



**MINUTES**  
**STATE ELECTION BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday December 9, 2025**  
**Georgia State Capitol, Room 341 Atlanta, Georgia**  
**9:00 a.m.**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AK\\_JF-Eh4gc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AK_JF-Eh4gc)

**CALL TO ORDER INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

Vice Chair, Dr. Janice Johnston called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. In the absence of Chairman John Fervier, Vice Chair Johnston presided over the December 9 and December 10, 2025, State Election Board meeting. A quorum was present for all actions taken by the Board.

Board Members present were Vice Chair Dr. Janice Johnston, Member Janelle King, and Member Rick Jeffares. Member Sara Tindall Ghazal and Chairman John Fervier were absent.

The invocation was given by Member Janelle King.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Rick Jeffares.

The reading of the previous minutes was approved to be postponed until the next meeting.

**Motion:** Member King moved to delay the reading to the next State Election Board meeting.

**Second:** Member Rick Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston asked whether there were any additions or amendments to the agenda as presented. There being none, the Board proceeded with the agenda.

**ATTORNEY GENERAL REPORT**

Attorney Elizabeth Young presented the following cases to the Board.

**CONSENT ORDERS**

**SEB2021-168**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to approve the consent order for a civil penalty fine of \$600 for Cathy Benton and a civil penalty fine of \$500 for her sister, Casandra Russell, as recommended by the Attorney General's Office.

**Motion:** Member King moved to approve the consent order for a civil penalty fine of \$600 for Cathy Benton and a civil penalty fine of \$500 for her sister, Casandra Russell, as recommended by the Attorney General's Office.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (2-0)

**In Favor:** Member King and Member Jeffares

**FINAL ORDERS**

**SEB2022-336**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to approve the final order for a Cease and Desist, and a Letter of Reprimand to Angelica Angeles as recommended by the Attorney General's Office.

**Motion:** Member King moved to approve the final order for a Cease and Desist, and a Letter of Reprimand to Angelica Angeles as recommended by the Attorney General's Office.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-285**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to approve the final order for a Cease and Desist, and a Letter of Reprimand for Marguerite Gant as recommended by the Attorney General's Office.

**Motion:** Member King moved to approve the final order for a cease and desist, and a Letter of Reprimand for Marguerite Gant as recommended by the Attorney General's Office.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2021-178**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to approve the final order for a Cease and Desist, and a Letter of Reprimand for Cheryl Chase as recommended by the Attorney General's Office.

**Motion:** Member King moved to approve the final order for a Cease and Desist, and a Letter of Reprimand for Cheryl Chase as recommended by the Attorney General's Office.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (2-0)

**In Favor:** Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-092, SEB2024-022, and SEB2023-073**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to approve the final order for a Cease and Desist and a Letter of Reprimand for all three cases involving Henry County Elections and Registration Office, Ameika Banks, and Michael Winters as recommended by the Attorney General's Office.

**Motion:** Member Rick Jeffares moved to approve the final order for a cease and desist and a Letter of Reprimand for all three cases involving Henry County Elections and Registration Office, Ameika Banks, and Michael Winters as recommended by the Attorney General's Office.

**Second:** Member King

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (2-0)

**In Favor:** Member King and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-164**

Following the presentation and discussion of the investigative findings, a motion was passed by the Board to approve the final order for an administrative dismissal of Martin Polis as recommended by the Attorney General's Office. The respondent cannot be found, preventing the case from moving forward. The "without prejudice" status allows the case to be reinstated if the Respondent is found in the future.

**Motion:** Member King moved to passed by the Board to approve the final order for an administrative dismissal of Martin Polis, without prejudice, as recommended by the Attorney General's Office.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**INVESTIGATIONS REPORTS**

*The investigation reports to be considered are listed below according to the disposition recommended by the Secretary of State's Office Investigation Staff. These recommendations are not binding on the board, which has sole discretion to act on complaints.*

Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston stated for the record that there are numerous reasons for the dismissal of cases, and such dismissal doesn't inherently mean there was no election law violation. These reasons can include: an individual not being found; no violation being found; the absence of an election statute pertaining to the complaint; the Complainant providing no evidence of a violation or being unreachable for more information; the Respondent not being found, contacted, or refusing an interview; the Investigator being unable to obtain necessary documents; or the case becoming too old, potentially leading to the destruction of election documents, or the Respondent having died. She emphasized that many factors are considered in these dismissals.

**Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston requested that 5 cases be pulled from the recommended dismissal list for discussion**

**SEB2022-325 Cobb County – Improper Ballot Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue this case until the SEB meeting on January 21, 2026, and add Cobb County Board of Elections and Registration as a Respondent to the case.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue the case until the SEB meeting on January 21, 2026, and add Cobb County Board of Elections and Registration to attend the next meeting as a respondent.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (2-0)

**In Favor:** Member King and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-245 Cobb County – Photo Case**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue this case until the SEB meeting on January 21, 2026.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue this case until the SEB meeting on January 21, 2026.

**Second:** Member Rick Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (2-0)

**In Favor:** Member King and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-062 and SEB2022-261 Observation of Election Conduct at Polling Places**

These two cases were pulled for discussion purposes only. Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, emphasized the importance of lawful and meaningful observation of election processes, noting that while voter privacy must be protected, election procedures themselves are public and subject to observation by authorized poll watchers. Dr. Johnston encouraged county election officials to note observation is not only allowed, but also required and Poll Watchers should not be prevented from observing these processes.

No motion was made, and the cases remained on the recommended case list for dismissal.

**SEB2022-338 Fulton County – Out of State Voter**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston asked that this case remain on the recommended dismissal list and requested that the SEB Investigators check the Respondent's current voter registration status in Georgia.

No motion was made, and the case remained on the dismissal list.

**CASES FOR DISMISSAL**

Following review of the cases listed below, a motion was passed by the Board to unanimously dismiss each case. (Cases SEB2024-039 to SEB2024-093)

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss the case list recommended for dismissal.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (2-0)

**In Favor:** Member King and Member Jeffares

SEB2024-039	Bibb County	Security of Election Equipment
SEB2022-123	Bibb County	Wrong Ballot Issued
SEB2022-283	Bibb County	Voting Equipment Issues
SEB2024-174	Bibb County	Non-Citizen Voting
SEB2022-128	Brooks County	Problem at Polling Place
SEB2022-303	Brooks County	Voters Not Required to Show ID
SEB2024-069	Brooks County	Illegal Campaigning
SEB2025-033	Stewart/City of Richland County	Candidate Qual. Issue (cont. case from previous meet)

SEB2022-097	Calhoun County	Failure to Open Polls on Time
SEB2024-204	Calhoun County	Poll Watcher Issues
SEB2021-050	Chatham County	Failed to get AB
SEB2024-110	Clayton County	Absentee Ballot Fraud
SEB2022-343	Cobb County	Improper Ballot Issue
SEB2024-040	Cobb County	Polling Location Change Issues 2024 PPP
SEB2024-041	Cobb County	Delay in Issuing Precinct Cards 2024 PPP
SEB2024-074	Cobb County	Voter Registration Fraud
SEB2024-148	Cobb County	Ineligible Candidate
SEB2024-181	Cobb County	Voter Intimidation
SEB2024-047	Decatur County	Absentee Ballot Issue
SEB2023-009	Dekalb County	Grant Fraud
SEB2025-020	Dekalb County	Photo Case
SEB2025-021	Dekalb County	Voter Disenfranchisement Issue continued case
SEB2022-101	Dougherty County	Omission of Candidates Name on the Ballot
SEB2022-276	Fulton County	Voter Registration Problems (moved up on the agenda)
SEB2022-062	Fulton County	Opening of the Polls
SEB2022-195	Fulton County	Poll Watcher Issue
SEB2022-212	Fulton County	The Georgia Voter Registration Project
SEB2022-261	Fulton County	Tabulation Adams Park Library
SEB2022-280	Fulton County	Fulton County Voter Registration Fraud
SEB2022-282	Fulton County	Ballots Cancelled or Issued
SEB2022-270	Fulton County	Absentee Ballot Fraud
SEB2022-324	Fulton County	Voter Discrepancy Issue <i>** pulled on May 10<sup>th</sup> for reconsideration**</i>
SEB2023-095	Fulton County	Parking Issue
SEB2024-042	Fulton County	ADA Issue
SEB2024-045	Fulton County	Alleged Voter Fraud
SEB2024-132	Fulton County	Polling Location Change Issue
SEB2024-195	Fulton County	Poll Watcher Issue
SEB2024-229	Fulton County	Vote Buying
SEB2024-207	Fulton County	Voters address improperly changed
SEB2025-006	Fulton County	Fraudulent Registration
SEB2022-338	Fulton County	Out of State Voters
SEB2023-068	Jefferson County	Voter Registration Issue
SEB2025-004	Jones County	Late Opening Precinct
SEB2024-073	Macon County	Voting Equipment Issues
SEB2022-199	Oconee County	Poll Watcher Issue
SEB2023-077	Oconee County	Voter Registration Issue
SEB2024-093	Pike County	Cell Service Issue

## VIOLATION CASES

### **SEB2022-322 Multiple Counties – 33 Counties Failed Election Night Reporting**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss the case against Gwinnett, Dawson, Quitman, Screven, Baker, Madison, Chatham, and Clayton counties.

Simultaneously, there was sufficient evidence that Bibb, Brooks, Calhoun, Candler, Clay, Clayton, Crawford, Dougherty, Elbert, Franklin, Jones, McIntosh, Murray, Newton, Pickens, Stewart, Sumter, Taliaferro, Tattall, Taylor, Telfair, Terrell, Upson, Webster, White, and Wilkinson counties violated O.C.G.A §21-2-421, SEB Rule 183-1-12-.12(c)(1)(c), and SEB Rule 183-1-12-.12(d). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction to each county.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss the case against Gwinnett, Dawson, Quitman, Screven, Baker, Madison, Chatham, and Clayton counties and send a Letter of Instruction to the remaining counties.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-232 Multiple Counties – Election Night Results Reporting Delays – 2024 GE**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss the case against Fannin, Quitman, Fulton, Carroll, and Chatham counties. In addition, there is sufficient evidence to suggest Atkinson, Brooks, Jones, Mitchell, Pierce, Screven, and Toombs counties violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-421 and SEB Rule 183-1-12-.12(c)(1)(c). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction to each county.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss the case against Fannin, Quitman, Fulton, Carroll, and Chatham counties and issue a Letter of Instruction for the remaining counties.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

*Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston recommended that all counties take screenshots of the submission screen, note the time, and place it in the official records for future elections as proof of timely submission due to recurring issues with the online reporting portal (SurveyMonkey), which often failed to provide confirmation of submission or accurately track submission times.*

**BREAK - A motion was passed by the Board to take a break at 10:07 a.m.**

**Motion:** Member King moved that the Board take a five-minute comfort break.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**The Board reconvened the meeting at 10:22 a.m.**

**SEB2024-221 Chatham County – Election Night Results**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue this case to the State Election Board meeting on January 21, 2026, and requested Chatham County Board of Elections and Registration provide all opening and closing tabulator tapes for early voting to the Board during that time.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue the case to the January meeting and for Chatham County Board of Elections and Registration to bring the tabulator tape results for the Board to review.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

*Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston presented an example of proper tabulator tapes to illustrate the correct process, showing that the opening “Zero tape” and the closing tape should be compared at the close of polls, both displaying the same machine serial number to confirm the same tabulator was used.*

*Election Officials should carefully examine the opening “zero tape” and the closing tape from each tabulator, ensuring both display the same serial number to confirm the same machine was used for both processes. The OPENING TAPE must show ZERO VOTES, indicating a clean start, while the closing tape should reflect the final vote count with the protective counter incrementally increased by the exact number of votes cast. This method is crucial for all 159 County Superintendents to verify every vote from every tabulator.*

**SEB2021-105 Fulton County (2), Chatham (2), DeKalb County, Harris County, Dougherty County, Mitchell, Walker – Double Voting**

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer Chatham County and Mr. Quan to the Attorney General’s Office for further investigation with a request for a \$2,000 consent order civil penalty fine and Fulton, Harris, Mitchell, Walker, Dougherty and DeKalb Counties be dismissed.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-093 Mitchell County – Did Not Open Polls on Time**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss both allegations for Mitchell County.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss both allegations.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-005 Dekalb county (2), Floyd County (2), Hall County (2), and Chatham County Dual Registration / Voting**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue the case to allow time for further investigation.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue the case to allow time for further investigation.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2023-014 Dougherty County – Registration Fraud**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest respondent Emonica Johnson violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-562(a)(1). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-162 Jefferson County, Lowndes County, Richmond County ERIC - Washington Double Voter**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Respondent, Thomas Williams, violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-572. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

In addition, a motion was passed by the Board to refer Paul Brangers and Carl Lansford to the Attorney General for violation of O.C.G.A. §21-2-572 and send a notification letter to the Department of Justice regarding possible cross-state double voting.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer Paul Brangers and Carl Lansford to the Attorney General and send a letter to the Department of Justice

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-364 Troup County – Residency Issue**

Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston recused herself from this case.

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Respondent, Congressman Ferguson, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-217 (a)(1) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-562(a)(1). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (2-0)

**In Favor:** Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-205 Fulton County – Photo Case/Unruly Voter (continued case)**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss this case.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss this case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-068 Fulton County – Double voter**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss the case against Ms. Susan Elizabeth Guimbellot, Mr. Daniel Henry Bauer Jr, and Mr. Paul Yurfest.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss the case for Mr. Yurfest, Ms. Guimbellot, and Mr. Bauer

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Janice Johnston, Member Janelle King, and Member Rick Jeffares

In addition, the Board approved a motion to continue this case with the remaining Respondents for possible violation of O.C.G.A. § 21-2-572 until January 21, 2026, State Election Board meeting and to add the Fulton County Board of Elections as a Respondent to the list of possible violations of O.C.G.A. § 21-2-572, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-562 neglect or refusal to deliver documents and O.C.G.A. § 21-2-73 preservation of primary and election records.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue the case for the remaining Respondents and add Fulton County Board of Elections as a Respondent.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

#### **SEB2022-066**

#### **Bibb County – Wrong Ballot**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Mr. Tom Gillon and Bibb County Board of Elections and Registration violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-73. A motion was passed by the Board to refer Mr. Tom Gillon and Bibb County Board of Elections and Registration to the Attorney General with a request to issue a civil penalty. *\*\* During the December 10, 2025, meeting, following additional discussion and consideration of information not addressed in the investigative summary, Member King moved to reduce the proposed penalty to a Letter of Instruction. After further discussion, Member King subsequently moved to dismiss the case, and the motion passed unanimously.*

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General's Office and request a consent order to issue a fine (during Dec 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting)

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

#### **SEB2022-284**

#### **Brooks County – Failure to Post L&A Testing Five Days Prior to Testing**

**Complaint 1:** The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Brooks County Board of Elections and Registration and Charles Dave, Elections Supervisor, violated § 21-2-379.25(c). A motion was passed by the Board to refer the case to the Attorney General with a request to issue a civil penalty regarding allegation #1 - Brooks County Elections Supervisor failed to publish at least five (5) days prior in the legal organ the commencement of the logic and accuracy testing of the electronic poll books, electronic ballot markers, printers, and ballot scanners for use during the November 8, 2022, General Election.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General for all involved in allegation #1

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**Complaint 2:** The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss allegation #2.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss allegation #2

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

#### **SEB2022-183**

#### **Macon County – Missing Absentee Ballots**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Macon County Board of Elections and Registration, Election Supervisor, Patsy Johnson-Cannon, and election office employee, Kiara McCants, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-6(c). A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss allegations 1, 2, and 4, and refer Allegation #3 to the Attorney General with a request to issue a civil penalty.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss allegations 1, 2 and 4 and refer allegation 3 to the Attorney General with a request to issue a fine

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

#### **SEB2022-263**

#### **Macon County - Absentee Ballot Drop Box Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Macon County Board of Elections and Registration and Election Supervisor, Tarshea Riley, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-382 (c)(1). A motion was passed by the Board to refer the case to the Attorney General with the request to issue a civil penalty.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General and recommend a fine to Macon County

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**LUNCH - A motion was passed by the Board to recess for lunch at 12:27 p.m.**

**Motion:** Member King moved to break for lunch

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**The Board reconvened at 1:17 p.m.**

**SEB2023-021**

**Multiple Counties – Cross State Double Voter Fraud Nov 2022 GE Florida**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Respondents, Steven Gordon Belk (Dougherty County), Jack Edward Bryan (Ware County), Robert John Denson (Fulton County), Victoria J. Denson (Fulton County), Mary Iggulden Mann (Forsyth County), Marvin Wesley Nolan III (Gwinnett County), Jennifer Bartlett Rockhill (DeKalb County), and Roger F. Schilf (Glynn County), violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-572. A motion was passed by the Board to refer the case to the Attorney General, appropriate County District Attorney, and to communicate by letter to the Department of Justice regarding possible cross-state double voters and violation of O.C.G.A. §21-2-572.

**Motion:** Member King moved send each case to the respective District Attorney, as well as notify the Attorney General and Department of Justice

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-178**

**Dekalb County – Non-Citizen Voting**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Dekalb County Voter Registration and Elections violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-226 and Jaenae K. Vernon violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-216, and O.C.G.A. §21-2-571. A motion was passed by the Board to refer Respondents, Ms. Vernon and Dekalb County Voter Registration and Elections, to the Attorney General.

**Motion:** Member King moved to send both Respondents, Ms. Vernon and Dekalb County Voter Registration and Elections, to the Attorney General's Office.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

After further discussion, Board King requested to amend the motion to also refer the case to the local District Attorney and send a letter to the Department of Justice, citing the non-citizen voting. The amended motion was passed by the Board to refer the Respondents to the District Attorney, Attorney General, and notify the Department of Justice.

**Amended Motion:** Member King moved to send the case to the District Attorney, Attorney General's Office, and send a letter to the Department of Justice.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-248**

**Fulton County – Illegal Campaigning**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Peggy Dave Gillen violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-414. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-175**

**Clayton County – Non-Citizen Voting**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Melanie Pickett violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-216 (a)(1), O.C.G.A. §21-2-561 (1)(2)(3), and O.C.G.A. §21-2-571. A motion was passed by the Board to refer the case to the Attorney General, respective District Attorney's Office, and send a letter notifying the Department of Justice (DOJ).

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the appropriate District Attorney, the Attorney General, and notify the DOJ

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-116**

**Oconee County Residency issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Ryan K. Chin and Charles E. Wallace violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-217 (a) (1) and O.C.G.A. § 21-2-216 (a) (4). A motion was passed by the Board to refer Mr. Chin and Mr. Wallace to the Attorney General for further investigation.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer both Respondents, Mr. Chin and Mr. Wallace, to the Attorney General for further review

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-156**

**Oconee County Ballot harvesting**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Julie Crowe, Eric Gisler, and Harold Thompson violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-563 (4) and Nara Pirkel, Cathy Moorehead, Stacey Purnell and Mathew Eady violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-563(5). The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to refer all Respondents and all Petitioners to the Attorney General for further investigation.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General for further investigation

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**A request was made and granted by the Board to continue the following Cobb County Cases to the January 21, 2026, SEB Meetings.**

- SEB2024-075 Cobb County – Improper AB
- SEB2024-176 Cobb County – Non-Citizen Voting
- SEB2024-214 Cobb County – Ballot Issue
- SEB2022-256 Cobb County – AB Fraud
- SEB2022-299 Cobb County – AB Issue
- SEB2022-332 Cobb County – Memory card issue
- SEB2022-342 Cobb County – Voter left with ballot
- SEB2022-352 Cobb County – Absentee Ballot Issue
- SEB2022-086 Cobb County – Voter Fraud

Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston made a motion to add Cobb County as a Respondent to SEB2022-086 and SEB2024-176 and hear them at the January 21, 2026, meeting. No further action was taken by the Board. Dr. Johnston made the request to the Cobb County Attorney, Daniel White.

**SEB2022-086**

**Cobb County – Voter Fraud**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Mathew Kelley Dollar violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-571 and O.C.G.A. § 21-2-431. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction to Mathew Kelley Dollar

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**BREAK - A motion was passed by the Board to take a break at 2:48 p.m. and resumed at 2:59 p.m.**

**Motion:** Member King moved to take a five-minute break

**Second:** Member Rick Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Janice Johnston, Member Janelle King, and Member Rick Jeffares

**SEB2024-003**

**Douglas County – Double Voting**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to send the case to the Department of Justice to review cross state voter registration and possible cross state double voting and act on, if they find sufficient evidence between Michigan and Georgia voting by the same individual for potential violation of O.C.G.A. §21-2-572.

**Motion:** Member King moved to send the case to the Department of Justice for review

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-158 Fulton County / Douglas County – ERIC - Pennsylvania Double Voter**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to refer the case to the Attorney General's office for further investigation, the respective County District Attorney, and send a letter to the Department of Justice concerning cross-state double voting, since additional states are involved.

**Motion:** Member King moved to send each case to the respective District Attorney, refer to the Attorney General's Office, and notify the Department of Justice

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-067 Fulton County – Double voter**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest James Junior Love III violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-572. A motion was passed by the Board to refer the case to the Attorney General for further investigation.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General for further investigation

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-076 Fulton County – Double Voter**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Beauty Faye Jackson violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-572. A motion was passed by the Board to send a Letter of Instruction for attempted double voting.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-015 Fulton County – Tabulation issue**

Following review and discussion of this case, Member King moved to continue the case until the next State Election Board meeting to allow Fulton County the opportunity to provide the Board with all the tapes. Counsel for Fulton County, Ann Brumbaugh, objected to the continuance and stated Fulton County had given everything they could find and acknowledging ten tapes currently still missing that haven't been found. She argued the Board had sufficient information to render a decision.

Member Janelle King amended her motion to refer the case to the Attorney General with a request that the Attorney General seek the missing tapes and a request to issue a civil penalty fine of \$5,000 for each of the unsigned tabulator tapes that were produced as evidence

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General so they can request the tapes, as well as for the unsigned tabulator tapes that were produced showing there was a violation. She requested the Attorney General issue a fine of \$5,000 per tape.

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

*\*\*On December 10, 2025, Member King further amended the motion to include notification to the Department of Justice, citing an alignment between the issues identified and matters within the Department of Justice's jurisdiction, and to request a civil penalty of \$5,000 per infraction and per missing tabulator tape. Member Jeffares seconded the motion. Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, acting as Chair, participated in the vote. The Board approved the amended motion unanimously by a vote of 3-0.*

**SEB2022-337 Fulton County – Tabulation Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Fulton County Board of Elections and Registration and Poll Manger, Mr. Terrance Olive violated O.C.G.A. § 183-1-12-.12 (2). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2023-017**                      **Fulton County – Scanner Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Poll Manager, Laurie Dunaway, violated SEB Rule 183.1.14.02 (10). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand for allegation #1 and to dismiss allegation #2.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss allegation #2 and issue a Letter of Reprimand for allegation #1

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**BREAK - A motion was passed by the Board to take a break at 3:53 p.m.**

**Motion:** Member King moved to take a five-minute break

**Second:** Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**The Board resumed at 4:02 p.m.**

**SEB2024-027**                      **Fulton County – Provisional Ballot Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss the case for Fulton County and Robert David Cheeley.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss the case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**Court Reporter exited and another court reporter was present to take down the proceeding at 4:28 p.m.**

**SEB2024-109**                      **Fulton County – Voter Registration Challenge**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue the case for further investigation.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue the case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-132**                      **Fulton County – Improper Handling of Ballots**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Fulton County Board of Elections and Registration violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-500(a). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-290**                      **Fulton County – Absentee Ballot fraud**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Fulton County Board of Elections and Registration violated SEB Rule 183-1-12-.11. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-267**                      **Fulton County – Voter Fraud**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is evidence to suggest Fulton County Board of Elections and Registration violated SEB Rule 183-1-12-.11. A motion was made to issue a Letter of Instruction, but no formal vote was made.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction  
**Second:** Member Jeffares  
**Vote:**  
**In Favor:**

**SEB2022-335 Fulton County – Northside Library Voter Fraud**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Fulton County Board of Elections and Registration and Patrea Strow violated SEB Rule 183-1-12-.11. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction to Fulton County Board of Election and Registration and to Patrea Strow  
**Second:** Member Jeffares  
**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)  
**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-295 Fulton County – Photo Case**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Mr. Yosef Goldberg violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-413(e) and O.C.G.A. §21-2-568.2 A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction  
**Second:** Member Jeffares  
**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)  
**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-329 Fulton County – Voter Registration Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Maurice Colvard violated SEB rule 183-1-12-.11 (2)(a). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction  
**Second:** Member Jeffares  
**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)  
**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-001 Fulton County – Voter Identification Theft (continued case)**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss this case.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss the case  
**Second:** Member Jeffares  
**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)  
**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-313 Fulton County – Residency Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Mr. David Steinfeld violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-217 (a) (4.1) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-218(f). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand  
**Second:** Member Jeffares  
**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)  
**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2023-020 Fulton County – Missing poll pads**

Fulton County Elections reported that it was unable to locate three state-issued poll pads, which were believed to have gone missing sometime between November 2020 and April 2023. Fulton County stated that its internal records indicated the devices were discovered missing between December 2020 and August 2021. At the time of the Investigative Report (12-19-2023), the missing Poll Pads still had not been located.

Fulton County and a former Fulton County election employee stated that prompt notification of missing poll pads was made to KNOWiNK, so that quarantine and deactivation measures could be taken. However, no documentation was produced demonstrating that notification was made to the Secretary of State's Office or to local law enforcement.

Both KNOWiNK and Fulton County reported that, at the time the poll pads went missing, the devices were used solely for training purposes and contained only training data. It was further stated that no sensitive voter information was stored on the devices. Fulton County indicated the missing devices were discovered immediately upon their scheduled return to the warehouse; however, Fulton County was unable to produce supporting documentation, including chain-of-custody records, equipment sign-out sheets or receipts.

During the meeting, Ann Bumbraugh, counsel for Fulton County, acknowledged that (3) state issued Poll Pad were missing and stated that Fulton County did not believe it failed to notify the Secretary of State's Office. Counsel emphasized that the poll pads were used for training purposes and that KNOWiNK was notified immediately and was able to remotely wipe the devices, stating that no security issues resulted.

Member King asked whether Fulton County could provide a copy of the email notifying the Secretary of State's Office of the missing devices. Fulton County responded that the employee, who would have sent such notification, no longer works for the county and that Fulton County was unable to produce documentation demonstrating that notification to the Secretary of State's Office occurred.

Following review and discussion of the investigative findings, the Board approved a motion to issue a Letter of Reprimand to Fulton County Board of Elections and Registration for violating SEB Rule 183-1-12-.06 involving missing testing poll pads.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

#### **SEB2022-252 Fulton County – Campaigning Within 150 Feet**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Vanessa Kay Brady violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-414(a)1. A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General requesting a civil penalty fine be issued.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General with a request to issue a civil penalty fine

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

#### **SEB2025-015 Dekalb County – Double Voting**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Yvonne Greene violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-572. A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General, the appropriate County District Attorney, and send a letter notifying the Department of Justice (DOJ) of potential cross-state double voters.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General, the county's District Attorney, and a letter to the DOJ

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

#### **SEB2024-046 Dekalb County – Observer Denied Right to Video Record (continued case)**

The Complainant, George Balbona, alleged that on the morning of May 28, 2022, during the Cobb County Commission District 2 recount, he was informed that, as a public observer, he was not permitted to video-record the recount. The Complainant further alleged that members of the media were advised that they could record from across the room, but were not permitted to zoom. According to Mr. Balbona, neither directive was supported by the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

Mr. Balbona also alleged that he offered to show election officials a PDF copy of a federal court order on his phone striking down Senate Bill 202's Photography Rule 2 and that Federal Law supersedes State Law. He further stated that he offered to provide Senior Assistant County Attorney, Shelly Momoh, with a 39-page hard copy of the August 20, 2021, order issued by U.S. District Judge P. Boulee, with the relevant portion marked. The Complainant alleged that despite these efforts, he was denied permission to video-record the recount.

Mr. Balbona detailed his efforts to inform election officials of the court order prior to the recount, including sending emails and hand-delivering information. He stated that Judge Boulee issued a federal court order prohibiting the enforcement of restrictions on photographing voted ballots.

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue the case and seek a legal

opinion from the Attorney General's Office regarding the recording of voted ballots in this case.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue the case to the next meeting to have time to get a legal opinion from the Attorney General

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2025-021 Dekalb County – Voter Disenfranchisement Issue**

This case was dismissed in the list of dismissals at the beginning of the meeting.

**SEB2024-200 Dekalb County – Vote Buying Tucker Reid Library Polling Location (cont. case)**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss this case.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss the case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2023-005 Decatur County – Voter Registered in Multiple States**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest Respondent, Annie Grace Hunter, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-573. A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General, the county's District Attorney, and a letter to the DOJ

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Amended Motion:** Member King moved amend her motion to refer the case to the Attorney General

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comments were made by the following individuals: Richard Schroeder, Sandra Burchardt, Don Hackney, Victoria Cruz, Stephen Heshire, Jason Frasier, Tom Talbot, Maria Gaudio and Ralph O'Connor.

**RECESS**

At 5:59 p.m., the Board recessed for the day and scheduled the continuation of the meeting for December 10, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.



## MINUTES

### STATE ELECTION BOARD MEETING

Wednesday December 10, 2025

Georgia State Capitol, Room 341 Atlanta, Georgia 9:00 a.m.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1DFUL7d8IA>

#### CALL TO ORDER INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Vice Chair, Dr. Janice Johnston, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m., in the absence of Chairman John Fervier, Vice Chair Johnston presided over the December 10, 2025, State Election Board meeting. A quorum was present for all actions taken by the Board.

Board Members present in person were Vice Chair, Dr. Janice Johnston, Mrs. Janelle King, and Mr. Rick Jeffares. Member Ghazal was not physically present; however, she participated telephonically for the limited purpose of voting on the proposed rule petition, Rule 183-12-.02, and did not participate in any other matters before the Board.

#### Administrative announcements

**Chairperson Absence:** Vice Chair, Dr. Janice Johnston served as acting chair. Chairperson John Fervier was absent without explanation; it was noted he did not plan the meeting agenda, did not plan or participate in pre-meeting reviews of the cases for the meeting, and has not been in the State Election Board Office for 5 months, raising governance concerns.

**Staff Commendations:** The Board recognized and expressed appreciation for the dedicated work of staff and thanked them for their continued professionalism and dedication.

**Autumn Miller, Administrative Assistant – Paralegal** was commended for significantly improving the agency's open records request process. She was recognized for her attention to detail, professionalism, and willingness to navigate the complexities of open records while simultaneously taking on additional paralegal responsibilities.

**Jesse Patton and Ann Delhmas, SEB Investigators** were acknowledged for their teamwork and diligence. Following the delivery of approximately 250 complete cases from the Secretary of State's office two months ago, they immediately began reviewing the cases for completeness and consistency. They have worked collaboratively with the Secretary of State's investigators and are in the process of adding these cases to the agency's new case management software system.

**Hope Coan, Executive Administrative Assistant**, was recognized for managing the labor-intensive and complex responsibilities involved in planning and preparing the State Election Board meetings. The Board noted her initiative and technical expertise in developing a digital case binder, which provides flexibility, increases efficiency, and significantly reduces the need for paper summaries. The Board expressed appreciation for her service and contributions to the State Election Board.

**James Mills, Executive Director**, was recognized as the head of the agency's management team. His leadership encompasses budgeting and accounting, serving as liaison for the agency, overseeing development and long-range planning, and advocating for election integrity across the state. The Board expressed appreciation for his service as Executive Director.

The invocation was given by Member Janelle King.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Rick Jeffares.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO RULE 183-1-15.02, DEFINITIONS:

This portion of public comment is reserved for anyone who wishes to speak regarding the upcoming rule petition proposing an amendment to Rule 183-1-12.02, Definitions.

Public comments were made by the following individuals: Janet Grant opposing the rule, Michael Beach opposing the rule, Elizabeth Hendrickson opposing the rule, Rachael Glover opposing the rule, Lana Goitia-Paz opposing the rule, Ralph O'Connor opposing the rule, Nicole Wessel opposing the rule, Joy Wasson supporting the rule, Victoria Cruz supporting the rule, and Marily Marks supporting the rule.

## PROCEDURE MATTERS

Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston pauses the proceedings to ensure that Member Ghazal can be connected remotely to participate in the presentation and subsequent vote.

### Discussion of proposed rule petition

Petitioner Salleigh Grubbs highlighted that the rule proposal is a bipartisan effort with Democrat counterparts, aimed at ensuring free and fair elections. She argued that a clear definition for “impossible and impracticable” is necessary, citing a past hurricane in South Georgia where voters used paper ballots without objection when machines were unavailable. Ms. Grubbs asserted that the SEB would face lawsuits regardless of its decision; failing to pass the rule could lead to a lawsuit, if a situation arises where it is needed. Ms. Grubbs claimed the current voting system is already illegal under statute 21-2-300(a)(2), which requires electronic ballot markers to produce paper ballots readable by the elector, arguing this is not being met. She concluded by urging the Board to pass the rule, stating that the threat of a lawsuit does not abdicate them of their duty. Ms. Grubbs cited the “Eternal Vigilance” ruling as granting the SEB authority to pass rules that implement the existing election code, if they do not contradict it.

Petitioner Jeanne Dufort argued that the SEB has the clear authority and responsibility to define “impossible and impracticable” to ensure uniform and legal elections. Ms. Dufort argued that the Legislature intentionally leaves terms like “impossible or impracticable” and “for any other reason” vague, delegating the function to providing specificity to the SEB through rulemaking. She states that the federal court’s previous ruling, which called the SEB’s arguments of no-authority “meritless,” is heavily emphasized. The court affirmed that the SEB has a responsibility to uphold the legality of the voting system, just as it does for all other election laws. Ms. Dufort expressed confidence in the ability of well-prepared Election Directors to handle the transitions to paper ballots, citing a recent successful instance in Morgan County. Ms. Dufort suggested that after passing this definition rule, the Board should create corresponding operational rules, like the existing “emergency balloting” rule. She proposed the rule is presented as a necessary guardrail that will create more uniformity than the current undefined terms. Ms. Dufort concludes by urging the Board to pass the rule promptly to prepare for future elections and fulfill its legal obligation regarding ballot secrecy and voter-verifiability.

Vice Chair, Janice Johnston asked Board member Ghazal, who was attending remotely for this portion of the meeting, if she had any questions. Member Ghazal declined to ask questions, citing prior collaboration on the rule’s language. She commented she worked with the presenting team for many hours to develop the rule’s language and understands its intent.

Member King deliberated on the decision, weighing the risk of lawsuits against the need for action. Member Jeffares noted the Legislative process is “crazy” and unpredictable, involving changes between the House and Senate and uncertainty over the Governor’s signature, which would likely prevent the change from being effective for the primary. He noted he was “torn,” but will “take a chance on it” and vote to pass the rule, while also committing to work with the Senators on a Legislative solution. Member King decided to support the rule, citing the Board’s duty to provide uniformity and guidance to counties. Member King stated that Member Jeffares’ comments helped her decide, as passing the rule provides a defined framework for Legislators to build upon. Uniformity is a key component to the duties of the SEB. Board member Ghazal and Executive Director Mills expressed opposition to the rule, citing legal risks and procedural caution. Member Ghazal argued this rule is not the appropriate vehicle to support hand-marked paper ballots. She warned the rule violates the non-delegation doctrine established in the Internal Vigilance Case, as it grants determination authority to the Board, which is beyond what the statute allows. Vice Chair, Johnston argued the Board should defer to the Legislature on this issue and concluded that defining these terms is the duty of the Legislature, and the Board should pressure them to act rather than adopting the rule itself. The Presenters rebut the argument for deferral, reasserting the Board’s duty to provide guidance to counties.

The Board voted on the motion to pass the rule, resulting in a tie and the motion’s failure. Member King made a formal motion to pass the rule. She stated, “she believes the Board can assist Legislators, support counties, and protect them from lawsuits - she states the rule does not break the law or change the election process.” She argued that if the Legislature later acts, the rule will become null and void, but if they fail to act, the Board will wish they had passed it.

**Motion:** Member King moved to pass the rule

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote to Pass:** Member King and Member Jeffares

**Opposition:** Member Ghazal and Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

**The vote was tied 2-2, and the motion to pass the rule petition fails.**

Member Ghazal ended the zoom call and the remaining portion of the meeting for the day.

Vice Chair, Janice Johnston announced she will arrange a meeting with the State Senate Ethics Committee and General Assembly as soon as possible.

**BREAK - A motion was passed by the Board to take a break at 10:25 a.m. and resumed at 10:39 a.m.**

**The following two cases were called for reconsideration:**

**SEB2022-066      **Bibb County – Wrong Ballot** *(amended from decision on 12.09.25)***

Member King proposed amending a prior decision for SEB2022-066 against Macon-Bibb County. The original vote was to refer the case to the Attorney General's Office. After further research into aspects not considered in the summary, Member King proposed reducing the penalty to a Letter of Instruction. Grace Martin, Attorney for the Macon-Bibb County Board of Elections, addressed the Board regarding the reconsideration. Discrepancies were noted on the Secretary of State Investigative Summary and materials given to the Board.

**Motion:** Member King moved to amend her original motion after learning about the discrepancies and moved to dismiss the case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-015      **Fulton County – Tabulation issue** *(amended from decision on 12.09.25)***

Member King proposed amending a motion for SEB2022-015. The original motion, which passed, was to refer the case to the Attorney General to seek the missing tapes and a request to issue a fine of \$5,000 each for the unsigned tabulator tapes that were provided as evidence.

Member King's proposed amendment is to refer the case to the Attorney General's Office and request a fine of \$5,000 per infraction and notify the Department of Justice, citing alignment between the issues and the DOJ's purview.

The Board reaffirms its decision on this case by adding a notification to the DOJ, due to concerns over missing tabulator tapes and unsecured memory cards. Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston commented that election law requires three copies of tabulator tapes: one posted on the polling place door, one retained by the County Superintendent, and one retained by the Clerk of the Court. Therefore, two copies should always be available for review. She states that a review of the evidence showed many missing tapes from Fulton County, and there was a "stalemate" in discussions about the County's ability to produce them. Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston highlighted the risk associated with removing the memory cards from the tabulators before the poll is closed, as the data is not yet encrypted and is vulnerable to alteration. It was understood that memory cards in this case were removed and closed on different scanners, putting them at risk.

The severity of missing records and procedural risks warranted broader notification to authorities. The motion to add notifying the Department of Justice to the existing referral and fine requesting \$5,000 per infraction was made by Member King.

**Motion:** Member King moved to amend her original motion and to add notifying the Department of Justice to the existing referral and fine requesting \$5,000 per infraction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

#### **IV. INVESTIGATION REPORTS**

The investigation reports to be considered are listed below according to the disposition recommended by the Secretary of State's Office Investigation Staff. These recommendations are not binding on the Board, which has sole discretion to act on complaints. The Board pulled the following cases from the potential dismissal list

**SEB2024-246      **Appling County – L&A Testing Issue****

The Board pulled this case from the dismissal list, at the request of the Complainant, who stated this case was directly related to a future case, SEB2024-143, which involves a multitude of alleged violations and misconduct by the same Election Supervisor during the 2024 primary. She alleged the Supervisor failed to remain present for the first hour of testing, refused to answer questions live, instructing citizens to write them down for a later response, and tabulators were not visible for observation, preventing citizens from viewing the process. The Complainant requested the Board to not dismiss the case, suggesting it be tabled until case 2024-143 is heard. After hearing the Complainant's testimony, the Board motioned and passed to continue the case.

**Motion:** Member King moved continue the case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-129 Franklin County – Discarded Ballot**

The Board pulled this case to hear from the Complainant’s counsel, Ryan Marks, who was available via zoom. The Complainant stated that over 100 ballots were allegedly found in a dumpster and that key investigative steps were not taken by the Secretary of State Investigators.

The primary reason for the dismissal recommendation is that the sole witness to the incident no longer wishes to communicate with the investigators or discuss the incident, bringing the investigation to a standstill. The Board concluded that without a willing witness, referral to the Attorney General’s Office would be fruitless, and thus agreed with the dismissal recommendation.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss the case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**Following review of the cases listed below, a motion was passed by the Board to unanimously dismiss each case from SEB2022-302 to SEB2022-233.**

SEB2022-302	Appling County – Double State Registration
SEB2024-091	Bullock County – Voting Equipment Issues
SEB2022-220	Burke County – Voter Registration Fraud
SEB2022-111	Butts County – Districting Issues
SEB2022-192	Camacho County – VA Double Voter
SEB2022-193	Camden County – Candidate Qualifying Issue
SEB2024-011	Coweta County – Voter Registration Fraud
SEB2022-246	Emanuel County – Voter Registration Fraud
SEB2022-244	Hancock County – Voter Not Allowed to Observe the Voting Process
SEB2022-180	Henry County – ERIC - Alaska Double Voter
SEB2024-059	Lamar County – Polling Place Notification
SEB2024-106	Lamar County – Electioneering Issue
SEB2022-060	Liberty County – Double Voting Allegation
SEB2024-155	Rockdale County – Fraudulent Voter Registration
SEB2022-130	Talbot County – Poll Worker Issue
SEB2024-090	Tattnall County – Campaigning Within 150 ft.
SEB2024-072	Terrell County – Deceased Voter
SEB2023-018	Treutlen County – Security of Election Equipment
SEB2023-007	Troup County – Voter Registered in Two States - Voter Deceased
SEB2023-086	Putnam/Eatonton – Problem at Polling Place
SEB2023-065	Upson County – Handicap Parking Issue
SEB2025-039	Wheeler County – Candidate Unaware of Winning Office
SEB2022-314	Whitfield County – Deceased Voter
SEB2025-002	Whitfield County – Late Opening Precinct
SEB2023-052	Wilkinson County/City of Gordon – Candidate’s Name Left Off Online Sample Ballot
SEB2023-087	Athens Clarke County – Ballot Destruction by Voter
SEB2025-029	Athens Clarke County – Potential Use of Photographic Equipment While Voting
SEB2022-308	Athens Clarke County – Ballot Issue
SEB2022-233	N/A – Absentee Ballot Fraud/Facebook post

**SEB2022-089 Wayne County – Provisional Ballot Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Susan Nash of Wayne County Board of Elections and Registration violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-385(d)(1)(A)(B). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-351 Wayne County – Photo Case**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Warner Adams violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-413(e). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-051 Long County – Wrong Ballot/Redistricting issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that the Long County Board of Elections and Registration and Cersha Snell violated SEB Rule 183-1-12.11(2)(b). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-304 Long County – Interference with an Election**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue this case until the SEB meeting on January 21, 2026.

**Motion:** Member King moved continue the case to the next meeting

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-058 Screven County – Closed Scanner Early**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Screven County Board of Elections and Registration, Hannah Derriso, Dorothy Glisson, and Greg Smith violated Election Board Rule 183-1-14-.02 (9). A motion was passed by the Board to send a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-271 Screven County – Absentee Ballot Application Issues**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Dorothy Glisson violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-384(b). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-320 Screven County – Districting Issues**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Dorothy Glisson, former Chief Registrar of Screven County, violated OCGA §21-2-226(b). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-151 Toombs County – Voter Registration Problems**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Laron Stevie Salter, II violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-218 (a). A motion was passed by the Board to refer the case to the Attorney General for further review.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-229**

**Mitchell County – Voter Registration Fraud**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Canvasser, Frantasia Williams violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-562. A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General and respective County District Attorney for further investigation.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General and respective County District Attorney for further investigation

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-122**

**Jeff Davis County – Unqualified Elector**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Shanta Mumford violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-590(2) A motion was passed by the Board to issue Shanta Mumford a Letter of Reprimand.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

In addition, there is sufficient evidence to suggest Anthony Gaven Cravey violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-562(a)(2). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-121**

**Candler County – Unqualified Voter**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Chief Registrar, Gary Howard, Deputy Chief Registrar & Clerk of Elections, Kristin Harris, and Poll Worker, Robert Watson, were all in violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-152(c). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-147**

**Candler County – Voter Registration Problems**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that David Gordon Alden Jr. violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-216(a)(1) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-216(f). A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General and County District Attorney for further investigation.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General and County District Attorney for further investigation

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-265**

**Candler County - Open Records Request Voter List Contained DOBs**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Tony Thompson violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-225(b). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2023-015**

**Ben Hill County – Poll Worker Issue**

Attorney Nick Kinsley called in on Zoom to represent Ben Hill County Board of Elections and Registration. The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Ben Hill County Board of Elections and Registration and Cindi Dunlap violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-92 (a)(2). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-346                      Wheeler County – Voting by Unqualified Voter**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Wheeler County Board of Elections and Registration and Shelia Cheek violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-590(2). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction to all Respondents.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction to all Respondents

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-321                      Clay County – Voter Registration Problems**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Clay County Board of Registration and Charlotte Shivers violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-228(d). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2023-024                      Richmond County – Residency Issue Case**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue this case until the SEB meeting on January 21, 2026.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue the case to the next meeting

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-014                      Emanuel County – Absentee Ballot Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Sharon Boston violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-381(a)(1)(C)(ii). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-269                      Wilcox County – Issue with Voting for Write-In Candidates**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss this case.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss the case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**LUNCH - A motion was passed by the Board to recess for lunch at 12:30 p.m.**

**Motion:** Member King moved to recess for lunch

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**The Board reconvened from lunch at 1:10 p.m.**

**SEB2022-004                      Twiggs County/City of Jefferson – Candidate Qualifying Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Debbie Denise Hill (AKA Debbie Denise Fleming) violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-8. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-296                      Laurens County – Voter Assistance Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Cynthia Walters violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-409 (a). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-361                      Randolph County – Illegal Possession of AB**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Nellie Bell Sheppard violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-568(b). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand for allegation #1 and to dismiss allegation #2.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand for allegation #1 and to dismiss allegation #2

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-297                      Crisp County – Absentee Ballot Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Crisp County Board of Elections and Registration and Becky Perkins violated SEB Rule 183-1-14.11. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-239                      Washington County – Illegal Assistance to Voters**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Crystal Reeves violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-409(a). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Sheyanne Guyton violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-409(a). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-330                      Pulaski County – Absentee Ballot Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Kenzie Mashburn and the Pulaski County Board of Elections and Registration violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-386(a)(1)(F). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction to Pulaski County Board of Elections and Registration.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction to Kenzie Mashburn.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-017**                      **Dooly County – Voter L/Security of Ballots**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Gloria Royal violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-70.1(b). A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss allegations #1, #2, and #4.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss allegations #1, #2, and #4

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction to the City of Lilly and Gloria Royal for allegation #3.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-319**                      **Wilkinson County – Requested AB But Never Received It**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Wilkinson County Board of Elections and Registration and Kelly Chatman violated SEB Rule 183-1-14-.11. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand to Wilkinson County Board of Elections and Registration and Kelly Chapman.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue Letters of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-022**                      **Hancock County – Candidate Qualifying Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Hancock County Board of Elections and Supervisor, Barbara Usenbor, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-6. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction to Hancock County and Barabara Usenbor.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue Letters of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-104**                      **Stephens County – Numerous issues**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that a motion was passed by the Board to dismiss allegations #1 #2, #5.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss allegations #1, #2, and #5

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

A motion was passed to issue a Letter of Reprimand to Stephens County Board of Registration and Elections for allegation #3 - violating SEB Rule 183-1-12-.08 (c) Logic and Accuracy Testing & O.C.G.A. § 21-2-379.25 – Testing of electronic ballot marker; public notice of testing and allegation #4 for violating SEB Rule 183-1-12-.12 (a) Tabulating Results, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-483 (h) – Counting of ballots / public accessibility to precincts & O.C.G.A. § 21-2-420 – procedure for tabulation of ballots., and #6 for violating O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 – Meetings to be open to public, and SEB Rule 183-1-12-.12 (c) & O.C.G.A. § 21-2-421 – Posting of required information after closing of polls.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue Letters of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

A motion was passed to issue a Letter of Reprimand for allegation #7 for Stephens County Board of Registration and Elections violating SEB Rule 183-1-12-.12 (b) (2) - Tabulating Results & O.C.G.A. § 20-2-93 – Oath of office for clerks.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-277 Peach and Crawford Counties – Voter registration problems**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue this case until the SEB meeting on January 21, 2026.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue the case to the next meeting

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-311 Monroe County – Use of a Recording Device**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss this case.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss the case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-186 Morgan County – Felony Voting**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence that Hamilton Wesley Veasley & Willie Franks Pitts Jr. violated Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A. 21-2-216(b)). A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General, respective County District Attorney, for further review and investigation.

**Motion:** Member King moved to refer the case to the Attorney General and respective County District Attorney

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-016 Fayette County – Residency Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Deneen Lynette Arnold Brown, Jeffrey Todd Cameron, Trey Mitchell Cathey, Mae Frances M. Dawson, Breanna Cymone Menyweather, Rita Jean Knight, Karen Kersain, Tywandrea Diann English, Almata Beatrice Dockery, Keisha Tesia Deeble, Zsazsa Laree Mop, Anthony A. Myers, and Rriver Nyile violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-217 (a) (1) Rules for Determining Residence, and Deneen Lynette Arnold Brown, Tywandrea Diann English, Almata Beatrice Dockery and Rriver Nyile violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-216 (a) (4) Qualifications of Electors Generally.

The Board passed a motion to issue a Letter of Instruction to Deneen Lynette Arnold Brown, Jeffrey Todd Cameron, Trey Mitchell Cathey, Mae Frances M. Dawson, Breanna Cymone Menyweather, Rita Jean Knight, Karen Kersain, Keisha Tesia Deeble, Zsazsa Laree Mop, Anthony A. Myers for violating O.C.G.A. 21-2-217 (a) (1) Rules for Determining Residence.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

The Board passed a motion to dismiss the complaint against Bernard Titus Caulder Jr.

**Motion:** Member King moved dismiss the case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

The Board passed a motion to issue a Letter of Instruction to Deneen Lynette Arnold Brown, Tywandrea Diann English, Almata Beatrice Dockery and Rriver Nyile for violating O.C.G.A. 21-2-216 (a) (4) Qualifications of Electors Generally and O.C.G.A. 21-2-217 (a) (1) Rules for Determining Residence.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-100 Fayette County – Spoiled Ballot issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Anita Carter was in violation of OCGA § 21-2-436. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a letter of Instruction to Anita Carter.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-247 Fayette County – Paper Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss this case.

**Motion:** Member King moved to dismiss this case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-286 Fayette County – Illegal Assistance to Voter**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Fayette County Elections and Registration violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-390, when they failed to maintain an accounting of a rejected ballot. O.C.G.A. §21-2-390(a) and Carla Knobler violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-385(a). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-234 Fayette County – Campaign Lit at Polling Location 2024 GE**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue this case until the SEB meeting on January 21, 2026.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue the case

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2024-235 Fayette County - Unauthorized Handling of ABM 2024 GE**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue this case to the January 21, 2026, SEB meeting.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue the case to the next meeting

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

**SEB2022-339 Newton County – Tabulation Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that Newton County Elections violated SEB Rule 183-1-12-.12 (b) Tabulating Results and O.C.G.A. § 21-2-386. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

**Motion:** Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

The Board pulled a case that was in the mass dismissal list yesterday since the Complainant was able to join today by Zoom. A motion was passed by the Board to reconsider case SEB2022-324 - Fulton County Voter Discrepancy Issue.

**SEB2022-324 Fulton County – Voter Discrepancy Issue**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed to continue this case to the January 21, 2026, meeting.

**Motion:** Member King moved to continue the case to the next meeting

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comments were made by the following individuals: George Balbona, Ralph O'Connor, Garland Favorito, and Richard Schroeder

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Tabled Business from November 12, 2025, meeting: SEB2023-025**

This business was tabled and moved to January 21, 2026, State Election Board Meeting.

### **Social Media**

Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston proposed a motion to set up a social media site for the State Election Board for factual posting of information. Member Janelle King moved the motion.

**Motion:** Member King moved to move forward with setting up social media sites for the State Election Board for factual posting of information

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

### **SEB Members and Staff sos.gov email account records: resolution of obtaining**

At the last meeting, emails from former SEB members and SEB employees were requested to be turned over or provided to the State Election Board by the Secretary of State's Office, who currently has possession. Chairman Fervier was tasked with seeking and obtaining this information on behalf of the Board; Since he was absent from the meeting and has not communicated with Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston or other Board members, Member King motioned to table the discussion to the next SEB Board meeting.

**Motion:** Member King moved to table the discussion to the next SEB Board meeting

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Next SEB Meeting**

**Date:** Wednesday, January 21, 2026

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Location:** Historic Barrow County Courthouse 30 North Broad Street Winder, Georgia 30680

### **Discussions**

Executive Director Mills commended Vice Chair, Dr. Janice Johnston, acting as Chairwoman, for her leadership and the Board's productivity. He stated that the Board acted on approximately 170 cases over the previous two days, which was a historic volume of cases for the State Election Board. He further noted that, despite approximately 36 hours' notice for her to assume the role of acting Chairwoman, the meeting and case hearings were conducted in a smooth and seamless manner and proceeded without issue. He also observed that, under her leadership, the Chairwoman elected to vote on every measure despite not being required to do so, and he expressed appreciation for her commitment as well as for the hard work of the Board.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 3:16 p.m., the Board adjourned the meeting.

**Motion:** Member King moved to adjourn the meeting

**Second:** Member Jeffares

**Vote:** Passed unanimously (3-0)

**In Favor:** Vice Chairman, as Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Jeffares