

## 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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## HALL COUNTY FATAL FIRE UNDER INVESTIGATION

**ATLANTA** – Shortly after 8:00 A.M. on the morning of December 1, the Hall County Fire Department responded to a residential fire located at 5423 Smallwood Drive in Gainesville, Georgia. When emergency personnel made their way inside the home, they discovered the bodies of a 9-year-old and 40-year-old.

"The double-wide mobile home was around 40 years old and 1,400 square feet in size. It was completely destroyed by the blaze and the bodies of the deceased were sent to the GBI Crime Lab for autopsy," said Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King. "The cause and origin of this extremely tragic event are still under investigation. No foul play is suspected at this time."

Smoke alarms were found to be present in the home, but it is unclear if they were working properly when the fire started. Investigators with the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner's Office are assisting the Hall County Fire Department and the Hall County Sheriff's Office with this investigation.

In 2019, Georgia fires have claimed the lives of 85 individuals.

