



**Georgia Department of Human Services**  
Office of General Counsel

# Legal Update

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General Counsel

# Vision, Mission and Core Values

## Vision

Stronger Families for a Stronger Georgia.

## Mission

Strengthen Georgia by providing Individuals and Families access to services that promote self-sufficiency, independence, and protect Georgia's vulnerable children and adults.

## Core Values

- Provide access to resources that offer support and empower Georgians and their families.
- Deliver services professionally and treat all clients with dignity and respect.
- Manage business operations effectively and efficiently by aligning resources across the agency.
- Promote accountability, transparency and quality in all services we deliver and programs we administer.
- Develop our employees at all levels of the agency.



# Office of General Counsel

## Vision

To be a trusted business partner engaged in the development of stronger families for a stronger Georgia.

## Mission

Our mission is to work collaboratively with our partners to assist the multiple business facets of the Georgia Department of Human Services in identifying and responding to legal matters in a practical and sustainable way.

## Core Values

- Provide access to resources that offer support and empower Georgians and their families.
- Deliver services professionally and treat all clients with dignity and respect.
- Manage business operations effectively and efficiently by aligning resources across the office.
- Promote accountability, transparency and quality in all services we deliver and programs we administer.
- Develop our employees at all levels of the office.



# OGC Responsibilities

The Office of General Counsel provides ongoing support to the Department's three divisions and eleven offices. Support of the Department includes guidance on program initiatives and all required regulatory functions related to:

- Child welfare and safety
- Family development and independence
- Aging services
- Enterprise-level functions



# Legal Update

- Final Approval of New Rule Chapter
- Approval of Bond Resolution
- Approval of BB&T Banking Resolution



# Chapter 290-2-30

- Proposed Rule approved for public comment on February 15, 2017
- Public Comment Period: March 1, 2017, through March 30, 2017
- Public Hearing: April 19, 2017
- One comment was received
- All procedural requirements have been met for the proposed rule adoption
- Requesting Final Approval of the New Rule Chapter



# Bond Resolution

- Prior Board Approval (August 24, 2016) for the acquisition of properties in Troupe County and Ben Hill County
- 2017 Legislative Session: Troupe County Acquisition and Funding Approved
- Requesting Approval of the Bond Resolution for the issuance of bonds to acquire the Troupe County property
- Funding for repairs and/or improvements may be requested in FY19



# Ongoing OGC Matters

- Review of proposed legislation
- Federal and State law compliance
- Privacy compliance, training and breach response
- State administrative hearing process
- Drafting of contracts, agreements and proposals
- Constituent inquiries, including open records requests
- Drafting of administrative rules and coordination of rule changes
- Board Governance and support





# QUESTIONS

