



INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

- State of Georgia -

NEWS RELEASE

John F. King

Commissioner of Insurance
Safety Fire Commissioner
Industrial Loan Commissioner

Twitter: @GA_DOI

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Contact: Brandon Wright
Office: 404-463-0729

MCINTOSH COUNTY FATAL FIRE UNDER INVESTIGATION

ATLANTA – Around 2:15 P.M on the afternoon of September 12, McIntosh County Fire Department responded to a structure fire located at 2005 Dallas Bluff Road in Shellman Bluff, Georgia. As a result of the fire, two individuals were killed, Irma Jean Hutchinson, 78, and R.T. Gilder III, 69, and two others were injured.

“Right now, the cause of this fire is still under investigation,” said Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King. “The victims were inside a social gathering place for residents of the area. The structure suffered major damage from this unfortunate, deadly fire.”

The bodies of the deceased were sent to the Coastal Crime Lab in Pooler for autopsy. The individuals who suffered injuries in the fire were flown to the Shands Burn Center at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

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

In 2019, Georgia fires have claimed the lives of 57 individuals.



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