

INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

- State of Georgia -

NEWS RELEASE

John F. King

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WAYNE COUNTY MAN ARRESTED FOR ARSON

ATLANTA – On Wednesday, August 7, Michael Kenneth Blocker, 44, of Jesup, Georgia was arrested on a First Degree Arson charge. The charge stems from <u>a fire that occurred on June 16, 2019</u> at 2462 Old Screven Road in Jesup, Georgia.

The fire was set to a double-wide mobile home, which suffered major damage from the blaze. Five adult residents were inside at the time of the fire, but all escaped without injury. It has been determined that the fire originated on the front porch of the residence.

"Setting fire to any structure is illegal and very dangerous. Thankfully, the five adults who were home at the time were able to escape without injury," said Safety fire Commissioner John F. King. "I am very grateful to the hardworking investigators in my office as well as the Wayne County Sheriff's Office for working together to bring this individual to justice."

Blocker is currently being held at the Wayne County Jail awaiting a bond hearing. First Degree Arson is a felony with a penalty of five to 20 years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$50,000.

Investigators with the Safety Fire Commissioner's Office assisted the Wayne County Sheriff's Office and the City of Jesup Fire Department with this investigation.



