

JOHN F. KING Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire

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NEWS RELEASE

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ARREST MADE IN JONES COUNTY ARSON CASE

Morton caught on the run in Ohio, warrants pending in Metro Atlanta

ATLANTA – The Office of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King announced today that Brandon Morton, 36, was arrested by authorities in Ohio soon after a BOLO was put out concerning a Jones County arson case. Mr. Morton was caught in a traffic stop on Tuesday morning in Euclid, Ohio, and will be extradited to Georgia in the coming days.

"We are incredibly grateful for the swift action of local law enforcement in Ohio, the Georgia media outlets who helped spread the word about this case, and everyday Georgians who kept an eye out for this alleged arsonist," said Commissioner King. "Georgians can rest easy knowing state and local law enforcement across the country take crimes of arson very seriously."

The Jones County fire occurred off of Old Clinton Road in Gray, a Central Georgia town. Local law enforcement discovered that the living room sofa was set on fire after an apartment in the Dulles Park complex was broken into. Mr. Morton was the prime suspect in this case.

Other warrants are pending in Henry County for Mr. Morton's arrest, and Commissioner King's pre-arrest release can be found <u>here</u>.

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The mission of the Office of the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner is to protect Georgia families by providing access to vital insurance products and safe buildings through fair regulation that creates economic opportunities for all Georgians.