



# MISSISSIPPI STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MIKE CHANEY  
State Fire Marshal

PRESS RELEASE

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## **For Immediate Release**

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### **State Fire Marshal Mike Chaney Announces Arrest in Railroad Bridge Fire**

**Jackson, MS** – In a joint investigation with the Grenada Police Department, the Grenada Fire Department, and the Grenada Sheriff's Office, and the Mississippi State Fire Marshal's office, State Fire Marshal Mike Chaney has announced the arrest of an individual in connection with the Yalobusha River Bridge, railroad bridge fire over the Fourth of July weekend.

Chaz Atkins, 20, of Grenada has been arrested and charged with felony malicious mischief for being responsible for the fire that has shut down the railroad bridge that serves as a rail line from Memphis to Grenada to Canton, Mississippi.

Officials with Grenada Railroad/Iowa Pacific Railroad estimate that the bridge will cost between \$300,000 and \$500,000 to repair and repairs could take up to a month or longer. The railroad's inability to use the line could lead to a potential \$1,000,000 loss of revenue.

The investigation into the case is ongoing and anyone with further information should contact the State Fire Marshal's Office, the Grenada Police Department, the Grenada Fire Department or the Grenada Sheriff's Office.