For Immediate Release

February 15, 2017

Commissioner of Insurance and State Fire Marshal Mike Chaney extends condolences on passing of Bassfield Fire Chief Bill Matthews

"Yesterday the Mississippi firefighting community lost a valued member with the death of Bassfield Fire Chief Bill Matthews. Chief Matthews died while working a brush/woods fire in Jefferson Davis County.

Being a firefighter is one of the most dangerous professions in this country. Those that choose to serve are selfless individuals dedicated to saving lives and protecting property in their communities. Chief Matthews was just such an individual, honorably serving not only the Bassfield Fire Department and the city of Bassfield, but the state of Mississippi. We salute him.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Chief Matthews and to his fellow firefighters of the Bassfield Fire Department."

Commissioner of Insurance/State Fire Marshal Mike Chaney