



MINUTES
GEORGIA STATE ELECTION BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
The Historic Barrow County Courthouse; 30 North Broad Street, Winder GA 30680
9:00 a.m.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oKLDRazA7Wk>

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

John Fervier, as Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m. A quorum was present for all actions taken by the Board. Board Members present were Chairman, John Fervier, Vice Chairman, Dr. Janice Johnston, Member Janelle King, and Member Salleigh Grubbs. Member Sarah Tindall Ghazal was absent from the meeting.

The invocation was given by Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member King

APPROVAL AND AMEND THE AGENDA

Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston requested to amend the agenda to include “Cases and Investigations” under the business portion. Chairman Fervier approved to amend the agenda accordingly.

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.

CASES FOR POSSIBLE DISMISSAL

SEB2024-130	Cook County	Buying Votes
SEB2025-012	Elbert County/Bowman	Election Incorrect Ballot
SEB2023-045	Fulton County	Fraudulent Voter Registration Application Oct '23

Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston added SEB2024-191 to the possible dismissal list, making it the 4th case for possible dismissal.

SEB2024-191	Appling County	Illegal Campaigning
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The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss all 4 cases: SEB2024-130, SEB2025-012, SEB2023-045, and SEB2024-191.

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss all four cases

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

CASES FOR POSSIBLE VIOLATION

SEB2022-005

Multi County

Dual Registration

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue the case. The case matter remains under active investigation with the Secretary of State Office and current relevant documentation is being held by the FBI, therefore is not yet available for the Board's review.

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to continue the case

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-151

Multi County

Prefilled AB Applications Nov. 2024

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest that America PAC violated OCGA § 21-2-381 (a) (1) (C) (ii) when they failed to display, in a conspicuous location, the statutory language: "This is not an official government publication and was not provided to you by any governmental entity and this is not a ballot." A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-171

Multi County

Non-Citizen Voting

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. The case involving Samantha Maclean-Gamble was continued to the March 18th meeting.

There is sufficient evidence to suggest the DeKalb County Registration and Elections Office violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-226 by not exercising adequate due diligence in verifying voters' eligibility. Specifically, the office registered three individuals despite their responses to the citizenship status question being left blank. These individuals were subsequently confirmed to be non-citizens. A motion was passed by the Board to refer Dekalb County to the Attorney General's office.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to refer DeKalb County Registration and Elections Office to the Attorney General in cases 1, 2, 3, and 4

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

There is sufficient evidence to suggest that the Fulton County Voter Registration and Election violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-226 when an employee improperly registered a non-citizen after the person had correctly reported that they were not a U.S. citizen.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to refer Fulton County Voter Registration and Elections to the Attorney General for cases 5, 7, 8, and 9.

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

There was sufficient evidence to suggest Richard Jones violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-216, voting in 11 elections between 1998 and 2018, while not being a citizen of the U.S. and violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-571, as he was unqualified to vote in the elections he participated in.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to refer Richard Vaughn Jones to the Attorney General and local

District Attorney.

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

There was sufficient evidence to suggest Anthony Francis violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-216, voting in 11 elections between 1998 and 2018, while not being a citizen of the U.S. and violated O.C.G.A. §21-2-571, as he was unqualified to vote in the elections he participated in.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to refer Anthony Francis to the Attorney General and local District Attorney.

Discussion: Member King stated he did not check citizen or non-citizen, and DeKalb was supposed to contact him and verify this. Vice Chair, Johnston stated this was a hand filled application. Mr. Francis made a statement that he didn't fill out the application and there was also a discussion about if the signature matched.

Amended Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston amended her motion to issue a Letter of Reprimand to Anthony Francis

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to dismiss Zahra Hania, since she could not be located. It's possible she doesn't exist.

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to refer Nekisha Woods to the Attorney General for Violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-216.

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to refer Mercy Espiroza-Mendoza to the Attorney General

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

There was sufficient evidence to suggest Rosemary Osagie violated O.C.G.A. § 21-2-561, when she falsely reported on a voter registration application that she was a citizen of the U.S. when she registered to vote, when in fact, she was not a U.S. citizen.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to refer Rosemary Osagie to the Attorney General

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to refer Dulce Romero to the Attorney General for violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-16

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand to Aelet Labra for violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-216

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Discussion: The Board expressed the importance of consistent application of election law across Georgia counties and the need for complete investigative records prior to Board review. The Board additionally expressed concerns regarding delays in case investigation and presentation, inconsistencies between investigative findings and county records, and the need for improved communication between the Secretary of State's Office and County election offices

SEB2025-022

Multi County

Alleged Vote Buying by Turnout the Vote Organization

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed to dismiss the case, since the investigator found that the complaint was unsubstantiated and the Respondent was notified, but did not show up.

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss the allegations against Mr. Alex Morgan, Turnout the Vote

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Chairman Fervier, Member King, and Member Grubbs

(Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston excused herself from any motion to vote, in an abundance of caution)

BREAK: 5-minute

Chairman Fervier asked for a 5 minute break @ 10:40 a.m.

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

The meeting reconvened at 10:49 a.m.

SEB2024-165

Ware County

Illegal Campaigning & Photograph of Ballot

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was not sufficient evidence to suggest that Malcom Brady violated O.C.G.A 21-2-413 (e) – Issue 1. A motion was passed to dismiss Issue 1 against Malcolm Brady.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to dismiss Issue 1 against Mr. Malcolm Brady

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest Benny Altman violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-414 (a), (1), (2), and (3) A motion was made to dismiss Issue 2 against Benny Altman. After discussion by the Board, it was moved and passed to issue a Letter of Instruction to Benny Altman.

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to dismiss the case against Benny Altman

Second: No second

2nd Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to issue a Letter of Instruction to Benny Altman

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to dismiss Issue 3 (no leads for determining the identity of the person in the photograph.

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-226 Brooks County Early Voting Tabulated – Posted Prior to Election Day

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest that Election Supervisor, LaShell Deshazor and Brooks County Board of Elections and Registration violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-421- Posting of required information after closing of polls, reporting to Secretary of State. The Board motioned and passed to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

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

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2025-003 Colquitt County Failure to Open Poll at 7 a.m.

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed to dismiss the case against Jerry Plymel.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to dismiss the case

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-097 Bacon County/City of Alma Miscellaneous

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss Allegations 1,4,5, and 7. A motion was passed to issue a Letter of Instruction for Howard (Bruce) Burnette (Allegation 2). A motion was made to issue a Letter of Instruction to Shemeeka Brinson (Allegation 3), after discussion, a motion was amended and passed by the Board to send this case to the Attorney General. A motion was passed to send a Letter of Reprimand to Mayor Taylor (Allegation 6).

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to dismiss allegations 1 (Austin and Missy Boatright) ,4 (Jerry Amith), 5,(Mayor, Larry Taylor) and 7(Dawson and Megan Dyal)

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to issue a Letter of Instruction to Howard (Bruce) Burnette for Violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-571 (Allegation 2)

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to issue a Letter of Instruction to Shemeeka Brinson for Violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-571, voting by unqualified elector (Allegation 3)

Second: Member King

Discussion: Chairman Fervier suggest it be a Letter of Reprimand or Attorney General due to Shameeka Brenton was never listed as an adult resident on her mother's lease and was using the wrong address for her vote. Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston withdrew her motion.

Motion: Member King motioned to send Shameeka Brenton to the Attorney General.

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand to Mayor, Larry Taylor for violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-414 (d) (Allegation 6)

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-050 Coffee County/City of Douglas Illegal Campaigning – Poll Worker Issue

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss allegations 1, 2, 3, 4 & 7. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand to Debra Christy Nipper in violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-226 (b). A motion was passed by the Board to issue Letter of Reprimand to Runnel Johnston in violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-562 (a) (3)

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss the allegations of 1, 2, 3, 4 & 7

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand for Allegation 5

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand for Allegation 6

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed (2-1)

In Favor: Member King and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-227 Coffee County Felon Voting

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest that Johnnie Roper violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-216(b), qualifications of electors generally: reregistration of electors purged from list; eligibility of nonresidents who vote in presidential elections; retention of qualification for standing as elector; evidence of citizenship; check of convicted felons and deceased persons databases. A motion was passed by the Board to refer the case to the Attorney General.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, moved to refer this case to the Attorney General

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-056 Glynn County Absentee Ballot Application Issues

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was made to issue a Letter of Instruction for the violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-381 (a)(1)(C)(i), but it did not pass. After discussion, the Board moved and passed to send this case to the Attorney General for pre-filling out the absentee ballot applications for these electors.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

Second: None

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to send to the Attorney General

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-060 McIntosh County/City of Darien Illegal Assistance

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction for violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-385 (b). The woman that William H.A. Collins was assisting was a long time family friend and he is the primary person who assists her, additionally he did not realize at the time that what he was doing was in violation with the above Election Code. Mr. Collins sent in a statement and also came in person to speak to the Board.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-221 Chatham County Election Night Results

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand for the Election Night Results in violation of O.C.G.A. 21-2-493 (a).

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Discussion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston presented a detailed slide presentation showing the inconsistencies in tabulator tapes. She requested a complaint be entered and a new case be opened to investigate.

SEB2024-114 Appling County Buying Votes

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was not sufficient evidence to suggest Mr. Deloach violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-570. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss the case.

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss the case

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-168 Appling County Poll Watcher Issues

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest Lashonda Carter, Elections Supervisor violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-566 (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: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

The Complainant in this case, Wayne Canady, requested the Board to look into case SEB2024-143 because the two-year expiration date of record retention is about to expire. Chairman Fervier stated that the Board would look into case SEB2024-143.

SEB2023-067 Bryan County/Richmond Hill Ballot Error

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest Bryan County Board of Elections and Olivia Chapman violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-283 (Allegation 1) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-418 (Allegation 2) . A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand for Allegation 1. A motion was made to issue a Letter of Reprimand for Allegation 2, upon discussion, the motion was amended and passed to issue a Letter of Instruction.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand for Allegation 1

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand for Allegation 2

Amended Motion: Member King amended her motion to issue a Letter of Instruction for Allegation 2

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-237

Long County

Tabulation Issue – Voter left the Poll with Ballot

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest Cersha Snell, Long County Elections Supervisor violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-566 (2). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand (Allegation 1). There was sufficient evidence to suggest Karen Eckman violated Rule 183-1-12-.11(8). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand (Allegation 2).

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand to Ms. Snell - Allegation 1

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand - Allegation 2

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-053

Mitchell County/City of Camilla Buying Votes

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest Cheryl Ford, Elections Supervisor, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-70 (3). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction (Allegation 8) and to dismiss Allegations 1-7 and 9-16.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction for allegation 8

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss allegations 1-7 and 9-16 for this case.

Second: Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-183

Mitchell County/ City of Camilla Absentee Ballot Mailing Issue

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was not sufficient evidence to suggest O.C.G.A. 21-2-384.(a)(5)(b) was violated. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss this case.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston made a motion to dismiss this case

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was made to issue a Letter of Instruction, upon further discussion, the motion was amended and passed to dismiss this case of violation SEB Rule 183-1-6.04(8)(a)(b). Baker County had ordered temporary ramps for every election since it was brought to their attention, additionally the voting location has now been moved to be even more accommodating for elderly and handicapped voters with permanent handicap spots with easy accessibility

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

Second: Member Grubbs

Discussion: After further discussion, Member King amended her motion

2nd Motion: Member King moved to dismiss the case

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest that Doris Powell violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-562(a)(1) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-385 (b). Additionally, there was sufficient evidence to suggest that Javius Powell violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-603. A motion was passed by the Board to issue each respondent a Letter of Instruction.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction to Doris Powell

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction for Javius Powell

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

LUNCH – A motion was passed by the Board to recess for lunch at 1:20

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to break for lunch

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

The Board reconvened at 1:52

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest Stewart County Board of Elections & Registration and Alfreda Hudson, Superintendent of Elections & Registration, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-386(a)(2)(A) and SEB Rule 183-1-14.14(5)(b). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston made a point – the closing tape, the tabulator tape from early voting, you're posting the result of the election. And it's very clear in the law, that posting election results before election was a clear violation. I think at some point in time, I will start to reprimand referral to the Attorney General for infractions like this.

SEB2025-027

Stewart County

Advanced Voting on Memorial Day

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest Alfreda Lowe, Election Supervisor and Stewart 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 Instruction.

Motion: Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-012

Sumter County

Failure to deliver Voting Mat. to Clerk of Sup. Court

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest Sumter County Board of Elections and Registration and Randy Howard violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-500. 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 Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-117

Sumter County

Problems at the Polling Precincts

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue the case, as the Board wanted to hear directly from Sumter County representatives before final disposition on violation O.C.G.A. 21-2-375(4), O.C.G.A. 21-2-329, and SEB Rule 183-1-12-.11.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to continue this case until the March meeting

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2025-005

Sumter County

Issues with Tabulation of the Write-In Candidates

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. A motion was passed by the Board to continue the case, as the Board wanted to hear directly from Sumter County representatives before final disposition on violation O.C.G.A. 21-2-494.

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to continue the case until the March Meeting.

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-068

Irwin County

Giving Food for Votes

SEB2024-102

Telfair County

Procedure for Voting Absentee Ballot

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence to suggest Strong, Quinn, and Williams violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-385 (a). A motion was passed by the Board to send this case to the Attorney General.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to refer the case to the Attorney General

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-088 Dodge County Poll Manager Voted Early on Election Day

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Lewis Sheffield, Senior Poll Manager, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-403(a). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-244 Dooly County Prohibition of Candidates from Entering Polling Pl.

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence that Wayne West violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-414(d). 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 Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-248 Worth County Duplication Panel Failed to Duplicate a Ballot

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Mrs. Bowles and the Worth County Board of Elections and Registration violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-483(f), however, the County has recognized the error and put systems in order to prevent such violations in the future. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss the case.

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss the case

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-082 Wheeler County/Glenwood Problems at the Polling Place

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Jatarrius Wicker violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-218(c) – a motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction (Allegation 1). There was sufficient evidence that Anthony White violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-218(c) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-571 – a motion was passed by the Board to send this case to the Attorney General (Allegation 2). A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss Allegations 2-7 and 9-11.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction to Mr. Wicker (Allegation 1)

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to refer Mr. White to the Attorney General (Allegation 8)

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss all other Allegations (2-7 and 9-11)

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-087

Emanuel County

Poll Manager Voted Early to Test the Equipment

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Regis Sammons and Darleen Dickens violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-403(a). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand to Regis Sammons and Darleen Dickens.

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand to Regis Sammons

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand to Darlene Champman Dickens

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Janice Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-099

Peach County

BMDs not sealed with the Red Seal

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Anthony Sallette and Peach County Board of Elections and Registrations violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-99(a) and SEB Rule 183-1-12.08(3)(e). 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 Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2022-150

Houston County

Poll Worker Issues

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Margaret Mehserle violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-576. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Chairman Fervier emphasized that this decision should not be interpreted as encouraging others to commit similar violations. Anyone who believes they can engage in this kind of conduct and come before this Board expecting a lenient outcome is mistaken. Let it be clear: defacing a ballot and creating problems for those working to conduct elections is a serious matter, and it will not be treated lightly in the future.

SEB2024-170

Houston County

Voter Registration Problems

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was not sufficient evidence against Deidre Ridley for violation O.C.G.A. 21-2-571. A motion was made and passed to dismiss the case against Deidre Ridley. A motion was made to send the unknown respondent to the Attorney General, after further discussion, the motion was amended and passed by the Board to dismiss the case against the unknown respondent.

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss this case against Deidre Ridley

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member King moved to refer the unknown respondent to the Attorney General

Second: None

Motion: Member King retracted her motion and moved a new motion to dismiss the case against the unknown respondent.

Second: Member Grubbs
Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)
In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Vice Chairman Dr. Johnston pointed out that cases may be dismissed for a variety of reasons. In this particular instance, although a violation occurred, enforcement of the election code of conduct was not possible due to insufficient information.

SEB2024-111 Macon County AB Drop Box

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Macon County Board of Elections and Registration and Tarshea Riley, Elections Supervisor violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-382 (c) (1). A motion was passed by the Board moved to issue a Letter of Instruction.

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

SEB2024-100 Bibb County Problems at Polling Place Voting Equipment

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Thomas Gillon, Elections Supervisor, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-226 (b). A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss the Allegations 2 & 3, and to issue a Letter of Instruction on Allegation 1.

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss the Allegations 2 & 3
Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston
Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)
In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction - Allegation 1
Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston
Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)
In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-247 Talbot County Failure to Open Poll at 7 a.m.

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Erica Chasney, Poll Manager, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-405 (a) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-403 (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 Grubbs
Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)
In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-154 Meriweather County Challenged Voters

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Sasha Williams violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-566 (1) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-566 (2). Chairman Fervier made a motion to send this case to the Attorney General and District Attorney, upon further discussion, Chairman Fervier amended his motion to continue this case.

Motion: Chairman Fervier made a motion to send this case to the Attorney General and the District Attorney
Discussion: Member Grubbs asked to propose an alternate thought. Chairman Fervier granted permission. Member Grubbs expressed concern that if the matter is referred to the Attorney General and the District Attorney, it may take a significant amount of time before the Board receives a response. She therefore requested

that Chairman Fervier amend his motion to continue the case until a subpoena can be issued to bring Ms. Williams before the Board.

Motion: Chairman Fervier amended his motion to continue this case.

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

~~SEB2025-023 Meriweather County Lone Oak Failure to Hold a Spec. Elect. Failure to fill
45 Vacancy on City Council~~

SEB2024-095 Monroe County Tabulation/Reporting Problems

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Kaye Warren, Election Supervisor, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-421 (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 Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-024 Richmond County Residency Issue

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was not sufficient evidence that Charles Walker violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-565 (a), O.C.G.A. 21-2-218 (c) or O.C.G.A. 21-2-571. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss this case.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to dismiss the case

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-054 Coweta County Absentee Ballot sent by an Entity

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There is sufficient evidence that Susan Dzieduszycka-Suinat, U.V. Vote Foundation violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-381 (a) (1) (C) (ii) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-381 (a) (1) (C) (i) (c) . A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General.

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

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-034 Fayette County Voter Registration Fraud

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Lane Watts violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-216(a)(4) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-58. A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General's Office and to the local District Attorney.

-

Motion: Member King moved to refer this case to the Attorney General and local DA

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-096 Fayette County Accessibility Issues

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Fayette County violated

SEB Rule 183-1-6.04. 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 Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-112

Fayette County

Ballot Paper Issue

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Brianna Garrett violated SEB Rule 183-1-12-.08 (1)(b) and Judy Flynn violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-372. A motion was passed by the Board to issue Letters of Instruction.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letters of Instruction

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-206

Fayette County

Improper Campaign Attire at Polling Location

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Michael Dunkle violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-414 (a)(2) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-413 (e). A motion was passed by the Board to issue Letter of Instruction.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

BREAK – Chairman Fervier made a motion to break for five minutes at 3:57

The Board reconvened at 4:02

SEB2024-234

Fayette County

Campaign Literature at Polling Location

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was no sufficient evidence that Diane Louise Beal violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-414 (a). A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss the case.

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss the case

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

The Board discussed the remaining agenda for the day and agreed to complete all cases today, with the remaining business portion of the meeting to be concluded tomorrow.

SEB2022-068 **Fulton County** **Double Voter**

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. The Board members expressed concern with the Secretary of State's data reliability, transparency, and auditability. A motion was passed by the Board to continue this case.

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to continue this case

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to subpoena Brad Raffensperger, Secretary of State, to attend the March 18, SEB meeting, to address the issues previously discussed regarding Fulton County and other counties across Georgia.

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-022

Fulton County

Poll Worker Conduct Issue Nov 2020

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was not sufficient evidence that Keri Jones, Poll Manager, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-440 or O.C.G.A. 21-2-484 (Allegation 1 & 2). However, there was sufficient evidence that Fulton County violated SEB Rule 183-1-12.12 (e) (Allegation 3). A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss Allegation 1 & 2, and continuance of Allegation 3.

Motion: Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston moved to dismiss Allegation 1 & 2 and honor the request to continue Allegation 3.

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-028

Fulton County

Sequestration Issue Nov '22 GE

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Charmene Means violated 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 Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-062

Fulton County

City of South Fulton Illegal Campaigning

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was not sufficient evidence that Catharine Rowell, Councilwoman District 1, Fulton County Elections and Registration Office, or Uri Lindsey, Poll Manager violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-414 (a) (2). A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss the case.

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss the case

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-053

Fulton County

Candidacy Affidavit

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Michael Powell violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-153 (a.1)(2). A motion was passed by the Board to send this case to the Attorney General.

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to refer the case to the Attorney General

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-060

Fulton County

Voter Registration Fraud

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was not sufficient evidence that Shawn Wilson violated

O.C.G.A. 21-2-561, no evidence that this person exists, fictitious registrant. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss this case.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to dismiss this case

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-180 ~~Fulton County~~ ~~High Museum of Arts Violations~~

SEB2023-046 Cobb County Improper AB Processing May & Nov. 2022

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Cobb County Board of Registration and Election violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-493, O.C.G.A. 21-2-381, and SEB Rule 183-1-12.12 (b) (4) - (Five (5) Drop Box Ballots from May 24, 2022 Election) and violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-419 - (Thirteen (13) Provisional Absentee Ballots from November 8, 2022 Election). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

Motion: Vice Chairman, Dr. Johnston, moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-079 Cobb County Illegal Campaigning Smyrna

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Danielle Pilgrim, Campaign Volunteer, violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-414 (a) (1). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Chairman Fervier, Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, and Member Grubbs
(Member King had taken a short bathroom break)

SEB2024-085 Cobb County Illegal Campaigning East Cobb Gov. Central May 2024

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Jan Becker Horstmeyer (Becker) violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-414 (a) (1) – Complaint 1 and there was not sufficient evidence that Virginia Choate violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-413 (e) – Complaint 2. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand (Complaint 1) and to dismiss Complaint 2.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to issue Letter of Reprimand (Complaint 1)

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to dismiss Complaint 2

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Chairman Fervier, Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, and Member King
Member Grubbs recused herself from voting in this case.

SEB2024-176 Cobb County Non-Citizen Voting

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was not sufficient evidence that Cobb County violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-561. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss this case.

Motion: Member King moved to dismiss this case

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-245

Cobb County

Photo Case

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was not sufficient evidence that Lee Langub, AIP Southeast Satellite Manager, committed any violations that the Board can enforce. A motion was passed by the Board to dismiss the case.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, moved to dismiss this case

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Chairman Fervier, Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, and Member King
Member Grubbs recused herself from the vote

SEB2024-251

Cobb County

Double Voter Nov. 2024

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Cobb County violated Double Voting. A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to refer the case to the Attorney General

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

~~**SEB2025-047**~~

~~**Cherokee County**~~

~~**Voter Conduct Issue August 2025**~~

SEB2024-082

Gordon County

Illegal Campaigning May 2024 GP

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Rodney Curtis violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-570. A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General.

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

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Grubbs

SEB2024-172

Pickens County

Improper Campaigning Clothing with Polling Precinct

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Joel Bakabak Cordero violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-414. A motion was passed to issue a Letter of Instruction.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2022-095

Jones County

Misc. Issues on Election Day

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Jones County Board of Elections, Marion Hatton, Elections Supervisor, and Alicia Crane, Poll Manager violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-93, O.C.G.A. 21-2-405 (a), O.C.G.A. 21-2-430, O.C.G.A. 21-2-450 (a) (1) and Jones County Board of Elections, Marion Hatton, Elections Supervisor, and Erica Tillman, Poll Manager violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-293, O.C.G.A. 21-2-328 (c)(2), O.C.G.A. 21-2-491.1 and O.C.G.A. 21-2-379.7 (4). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand for each violation.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand for each violation

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-144

Wilkinson County

Conduct of a Candidate at the Elections Office

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that David Hadarits violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-597. A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General and local District Attorney.

Motion: Member King moved to refer this case to the Attorney General and local District Attorney

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2023-063

Stephens County

Illegal Campaigning in the City of Toccoa

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence Lenwood Kerry Cannon violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-414. A motion was passed to issue a Letter of Instruction

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-127

Morgan County

Petition Verification Issue

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Lee Crenshaw violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-562 (a)(1). A motion was passed to refer this case to the Attorney General.

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

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-146

Morgan County Third Party VR & ABM Application Issues 2024

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Marie Carrera, Mary McGill and Patsy Harris violated SEB Rule 183-1-6-.02 (8) (c) and O.S.G.A. 21-2-381 (a) (1) (C) (ii). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Instruction to each Respondent.

Motion: Member King moved to issue a Letter of Instruction

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-203

Morgan County

False Registration by Voter Nov. 2024

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Carol Kauffman and William Kauffman violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-216 and O.C.G.A. 21-2-571. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of

Reprimand.

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-233

Morgan County

Campaign Attire at Polling Location 2024 GE

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Tara Stephens violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-414 (a). A motion was passed by the Board to issue a Letter of Reprimand.

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to issue a Letter of Reprimand

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2025-016

Morgan County

Municipal Candidate Assisting Voter

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Timothy Robinson violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-414 (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 Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

SEB2024-133

Oconee County

Improper Municipal Qualifying Procedures Aug. 2024

The Board reviewed and discussed the investigative findings. There was sufficient evidence that Oconee County Board of Registration and Election violated O.C.G.A. 21-2-9 (d). A motion was passed by the Board to refer this case to the Attorney General.

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to refer this case to the Attorney General

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubb

RECESS

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to recess for the day at 7:16 p.m. and to reconvene in the morning at 9:30 a.m.

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubb



MINUTES
GEORGIA STATE ELECTION BOARD MEETING
Thursday, February 19, 2026
The Historic Barrow County Courthouse; 30 North Broad Street, Winder GA 30680
9:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

John Fervier, as Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:35a.m. A quorum was present for all actions taken by the Board.

The following Board Members were present Chairman John Fervier, Vice Chairman Dr. Janice Johnston, Member Janelle King, and Member Salleigh Grubbs. Member Sara Tindall Ghazal was absent from the meeting.

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Member King motioned to approve October 22, 2025, amended SEB meeting minutes

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Chairman Fervier
(Member Grubbs recused herself from the vote)

Motion: Member King motioned to approve November 12, 2025, amended SEB meeting minutes

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Chairman Fervier

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Subpoena for 2020 election documents and ballots from Fulton County

The Board discussed the status of subpoenas seeking 2020 election documents and ballots from Fulton County. Member King said she believed the investigation and seizure were necessary because the Board had previously subpoenaed the same records and was seeking transparency in election processes and records. She spoke at length about election integrity, public trust, and the importance of making election procedures understandable and transparent to citizens. Member Grubbs stated that Fulton County had resisted compliance with prior subpoenas and that the Board had a duty to continue pursuing the requested records. She expressed concern that the county's actions reflected a lack of transparency and accountability. Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston gave a detailed statement describing the legal framework under which the Georgia legislature created the State Election Board and County Election Boards. She outlined the Board's authority to investigate possible violations of the election code and stated that, in her view, Fulton County had failed to comply with subpoenas and document-preservation obligations. She also stated that the FBI's January 28 seizure of documents occurred independently and that the Board's subpoenas remained active.

The Board then considered ratification of letters sent to preserve subpoenaed records returned by the FBI. The Board passed a motion ratifying the spoliation letters sent to Fulton County entities.

Motion: Vice Chair Johnston moved to ratify the spoliation letters

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Chair/Executive Director Exchange

A discussion occurred between Chairman Fervier and Director Mills regarding prior communications with the Secretary of State's office and allegations about whether the Chair had obstructed prior meetings or restricted the Executive Director's access. Chair Fervier denied the allegations and stated that he had simply wanted a private conversation at the time to understand his role and responsibilities. Director Mills disputed the Chair's account and asserted that the Board had faced obstruction in its efforts to obtain records and conduct investigations

Update on SEB email records - Addison, Sheila, Member Mashburn (2020 – 2024)

The Board discussed missing or incomplete email records involving former staff and Board-related communications. Chairman Fervier stated that requests had been made to obtain records from Addison, Sheila, and former Member Mashburn, and noted that Mr. Mashburn had indicated he was willing to provide his emails if contacted. The Board also discussed Alexandra Hardin's emails and the status of her government-issued phone. Member Grubbs expressed concern about missing emails, text messages, and records, and suggested subpoenas might be necessary to obtain them. Vice Chair Johnston stated that Hardin's emails and text messages were critical in open records litigation and for future open records requests. A motion was passed by the Board to issue a subpoena to Alexandra requiring her to appear at the next SEB meeting and to require production of her cell phone, cell phone records, and text message records.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to issue a subpoena to Alexandra Hardin

Second: Member Grubbs

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Update on SOS publication of SEB Adopted Rules from 2024

The Board discussed the status of publication and certification of rules adopted in 2024. Vice Chair Johnston noted that she had not received updates from the Secretary of State regarding publication or certification. The Board discussed which rules had been adopted, which had been litigated, and the normal publication process. No formal action was taken.

Update on Member Grubbs' request for Firefly access, GARVIS access (read only)

Member Grubbs raised concerns about access to Firefly and GARVIS, stating that board members should be able to see communications the Secretary of State sends to counties. She said she had been denied read-only access and expressed concern about accountability, transparency, and communication barriers. Director Mills stated that the Board had requested sight-only access to GARVIS for investigators and had been denied. Member King and Vice Chair Johnston expressed similar concerns that the Board lacked visibility into information communicated to counties. Chair Fervier noted that the Board needed access to information in order to perform its oversight responsibilities. No formal action was taken

Directors and Officers insurance policy

The Board discussed a Directors' and Officers' insurance policy. Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston had previously raised the issue, and Director Mills explained that the application process required budget information and likely signatures from the Chair and Vice Chair or designees. The Board expressed support for pursuing the policy. No vote was taken at this point, but the Board agreed to proceed as budget allowed.

Discussion of Staff Attorney

The Board discussed the need for a staff attorney. Member Grubbs stated that the Board needed dedicated legal counsel available for meetings, open records requests, and other legal questions. Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston and Member King agreed, noting potential conflicts with the Attorney General's office representing both the Secretary of State and the State Election Board. The board discussed the possibility of a contract attorney or a standalone legal resource.

Discussion of Conflict Counsel

The Board discussed conflict counsel and how legal representation would be arranged, if the Attorney General had a conflict. Chair Fervier stated, it was his understanding, that the Governor would appoint conflict counsel if needed. Member King stated she would like the Board to have input into selecting counsel and that the Board should not be left unrepresented.

Communication Protocols

The Board discussed communication protocols, including who responds to public and internal emails. Chair Fervier stated that he generally responds to emails addressed directly to him and otherwise relies on the Executive Director or other staff members. Member King stated that direct responses should be limited, when possible, to avoid unnecessary open records burden, but agreed the Board should acknowledge public communications, when appropriate.

Court Administrators/Judges/Clerks responsibilities under O.C.G.A § 21-2-231

Member Grubbs discussed the need to remind judges and court administrators about responsibilities related to non-citizen voter removals and jury duty notifications. She suggested a bulletin or notice to Court Administrators and Judges. Chair Fervier noted that this was a reminder issue and did not require immediate action.

Swearing in of the Respondents

Member Grubbs raised the issue of warning public commenters and respondents that they must tell the Truth, when appearing before the Board. She cited O.C.G.A. 16-10-20 and requested that a notice be added to public comment materials. Chair Fervier agreed that truthful testimony matters, but noted public comment is a First Amendment activity and not the same as sworn testimony.

Ballot Duplication

The board briefly discussed ballot duplication, noting the topic related to prior discussions about hand duplication versus ballot marking device processes. No formal action was taken.

Legislative Agenda

Vice Chair Johnston stated that the Board had previously adopted recommendations for the Legislature, including ending no-excuse absentee voting and requiring all ballots to be received by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. She also discussed concerns regarding QR codes, hand-marked paper ballots, ballot-on-demand printers, chain of custody, and tabulator tapes. No new action was taken.

Cases and Investigations

Vice Chair Johnston reported that the Board had completed the remaining cases presented by Secretary of State Investigators and that no new cases were ready for presentation at that time. She praised the work of the Board and staff in clearing the existing backlog.

Licensed Private Investigator Pilot Project

Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston proposed authorizing Director Mills to contract with a licensed private investigator for a “Pilot Project” involving one to four complaints. Chair Fervier requested additional details regarding the cost, scope, duties, and reporting structure. The Board discussed whether Director Mills should first present a formal proposal or be authorized to proceed directly. Ultimately, the Board approved a motion authorizing Director Mills to engage a licensed private investigator to conduct a “Pilot Project” involving one to four election complaint investigations, with expenditures not to exceed \$10,000.

Motion: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston moved to authorize Director Mills to contract a licensed Private Investigator

Second: Member King

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs

Discussion of Coalition for Good Governance’s election law complaint on Voting Systems During 2026

Marilyn Marks, Executive Director of the Coalition for Good Governance, presented concerns about ballot secrecy, QR codes, and the State Election Board’s legal authority. She argued that when voting systems fail to comply with the law, counties should be required to use hand-marked paper ballots and scanners as a backup. Marks emphasized that the Board has both the authority and responsibility to enforce election laws in such situations. Board members questioned her on legal distinctions (such as backup vs. emergency systems) and the legal basis for her proposals. She responded to these questions and submitted a proposed order. The Board concluded by thanking her for her presentation and materials.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board heard public comments from multiple speakers. Speakers included Dr. Konrad Hayash, Mandy Schultz, Jeanne Dufort, Janet Grant, Kyle Gomez-Leineweber, Marisa Pyle, Rachel Glover, Victoria Cruz, Gail Lee, Richard Schroeder, Sandra Burchardt, Joseph Kirk, David Ramsey, and Garland Favorito.

Threats and Security

Member Grubbs stated that she had received a threatening email and asked for guidance. Chair Fervier stated that threatening emails should be turned over to the GBI and said the board would not tolerate threats against members or staff. He stated that he had already referred threatening communications to law enforcement in the past.

Closing Remarks

Vice Chair Johnston thanked staff members, including Autumn Miller, Shaun White, Jesse Patton, Ann Delmas, Hope Coan, and Director Mills, for their work supporting the Board and its records, investigations, and meetings.

Chair Fervier thanked the county hosts for the use of the facility and thanked participants, audience members, and staff for their patience and work throughout the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

At 1:13 p.m., the Board adjourned the meeting

Motion: Member Grubbs moved to adjourn the Board Meeting

Second: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston

Vote: Passed unanimously (3-0)

In Favor: Vice Chair, Dr. Johnston, Member King, and Member Grubbs