



NEWS RELEASE

RALPH HUDGENS
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER
INDUSTRIAL LOAN COMMISSIONER

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FATAL HOUSTON COUNTY FIRE RULED ACCIDENTAL

Atlanta – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens has ruled an early morning house fire that claimed the life of Houston County woman accidental.

The fire, which occurred around 7:25 a.m., at 137 Lonesome Doe Circle in Kathleen, Ga., killed Opal Alford, 86. Alford was home alone at the time of the fire.

"Investigators with my office have determined that the cause of the fire was the result of unattended cooking," Hudgens said. "The home was destroyed by the blaze."

Commissioner Hudgens' Fire Investigation Unit was assisting by the Houston County Fire Department.

In 2015, fire has claimed the lives of ten Georgians.