



For Immediate Release

DeKalb Citizens Advocacy Council Statement on Ethics Board Appointments

DeKalb Citizens Advocacy Council (DCAC) applauds the many citizens who applied for an appointment to the DeKalb Board of Ethics and congratulates those appointed. The fact that more than 60 citizens applied to serve on the board through the Joint Appointing Committee indicates just how committed DeKalb residents are to supporting ethical government in DeKalb County.

We also thank the committee members – the DeKalb State House Delegation, the Tax Commissioner, and the Clerk of the Superior Court - for implementing a successful Board of Ethics appointment process that:

- encouraged citizen engagement through a public call for applicants,
- sought board member competency and diversity through a uniform and thorough written application and blind evaluation process, and
- strove for transparency by publicly disclosing the overall application process and timetable.

We will be interested in learning of the three members to be appointed by the DeKalb Senate Delegation. In contrast to the process employed by the Joint Appointing Committee, the DeKalb Senate Delegation engaged in a private process for selecting their three members of the Board. We are not questioning the qualifications of those members to be appointed by the Senate, but we do think it is unfortunate that the DeKalb Senate Delegation rejected the call for transparency in their process and did not participate with the other appointing authorities in reviewing the applications. We hope that they will reconsider their appointment process in the future.

On behalf of all DeKalb citizens, DCAC will continue to follow the work of the Board of Ethics.

###

For more information, visit www.dekalbcitizens.org.

About DeKalb Citizens Advocacy Council

The DeKalb Citizens Advocacy Council (DeKalb Citizens) is registered as a nonprofit corporation in the state of Georgia and is recognized for exemption under IRS Section 501(c)4. DeKalb Citizens Advocacy Council is a group of community members from throughout DeKalb County, Georgia, whose mission is to educate the citizens of DeKalb County about county governance issues and to advocate for informed citizen engagement. The organization's members research

topics, including filing open records requests and seeking out best practices from other jurisdictions. The goal is for DeKalb County to model excellence in citizen engagement and county responsiveness to citizen concerns.

Media Contact:

Mary Hinkel

maryhinkel@comcast.net

(404) 312-8646

Martha Pacini

marthapacini@gmail.com

(404) 285-7042