



# THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

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BY THE GOVERNOR:

**WHEREAS:** On August 11, 2026, Mr. Marcello Banes, Chairman of the Newton County Board of Commissioners, was indicted on one count of Aiding and Assisting the Preparation of a False Tax Return, one count of Wire Fraud Conspiracy, ten counts of Wire Fraud, and two counts of Theft of Government Property; and

**WHEREAS:** This indictment alleges new facts and charges not contained in the indictment considered by the review commission appointed on January 23, 2025, per Executive Order 01.23.25.01; and

**WHEREAS:** A certified copy of the indictment was transmitted to me pursuant to Code Section 45-5-6(b) and received on August 19, 2026; and

**WHEREAS:** The fourteen-day period following receipt of the indictment as prescribed by Code Section 45-5-6(e) has passed.

**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 Attorney General Christopher Carr, Clinton Johnson of the Dougherty County Board of Commissioners, and Bruce Henry of the Jasper County Board of Commissioners are hereby appointed as the review commission to determine whether the indictment relates to and adversely affects the administration of the Office of Chairman of the Newton County Board of Commissioners such that the rights and interests of the public are adversely affected thereby and to make a written report to me within 14 days of this Order with a recommendation as to whether Mr. Banes should be suspended from office, as required by Code Section 45-5-6(c).

This 4<sup>th</sup> day of September 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. H.", written over a horizontal line.

GOVERNOR