PRESIDENT’S INVITATION

Our theme for this year’s conference is “Fire and Ice.” We’ve been through the “Fire” and now the “Ice.” We all had a fiery and heated election in 2016. We want to go over some situations or topics that happened in 2016 in hopes of helping everyone. Join us for a time of learning and fellowship with our fellow election officials.

Who Should Attend

The training sessions at the conference will be directed toward counties. If you are responsible for city elections, you may attend but with the understanding that you may receive limited information relating to cities.

Mandatory Training Hours

§ O.C.G.A 21-2-100. Training of local election officials (a) The election superintendent and at least one registrar of the county or, in counties with boards of election or combined boards of election and registration, at least one member of the board or a designee of the board shall attend a minimum of 12 hours' training annually as may be selected by the Secretary of State. The conference is endorsed by the Secretary of State to meet the requirements of 12 hours of mandatory continuing education for election superintendents and registrars.

Lodging

A block of rooms is being held at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront until April 13, 2017, or the date on which all rooms in the block have been reserved, whichever comes first. After that date, room reservations will be made on an availability basis only and may be subject to an increased rate. The room rate for the conference is $150 (includes $1 per night occupancy fee) per night for single/double occupancy. More than two people per room will incur an additional $21 (includes $1 per night occupancy fee) per person per night. Hotel check-in is 4:00 p.m., and check out is 11:00 a.m. You may begin reserving accommodations on March 15, 2017, by calling 800-285-0398 or 912-233-7722.

NOTE: In order to be tax exempt from state sales tax, a state, city, or county check or credit card must be presented upon check-in, along with your state, city, or county tax exemption certificate displaying your tax exemption number.

Each attendee/guest must present a hotel/motel excise tax form at time of check-in to avoid payment of those taxes.

Please adhere to the two rooms per county limit on lodging rooms to allow all counties the opportunity to have at least two representatives the ability to stay onsite. If the Savannah Marriott Riverfront sells out of rooms before all conference participants have been accommodated, overflow lodging can be secured at the Homewood Suites Riverfront/Savannah Historic District, 611 East River Street, Savannah, GA 31401, 912-355-0025. The lodging rate is $197.00 (includes $1.00 occupancy fee, the $5.00 state fee, and the $22.00 per night for overnight parking fee). The $1.00 occupancy fee and the $5.00 state fee are not tax exempt.

All reservations require payment of one night in advance by check, major credit card, or by company guarantee. The hotel will not hold any reservation not secured by one of the above methods. Deposits will be refunded if the reservation is canceled at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled arrival date. The hotel’s policy requires a credit card imprint upon check-in.

If a guest is unable to present a credit card at check-in, all room costs and applicable taxes will be collected at that time along with an appropriate deposit for incidental expenses. Any unused deposits will be refunded upon departure.

Parking

The Savannah Marriott Riverfront is pleased to offer parking for attendees of the GEOA conference at a discounted rate of $12 per vehicle per day. In the event that overflow lodging is required, we will work with respective facilities to offer parking at a comparable rate, and the Savannah Marriott Riverfront will not charge an additional parking fee to participants displaying a parking permit from a Savannah Historic District lodging facility.
ADA Restrictions
If you have medically prescribed dietary restrictions or a physical impairment requiring assistance, please email Jean Lord at lordj@uga.edu prior to the conference so that arrangements can be made.

Registration Fee and Deadline
The registration fee for the Georgia Election Officials Association conference is $490. Registrations are due by April 21, 2017, to ensure adequate instructional materials are prepared. The commuter fee is $420 and available for participants who will not be attending the Tuesday evening banquet. All fees must be received prior to enrollment in the conference.

Cancellation and Refund Policies
Written notice of cancellation must be postmarked/dated no later than April 14, 2017, to receive a full refund of registration fees. Written requests postmarked/dated between April 14, 2017, and April 21, 2017, will be assessed a 25% administrative fee, and requests postmarked/dated after April 21, 2017, are not eligible for a refund. Registrants who fail to attend, cancel, or send a substitute is liable for the full registration fee. Substitution of participant is encouraged over cancellation. To cancel registration or send a substitute, please send notification to Jean Lord at lordj@uga.edu, via fax at (706) 542-2176, or by mail at Carl Vinson Institute of Government, University of Georgia, 201 N. Milledge Avenue, Athens, GA 30602-5482.

GEOA Dues
To pay Georgia Election Officials Association dues, please complete the invoice, make your check payable to the Georgia Election Officials Association, and mail them to the association treasurer, T. J. Hudson. Inquiries concerning membership should be directed to T. J. Hudson at 912-529-4320, or by email at tj4treutlen@yahoo.com.

DO NOT SEND PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP DUES TO THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA.

Vendors
We would like to extend an invitation to exhibit at the upcoming Georgia Election Officials Association conference to be held at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront. I hope that you will take this opportunity to visit with our participants in an educational setting. The election officials' value each of you for the knowledge, services, support, and understanding you provide to enhance their professional lives.

To exhibit at the conference, please register online at www.cviog.uga.edu/geoa. Online registration provides the opportunity for a company representative to register and pay fees via credit card for one or several representatives. If you are unable to register online and pay by credit card, please complete the registration form and mail with a check to the University of Georgia at the address provided on the registration form. Your choice for space provides for exhibit space, one six-foot table draped and skirted, and all conference meals for the selection chosen.

Fee selections include:
• $540.00 for exhibit space with one table/electricity, and one representative
• $860.00 for exhibit space with one table/electricity, and two representatives
• $1180.00 for exhibit space with one table/electricity, and three representatives
• $1500.00 for exhibit space with one table/electricity, and four representatives

Guest Meals
Anyone bringing a guest or spouse must request and pay for a banquet meal prior to their arrival at the conference. Anyone who has not paid for the meal in advance will not receive a banquet ticket. Banquet tickets will NOT be sold at registration. Due to space limitations, guest meals will not be available for breakfast or lunch. Please be prepared to make alternate accommodations for your guests’ meals.

For Further Information
Jean Lord
Event Manager
Carl Vinson Institute of Government
201 N. Milledge Avenue
Athens, GA 30602-5482
Phone: 706.542.9534
Fax: 706.542.2176
Email: lordj@uga.edu

The meal package includes breakfast on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; lunch on Monday and Tuesday; dinner on Tuesday evening; and the refreshment breaks on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Any additional electrical or audiovisual needs will be the responsibility of the vendor. Set up time is Sunday, May 7, 2017, beginning at 1:00 p.m., and dismantle time is Wednesday, May 10, 2017, by 1:00 p.m.
SUNDAY, MAY 7
1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.
Conference Registration
Vendor Set-Up

3:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.
New Election Board Member Training
HANDOUT ONLY AVAILABLE AT REGISTRATION—NO CLASS

5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.
Welcome Reception
DINNER ON YOUR OWN

MONDAY, MAY 8
7:30 a.m.–8:30 a.m.
BREAKFAST

7:30 a.m.–8:30 a.m.
Conference Registration

8:45 a.m.–9:30 a.m.
Opening Session, Savannah Ballroom
Welcome – Invocation/Pledge/Roll Call
Years of Attendance Award Certificates
Introduction of Regional Coordinators
Vendor Recognition

Vocal Performance
Ava Smith, Butts County
Beverly Nation, President
Oglethorpe County
Russell Bridges, 1st Vice President
Chatham County
Deidre Holden, 2nd Vice President
Paulding County
The Honorable T. J. Hudson, Secretary/Treasurer
Treutlen County
Cynthia Welch, Immediate Past President
Rockdale County
Jean Lord, Program Event Manager
University of Georgia, Carl Vinson Institute of Government

9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.
New Legislation
PRESENTER(S): SECRETARY OF STATE BRIAN KEMP

10:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m.
BEVERAGE BREAK

10:45 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Recap of 2016 by the Secretary of State’s Office
PRESENTER(S): CHRIS HARVEY, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m.
LUNCH
1:30 p.m.–2:45 p.m.  
**Putting Out the Fire**  
Advanced and Election Day—Best Practices  
Provisional Ballots  
PRESENTER(S): DEB COX, LOWNDES COUNTY  
THE HONORABLE T. J. HUDSON, TREUTLEN COUNTY  
JEANETTA WATSON, MACON–BIBB COUNTY CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT

2:45 p.m.–3:00 p.m.  
**BEVERAGE BREAK**

3:00 p.m.–4:15 p.m.  
**Breakout One**  
Updates on Easy Vote Management—Counties that use Easy Vote  
PRESENTER(S): DEIDRE HOLDEN, PAULDING COUNTY

**Breakout Two**  
Non–Easy Vote Counties—Reconciliation  
PRESENTER(S): KELVIN WILLIAMS, GWINNETT COUNTY  
JOHN HALLMAN, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY STATE

4:30 p.m.–  
**Annual Business Meeting**

**DINNER ON YOUR OWN**

Mingling and Networking  
Kevin Barry’s  
117 W. River Street  
Host: Sivad Business Solutions

**TUESDAY, MAY 9**

7:30 a.m.–8:30 a.m.  
**BREAKFAST**

9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.  
**Quenching the Fire**  
Procedure for an Absentee Ballot at the Precinct/Forms  
PRESENTER(S): TRAVIS DOSS, RICHMOND COUNTY

10:00 a.m.–10:15 a.m.  
**BEVERAGE BREAK**

10:15 a.m.– 10:45 am  
**Icy Waters**  
Region Workshop, Part I  
PRESENTER(S): REGIONAL FACILITATORS  
Each region will break out for 30 minutes. A topic for discussion will be issued to each region.

10:45 a.m.–12:00 p.m.  
**Region Workshop, Part II**  
Each region will take five minutes to present their discussion topic.

12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m.  
**LUNCH**

1:30 p.m.–2:45 p.m.  
**Total Meltdown**  
Best Practices for Municipal Elections  
Role of the Election Superintendent and the Role of the City Clerk  
PRESENTER(S): CYNTHIA WELCH, ROCKDALE COUNTY

2:45 p.m.–3:00 p.m.  
**BEVERAGE BREAK**
3:00 p.m.–4:15 p.m.  **Vanilla Ice**  
*Media Outreach*
*PRESENTER(S): LYNN LEDFORD, GWINNETT COUNTY*
*Social media*
*PRESENTER(S): DEIDRE HOLDEN, PAULDING COUNTY*

7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.  **BANQUET**
*KEYNOTE SPEAKER: BRIAN KEMP, SECRETARY OF STATE*
*Presentation of the Ann Hicks Award*

8:30 p.m.–11:00 p.m.  **HOT! HOT! HOT!**
*GEOA Talent Show*

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 10**

7:30 a.m.–8:45 a.m.  **BREAKFAST**

9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.  **Ethics**
*PRESENTER: STEFAN RITTER, GEORGIA GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY CAMPAIGN FINANCE COMMISSION*

10:00 a.m.–10:15 a.m.  **BEVERAGE BREAK**

10:15 a.m.–11:45 a.m.  **News/Updates from KSU**
*PRESENTER(S): MICHAEL BARNES, CENTER FOR ELECTIONS, KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY*
*STACI JACKSON, CENTER FOR ELECTIONS, KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY*

11:45 a.m.–12:00 p.m.  **Overview/Evaluation/Adjourn**
What’s on the Menu

BREAKFAST  Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
Juice; apple, grapefruit, orange, and tomato
Scrambled eggs
Bacon and Sausage links
Seasonal fruit
Grits (with cheese on the side)
Breakfast pastries, muffins, and croissants
Assorted dry cereals with 2% and skim milk
Coffee, decaffeinated coffee, assortment of hot teas

LUNCH  Monday
Tortilla chips with salsa
Tossed greens with assorted dressings
Cheese quesadillas
Seasoned ground beef
Sliced chicken breast
Roasted peppers and onions, pico de gallo, shredded monterey jack and cheddar cheese; jalapenos, black olives, onions, sour cream, guacamole
Mexican rice, frijoles
Soft flour and crisp corn tortillas
Churros with sugar, cinnamon and honey
Coffee, decaffeinated coffee, iced tea, iced water

LUNCH  Tuesday
Soup
Garden salad with assorted dressing
Cole slaw, spicy potato salad
Albacore tuna salad, chicken salad
Meats: turkey, roast beef, salami, shaved ham
Cheeses: American, cheddar, big eye swiss
Lettuce, tomatoes, onions, kosher pickles, black olives
Lite mayonnaise, specialty mustards: dijonnaise, horseradish, and peppercorn
Breads: wheat, rye, Rolls: multi-grain, kaiser, pretzel
Individual bags of potato chips and pretzels
Individual mini desserts: mini cheese cakes, mini pastries, chocolate covered strawberries
Coffee, decaffeinated coffee, iced tea, iced water

BANQUET  Tuesday
Clam chowder
Field green salad with assorted dressings
Cole slaw, potato salad, pasta salad
Meats: New York strip steak, barbecued chicken breast, baked mahi-mahi with corn and pepper relish
Corn on the cob
Baked beans
Rosemary and parmesan crusted potato wedges
Cornbread, warm rolls and butter
Sliced watermelon, raspberry swirl cheesecake, deep dish apple torte, black forest cake
Coffee, decaffeinated coffee, iced tea, iced water
2017 Committees

2017 OFFICERS
Beverly Nation, President Oglethorpe
Russell Bridges, 1st Vice President Chatham
Deidre Holden, 2nd Vice President Paulding
The Honorable T. J. Hudson, Secretary/Treasurer Treutlen
Cynthia Welch, Immediate Past President Rockdale
JoAnn Shipes, Past President, Retired Houston
The Honorable Todd Blackwell, Past President Baldwin
Lynn Ledford, Past President Gwinnett
Lynn Bailey, Past President Richmond
The Honorable Judy Mullis, Past President Lanier
The Honorable Helen Harper, Past President Laurens

2017 COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Audit
Barb Luth (blluth@forsythco.com) Forsyth

Awards/Recognition/Resolutions
Brenda Peacock (bpeacockcrawfordco@yahoo.com) Crawford

Conference Coordination
Tracey Dean (tdean@madisonco.us) Madison
Gina Chappelear (gchappelear@franklincountyga.com) Franklin

Constitution and By-Laws
Darin McCoy (judgemccoy@hotmail.com) Evans

Legislative
Lynn Bailey (lbailey@augustaga.gov) Richmond

Membership
Debra Stephens (dstephens@twiggscounty.uga) Twiggs

Nominating
Charlotte Sosebee (charlotte.sosebee@athensclarkecounty.com) Athens–Clarke

Reference Manual
Lynn Ledford (lynn.ledford@gwinnettcounty.com) Gwinnett

Website
Russell Bridges (rbridges@chathamcounty.org) Chatham

If you are interested in serving on any of the committees listed above, please contact the chair/co-chair of that committee at the email address provided.
## 2017 GEOA Regional Facilitators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>COUNTIES</th>
<th>FACILITATOR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Walker, Whitfield</td>
<td>Deidre Holden—Paulding County 770-443-7503 • <a href="mailto:dholden@paulding.gov">dholden@paulding.gov</a> 240 Constitution Blvd. Dallas, GA 30131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dawson, Forsyth, Habersham, Hall, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, White</td>
<td>Glenda Ferguson—Dawson County 706-344-3640 • <a href="mailto:gferguson@dawsoncounty.org">gferguson@dawsoncounty.org</a> 96 Academy Avenue Dawsonville, GA 30534</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Rockdale</td>
<td>Erica Hamilton—DeKalb County 404-398-4044 • <a href="mailto:ehamilton@dekalbcountyga.gov">ehamilton@dekalbcountyga.gov</a> 4380 Memorial Drive, Suite 300 Decatur, GA 30032</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Carroll, Coweta, Haralson, Harris, Heard, Meriweather, Pike, Polk, Spalding, Upson</td>
<td>Janice Duff—Carroll County 770-830-5823 • <a href="mailto:jduff@carrollcountyga.com">jduff@carrollcountyga.com</a> P.O. Box 338 Carrollton, GA 30112</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Banks, Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Franklin, Greene, Hart, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Walton, Wilkes</td>
<td>Tracy Dean—Madison County 706-795-6335 • <a href="mailto:tdean@madisonco.us">tdean@madisonco.us</a> P.O. Box 328 Danielsville, GA 30633</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Baldwin, Bibb, Butts, Crawford, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Monroe, Peach, Putnam, Twiggs, Wilkinson</td>
<td>Tracy Strange—Wilkinson County 478-946-2188 • <a href="mailto:tstrange@wilkinsoncounty.net">tstrange@wilkinsoncounty.net</a> P.O. Box 186 • 100 Bacon Street, #C Irwinton, GA 31042</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, McDuffie, Richmond, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington</td>
<td>Lynn Bailey—Richmond County 706-821-2340 • <a href="mailto:lbailey@augusta.gov">lbailey@augusta.gov</a> 535 Telfair Street, Suite 500 Augusta, GA 30901</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Lee, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Talbot, Taylor, Terrell, Troup, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Webster</td>
<td>Nancy Boren—Muscogee County 706-653-4392 • <a href="mailto:nboren@columbusga.org">nboren@columbusga.org</a> P.O. Box 1340 • 311 Citizens Way Columbus, GA 31902</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Bleckley, Dodge, Jeff Davis, Johnson, Laurens, Montgomery, Pulaski, Telfair, Treutlen, Wheeler, Wilcox</td>
<td>Debbie Killingsworth—Johnson County 478-864-4019 • <a href="mailto:dkillingsworth@johnson.org">dkillingsworth@johnson.org</a> P.O. Box 255 • 606 W. Court Street Wrightsville, GA 31096</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Appling, Candler, Emanuel, Evans, Tattnall, Toombs, Wayne</td>
<td>Judge Tammy Thornton—Wayne County 912-427-5940 • <a href="mailto:tthornton@waynecounty.ga.us">tthornton@waynecounty.ga.us</a> 359 W. Walnut Street Jesup, GA 31546</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Byron, Bulloch, Chatham, Effingham, Jenkins, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Screven</td>
<td>Patricia Jones—Bulloch County 912-764-6502 • <a href="mailto:elections@bullochcounty.net">elections@bullochcounty.net</a> 113 N. Main Street, Suite 201 Statesboro, GA 30458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Baker, Calhoun, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Worth</td>
<td>Ginger Nickerson—Dougherty County 229-431-3247 • <a href="mailto:gnickerson@doughertycounty.ga.us">gnickerson@doughertycounty.ga.us</a> P.O. Box 1827 Albany, GA 31702</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Atkinson, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Coffee, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Thomas, Tift, Turner</td>
<td>Deb Cox—Lowndes County 229-671-2850 • <a href="mailto:dcox@lowndescounty.com">dcox@lowndescounty.com</a> P.O. Box 10130 Valdosta, GA 31604 Co-Facilitator Ken Collins—Brooks County 229-263-9939 • <a href="mailto:brookscoelections@windstream.net">brookscoelections@windstream.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Bacon, Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Glynn, Pierce, Ware</td>
<td>Brenda Hodges—Charlton County 912-496-2607 • <a href="mailto:charltonelections@gmail.com">charltonelections@gmail.com</a> 1520 3rd Street, Suite C Folkston, GA 31537</td>
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