



State of Georgia
Department of Insurance

*2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
720 West Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
800-656-2298*

Ralph Hudgens
Commissioner of Insurance
Safety Fire Commissioner
Industrial Loan Commissioner
www.oci.ga.gov

NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
August 24, 2018**

**Contact: Glenn Allen
Office: 404-463-0729**

LEE COUNTY MAN ARRESTED FOR ARSON

Atlanta, GA – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens said a Lee County man was arrested on Wednesday for a 2017 fire at a business in Dougherty County.

Matthew Long, 33, is charged with one count of first-degree arson for allegedly starting a fire on December 26, at a commercial property located at 1819 Dawson Road, in Albany, Ga. Long was apprehended by the Georgia State Patrol and booked into the Lee County Jail. The warrant was taken out in Dougherty County on July 26, by an Arson Investigator with Hudgens' office.

The fire, which was reported around 3:30 a.m. destroyed the two-story building occupied by a real estate business the Anderson Company. Damage to the structure and its content was estimated at \$220,000.

First-degree arson is a felony with a penalty of five to 20 years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$50,000.