



INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

- State of Georgia -

NEWS RELEASE

John F. King

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Safety Fire Commissioner
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BULLOCH COUNTY FATAL FIRE RULED ACCIDENTAL

ATLANTA – Around 2:00 P.M on the afternoon of January 23, the Bulloch County Fire Department responded to a residential fire located off of Spell Mincey Road in Portal, Georgia. After extinguishment, emergency personnel discovered the body of an unidentified male in the master bedroom doorway. The victim’s dog also perished in the fire.

“The 40-year-old, single-wide mobile home was nearly destroyed by the blaze. The body of the deceased was turned over to the GBI Crime Lab, where an autopsy is set to be performed. Further tests are to be conducted before an exact identification is made on the victim,” said Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King. “Though it cannot be directly linked to starting the fire, a space heater was found in the area of origin. Please be sure to practice extreme caution when using space heaters in your home.”

If you plan on using a space heater for your home, Commissioner King reminds you to follow [these important safety](#) tips when it is in use.

Investigators with the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner’s Office are assisting Bulloch County Fire Department, the Bulloch County Sheriff’s Office, and the Bulloch County Coroner’s Office with this investigation.

The unidentified male is the third victim to perish in a Georgia fire in 2020.



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