



# NEWS RELEASE

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

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## **HUDGENS: JENKINS COUNTY CHURCH FIRE WAS ARSON**

**Atlanta** – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens said today that a fire at a vacant church in Jenkins County early Sunday morning was arson.

The fire occurred around 3:30 a.m., at the Carswell-Grove Baptist Church, located at 1365 Big Buckhead Church Road in Millen, Ga. The church was destroyed by the blaze, Hudgens said.

The church was built around 1920 and had been vacant since 2008, when a newer church was constructed on the same property. The predominately African American congregation has around twenty members who meet for services monthly.

Commissioner Hudgens is asking anyone with information about this fire to call the Arson Hotline at 1-800-282-5804. A reward of up to \$10,000 is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the arsonist(s). Calls are taken 24 hours a day; callers can choose to remain anonymous.