



# NEWS RELEASE

**RALPH HUDGENS**  
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE  
SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER  
INDUSTRIAL LOAN COMMISSIONER

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## HUDGENS ISSUE RULING ON FATAL FIRE IN PAULDING COUNTY

**Atlanta** - Insurance and Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens' office has ruled an overnight house fire in Paulding County with one fatality accidental.

Killed by the fire was Steve Brackett, 55. His manufactured home located at 110 Chester Harris Drive in Dallas, Georgia, was destroyed by the blaze.

An investigation by Hudgens' Fire Unit revealed that an electric space heater operating too close to a recliner started the blaze. Brackett's body was found in the recliner.

Commissioner Hudgens said no evidence of a working smoke alarm was found in the home. The fire call came in around 2:33 a.m.

Agencies also involved in this investigation were Paulding County Fire and the Paulding County Sheriff's Office.