



Office of Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

October 21, 2024

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MULTIPLE FATALITIES IN ROSWELL APARTMENT FIRE CAUSED BY UNATTENDED COOKING

ROSWELL, GA - An apartment fire in Roswell has tragically claimed the lives of two people and two dogs, believed to be caused by unattended cooking. Saturday, October 19, at 3:48 AM, the Roswell Fire Department responded to reports of a fire at the Champions Green Apartment Complex. Firefighters arrived to find heavy smoke coming from the rear of a three-story building.

Fire crews immediately began a search and rescue operation, locating two victims inside the affected apartment. Despite life-saving measures, the victims were transported to a local hospital, where they were later pronounced deceased. The fire also impacted two neighboring units, displacing six residents, who were offered assistance through the Red Cross. Two dogs were also found deceased inside the apartment.

Investigators from the Roswell Fire Department, Roswell Police Department, and the Georgia State Fire Marshal's Office have preliminarily determined the fire was accidental, caused by unattended cooking. Fire investigators confirmed that smoke alarms were present and operational in the unit at the time of the incident.

“Our deepest sympathies are with the families affected by this devastating loss,” said Roswell Fire Chief Joe Pennino. “This tragedy is a reminder of how quickly accidents can happen. We encourage everyone to take simple precautions when cooking to help prevent future tragedies.”

Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King expressed similar sentiments: “Our hearts go out to the families, friends, and loved ones affected by this tragic event. In the wake of this loss, we encourage all Georgians to create and practice a home fire escape plan. Knowing how to exit safely and where to meet can make all the difference in an emergency.”

In light of this incident, the Roswell Fire Department, Roswell Police Department, and the Georgia State Fire Marshal's Office encourage all residents to stay mindful while cooking. Cooking fires are a leading cause of home fires, and small actions—like staying in the kitchen while cooking and ensuring smoke alarms are working—can make a difference in keeping your home safe.

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The mission of the Office Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire 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.