



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

WHEREAS: On June 11, 2024, Mr. Marcello Banes, Newton County Board of Commissioners Chairman, was indicted by the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia on one count of Money Laundering Conspiracy, three counts of Transactional Money Laundering, one count of Concealment Money Laundering, and one count of False Statements to a Federal Agent; and

WHEREAS: A certified copy of the indictment was transmitted to the Governor pursuant to Code Section 45-5-6(b) and received on January 2, 2025; and

WHEREAS: Executive Order 01.23.25.01 was issued on January 23, 2025, appointing members to the review commission to determine whether the indictment relates to and adversely affects the administration of the office of Newton County Board of Commissioners Chairman such that the rights and interests of the public are adversely affected; and

WHEREAS: On February 7, 2025, the above-mentioned review commission found that the indictment of Mr. Banes does relate to and does adversely affect the administration of the office of Newton County Board of Commissioners Chairman such that the rights and interests of the public are adversely affected thereby and recommended that Mr. Banes be suspended from office pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-5-6.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO CODE SECTION 45-5-6, AND THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That Mr. Banes is hereby suspended from office immediately and without further action pending the final disposition of the case or until expiration of his term of office, whichever occurs first, as provided in Code Section 45-5-6(c).

This 7th day of March 2025.

GOVERNOR