



# 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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For Immediate Release  
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### **STEPHENS COUNTY FATAL FIRE RULED ACCIDENTAL**

**ATLANTA** – Around 1:50 P.M. on the afternoon of March 24, the City of Toccoa Fire Department responded to a residential fire off of Cherokee Boulevard. When emergency personnel made their way inside the home, they discovered the body of Kaweemah Reeves, 56, in the living room.

“It appears that that the fire started in the kitchen of the 64-year-old, 1,300 square-foot home. The kitchen suffered moderate damage while the rest of the house had smoke, soot, and heat damage,” said Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King. “The cause of this unfortunate fire has been ruled accidental and looks to be cooking-related.”

The body was sent to the GBI Crime Lab, where an autopsy is set to be performed. Commissioner King’s Fire Investigations Unit assisted the Toccoa Fire Department, Toccoa Police Department, and the Stephens County Coroner’s Office with this investigation.

Reeves was the twenty-seventh victim to perish in a Georgia fire in 2020. There has since been one additional fatality, bringing the total number of reported fatalities to twenty-eight. There have been four fatal fires that originated in the kitchen of Georgia homes so far this year.



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