

## INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

- State of Georgia -

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## John F. King

Commissioner of Insurance Safety Fire Commissioner Industrial Loan Commissioner

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## BUTTS COUNTY FATAL FIRE CAUSED BY SPACE HEATER

**ATLANTA** – Around 6:30 A.M on the morning of January 26, the Butts County Fire Department responded to a structure fire located at 1315 Highway 42 South in Jackson, Georgia. Upon arrival, emergency personnel were informed of a juvenile inside the structure. They were able to extract the juvenile before extinguishment, but the juvenile did not survive the injuries sustained in the fire.

"Two adults and a juvenile were able to escape the home before emergency officials arrived, but unfortunately one juvenile was not able to survive the fire. The juvenile who did escape suffered severe burns and was flown to Grady Memorial Hospital to be treated," said Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King. "It is believed that this fire started in the rear bedroom and was caused by a space heater. Please be sure to practice extreme caution when using space heaters in your home and to always keep them a safe distance away from other objects."

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 Butts County Fire Department with this investigation.

The juvenile was the fourth victim to perish in a Georgia fire this year. There has since been another, bringing the total reported victim count to five.

