

For Immediate Release

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INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

- State of Georgia -

NEWS RELEASE

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BERRIEN COUNTY FATAL FIRE UNDER INVESTIGATION

ATLANTA – Shortly after 10:00 P.M. on April 22, Berrien County emergency officials responded to a residential fire off of Highway 168 in Nashville, Georgia. When they made their way inside the home, they discovered the body of Richard Allen Mathis, 53.

"It has been determined that the fire originated on the carport of the residence. One individual was able to escape the home with minor injuries," said Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King. "The victim's body was immediately removed from the residence, but unfortunately he was pronounced dead at the scene. Right now, the cause of this fire is still under investigation."

Commissioner King's Fire Investigations Unit is assisting the Berrien County Fire Department and the Berrien County Sheriff's Office with this investigation.

There have been 35 fire fatalities in Georgia in 2020.

