

JOHN F. KING Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire

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NEWS RELEASE

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WOODSTOCK MAN ARRESTED FOR INSURANCE FRAUD, FORGERY

ATLANTA – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King announced today that Michael Preston, 42, of Woodstock, has been charged with insurance fraud and forgery.

In November 2021, the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office received a report of potential fraud being committed by a local insurance agent. After an initial investigation, the case was turned over to our agency for further review.

"Our investigation showed that Mr. Preston, acting in his former occupation as an insurance agent with State Farm, received a check from a consumer intended to satisfy an insurance premium payment," said Commissioner King. "The suspect did not use the \$3,500 check for its intended purpose and instead deposited the amount into his personal bank account."

The suspect has since been terminated from his position with State Farm.

Warrants were taken out against Mr. Preston on November 15 in Cherokee County. He remains wanted at this time. Our office worked with the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office on this investigation.



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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.