



# THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

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BY THE GOVERNOR:

**WHEREAS:** On May 29, 2019, Bacon County Sheriff Mark Cothren was arrested by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation on charges of Elder Abuse, Violation of Oath of Office, and Battery; and

**WHEREAS:** Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-16-26, upon “criminal charges, alleged misconduct in office, or alleged incapacity of the sheriff to perform the functions of his office,” the Governor has the authority to appoint an investigative committee consisting of the Attorney General and two sheriffs who are members of the Georgia Sheriff’s Association.

**NOW THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY**

**ORDERED:** That Attorney General Chris Carr, Sheriff Neal Jump of Glynn County, and Sheriff Jud Smith of Barrow County are hereby appointed as the committee to investigate “criminal charges, alleged misconduct in office, or alleged incapacity” as it relates to Sheriff Cothren.

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** That the committee shall make a report of its investigation to me within 30 days of the date of this Executive Order.

This 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

GOVERNOR