



**Georgia Department  
of Human Services**

Office of Human Resources

*DHS Board of Commissioners Meeting  
Ethics Overview*

Ann Burris, Assistant Deputy Commissioner



# stronger families

FOR A STRONGER GEORGIA



# Overview

- Purpose of Ethics Executive Order
- Persons Subject to the Ethics Executive Order
- Ethics Officer Responsibilities
- Questions Referred to the Ethics Officer



# State of Georgia Executive Order

- Executive Order establishing a Code of Ethics for Executive Branch Officers and Employees was renewed on January 14, 2019 with the following ethics policies remaining in effect:
  - Government will function in a manner consistent with the highest ethical standards;
  - DHS officers and employees must work solely for the public good, striving vigilantly to avoid even the appearance that their actions are motivated by private or personal interest;



# State of Georgia Executive Order cont'd...

- DHS employees must safeguard their ability to make objective, fair, and impartial decisions; therefore should not accept benefits of any sort, under circumstances, in which it could be inferred that the benefit was intended to influence a pending or future decision or to reward a past decision; and
- DHS employees must avoid any conduct, whether in the context of business, financial, or social relationships, which might undermine the public trust, whether that conduct is unethical or lends itself to the appearance of ethical impropriety.





# Persons Subject to this Executive Order

- DHS Commissioner
- ALL DHS employees



# Ethics Officer

- The Office of Human Resources (OHR) Director is designated as the DHS Ethics Officer.
- The Ethics Officer shall take appropriate measures to ensure agency employees are familiar with applicable ethics law and policies, including the policies set forth in this Order:
  - *DHS Human Resources Policy #1201 – Conduct Standards and Ethics in Government*



# Questions Referred to the Ethics Officer

- Conflicts of Interest
- Gifts
- Honoraria
- Expenses
- Nepotism
- Lobbying
- Political Activity
- Personal Use of Telephone and Internet





# Contact with Questions

Ann Burris

DHS Ethics Officer

470-733-9315

[DHSEthicsOfficer@dhs.ga.gov](mailto:DHSEthicsOfficer@dhs.ga.gov)

