternoon of October 4. He is currently being held in Bartow County Jail without bond,” said Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King. “The initial investigation revealed that the suspect is employed with the Bartow County Fire Department. After that discovery, the investigation was turned over to our office to eliminate any conflicts of interests.”

The investigation also revealed that Mr. Wolfe allegedly burglarized the home before setting fire to it. Multiple items were stolen and then pawned at a local pawn shop. The 41-year-old, 1,589 square-foot home was completely destroyed by the blaze, which spread to the wooded area around the home resulting in a wildfire.

Investigators with the Safety Fire Commissioner’s Office are assisting the Bartow County Sheriff’s Office, Bartow County Fire Department, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives with this investigation.

First Degree Arson is a felony punishable by a fine of no more than \$50,000 or by a prison term between one and twenty years, or both.



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