



## Candidate Questionnaire for DeKalb House District 90

### Summary of Responses

**Who We Are** - DeKalb Citizens Advocacy Council (DCAC) is a group of community members from all parts of DeKalb County. Our goal is to educate the citizens of DeKalb County about county governance issues and to advocate for informed citizen engagement. We are operating as a 501(c)(4) organization and do not endorse candidates.

**Project / Purpose** – DCAC conducted a voter education project for the special election to fill the HD90 seat. We used the following questionnaire to gather information from all qualified HD90 candidates. Candidate responses are provided here verbatim and will be made available to the public online and to the media prior to election day.

**Methodology** – DCAC emailed the questionnaire to the email addresses the five candidate posted on their qualifying paperwork to the Secretary of State's office. For two of the candidates there was no contact information listed. We attempted to contact those two candidates by seeking out email addresses and phone numbers. After multiple attempts by email and text, we were unable to get a response from those two candidates. They are listed in the report as "did not respond".

**1. What would be your top two or three priorities as Representative for the people of House District 90?**

**Diandra Hines**

1. Addressing COVID-19 Economic Relief legislation; amending bills pertaining to this especially as it relates to the distribution of funding for minority owned businesses.
2. Education: I will fight to ensure our school funding is not reduced as it has been in the past. I'd also work closer with the SchoolBoard to assist in raising the ratings of District 90.
3. Small Business: Help to provide the resources and tools small businesses in District 90 need to grow and sustain their businesses.

**Angela Moore**

1. Help to ensure that the educational budget is fully funded, and the 1 billion dollars plus is restored to the budget. That any child who chooses NOT to attend traditional college has barriers removed to attend technical college tuition-free.
2. Help to protect our environment and safety in our community.
3. Access to fair and affordable home ownership and/or retention.

**Greg Shealey**

Economic development

Stimulus support

Voter protection

**Joel Thibodeaux**

Expansion of Medicaid under ACA. COVID only exacerbated an existing health care crisis in District 90, which made our community disproportionately vulnerable to COVID.

Reapportionment affects all levels of government. I will dive into the Reapportionment process to stop gerrymandering and all other attempts at voter suppression.

**Ed Williams**

Economic Development

Public Transportation Access

Public Safety and Crime Reduction

Environmental Justice

**Valerie Murphy: DID NOT RESPOND**

**Stan Watson: DID NOT RESPOND**

**2. The Representative of HD90 will be a member of the DeKalb House Delegation and vote on bills that affect DeKalb County as a whole as well as the entire state of Georgia. What would be your top two or three priorities as a representative of the people of DeKalb County?**

**Diandra Hines**

1. Economic growth and development through both legislation and facilitating partnerships with agencies and corporations alike.
2. Mental Health and wellness accessibility for individuals, students, families (especially those who have had a history of domestic violence), and for those who have been through the prison system.
3. Education: Ensuring that ALL DeKalb County Schools are properly funded and that students are learning in environments in which they are set up to thrive.

**Angela Moore**

I trust that I will be able to continue to help my community on an executive level by having a real presence in my district (something we have not had much of) and restoring the will and power back to the people by listening to and executing their will in state and with county governments.

1. Our environment and it's safety
2. Access to quality and fully funded education & Healthcare
3. Affordable housing/Ownership & retention as well as Business resuscitation

**Greg Shealey**

Contract set aside

Grants for small businesses

**Joel Thibodeaux**

Collaborate with DeKalb County and the City of Stonecrest to create special tax districts to protect citizens in areas where residential properties are adjacent to industrial zoned land. (No more Metro Greens).

Fix the unfairness in the state school funding formula that robs DeKalb students to send funds to Gwinnett.

Advocate for teachers to be designated as essential employees and prioritized for COVID vaccinations.

**Ed Williams**

Voter Suppression

COVID-19 and Healthcare

Public Safety

Educational Funding Equity

**Valerie Murphy: DID NOT RESPOND**

**Stan Watson: DID NOT RESPOND**

**3. DeKalb Citizens believes that people who represent the people of DeKalb County should operate from a solid ethical core.**

**In your business, professional or public service life, have you ever been convicted, sanctioned or censured for violating any ethics rules or laws? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No**

Diandra Hines: NO

Angela Moore: NO

Greg Shealey: NO

Joel Thibodeaux: NO

Ed Williams: NO

Valerie Murphy: DID NOT RESPOND

Stan Watson: DID NOT RESPOND

**4. Please describe your business/professional and public service background and achievements in the past 20 years, and give examples of these that are pertinent to your desire to represent the people of House District 90.**

**Diandra Hines**

In 2015 - 2016 I was appointed to the Policy Council with Partnership for Community Action addressing the Georgia Head Start Program. I played an integral role in interviewing potential educators, and developing and implementing policies/events that provided solutions to lack of healthcare, school funding, and increasing parent involvement. I currently serve on the Stronger Together Council for Diversity & Inclusion at iHeart Media/Katz Media Group.

I have been elected the 2021-2023 Board Vice President of the National Association for Multi-Ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC) Atlanta Chapter.

**Angela Moore**

I have been an award-winning international Publicist for the past 20 years working in the entertainment field with celebrities and thespians from all genres as well as, businesses and non-profits especially many in my own county of DeKalb as well as Atlanta. In this, I have helped not only in Georgia but in other states that the GA Black Congressional Caucus has traveled coordinating entertainment for their celebrations. Many of my celebs have been recognized on the floor of the GA General assembly. I have served as the communication chair for my county party and received the Chairmans award for my works.

I have been recognized by the Georgia General assembly and the immediate past State Rep for distr. 90, Pam Stephenson, for my volunteerism as well as th GA Sec, of State as an outstanding Citizen for the woks I have done in my community and for the state of Georgia.

As well, I am the owner of a small cooking school and in this, my classes have welcomed persons from all walks of life, and polical backgrounds allowing me to meet and admire as well as be admired by others from different perspectives allowing me the ability to work across the great dive for the greater good of a bigger picture.

**Greg Shealey**

Entrepreneur | Philanthropist | Leader

Dr. Greg Shealey is the President of National Property Institute LLC (NPI), a general contracting and real estate development company, founded in 2004, in Atlanta, GA. NPI's primary focus is on neighborhood stabilization and Community Development while working with HUD and various local municipalities to deliver on the mission of ensuring all American's have access to fair, affordable and safe housing.

Greg pursued and achieved a B.S. degree in Education from Georgia State University, a Masters 'Degree in Sports Medicine; with a focus in BioPhysics from Illinois State University, and a Ph.D. in Health from the University of Southern Mississippi.

As a self-processed "serial entrepreneur", Greg has pursued other lines of business outside of real estate. His passion for technology led him into mobile app development, where in 2011 a subsidiary of NPI developed and published over 30 mobile apps in the productivity category. The success of that endeavor led him to author his second book: "The App Millionaire: *How to Make "Sleep Money" with a Micro-Business*". In this book Greg details

how to become a successful businessman in both real estate and technology. His first book: *Fit: The Roadmap to a Better Body*, was published in 2001.

Greg saw the need for change in South Dekalb, GA and being the trailblazer that he is, decided to pursue public service. Greg entered the race for State Representative for District 90, which represents the voters of South Dekalb, Conyers and a small portion of Henry County. Greg remained committed to fighting for the people of his community.

In such service, Greg currently serves as board member and volunteer with Raising Expectations, non-profit organization focusing on the mentorship and educational needs of inter-city youth. He is also a volunteer with the People's Agenda for Election Protection, volunteer for Michelle Obama's "When We All Vote" Campaign, Chapter leader for Dekalb Get Out the Vote", Volunteer for The Thanksgiving Turkey Give away with the City of Stonecrest and Saint Phillips A.M.E. Church, member in good standing of Dekalb NAACP, Southwest Dekalb High School PTA, and former members of both the Atlanta Business Alliance and FBI (Father's Being Involved).

Greg currently resides in Stonecrest, GA. He follows a personal mantra of "Ask a lot questions, Listen and Don't forget!" Which explains why he is a consistent reader with a passion for knowledge. Greg considers himself a servant leader, with a humble heart and passion for serving others. He also happens to be "just another guy" that was motivated enough to create a successful small business, all in the services of others.

Despite his many, many accomplishments, what Greg is most proud of is his family. Greg is a devoted husband, and a father of two young daughters

### **Joel Thibodeaux**

14 years in corporate accounting – 5 years in accounting management at PGi, an Atlanta based tech firm that is now a part of Zoom ,3 years in the Senate Budget and Evaluation office – on state senate appropriations staff, crafting the State's budget.

7 years as Director of Internal Audits with DeKalb County School District.

All of these are pertinent as the form the basis of my experience and knowledge that will make me an effective Legislator for House District 90

### **Ed Williams**

- Helped to get a new ethics law revised and passed in DeKalb County
- Served as an expert witness for Rep. Viola Davis' draft of the DeKalb Ethics Legislation. The Ethics Referendum was passed with 87% of the vote.
- Won an Appeal in the Supreme Court against DeKalb County related to an Open Meeting violation. The first private citizen eligible to seek penalties against government officials in Georgia.
- President of Rainbow Homeowners Association
- Lead the fight against cityhood in South DeKalb, and to improve county services
- Leading the fight to require a MARTA referendum in Metropolitan Atlanta in order to extend the sales tax
- Leading the fight to require MARTA restore 70 bus routes it has eliminated for the last 9 months which was violated the law.
- Lead the effort to have cities disclose their contractors salaries

- Won an appellate legal decision in the Georgia Court of appeals which requires Courts to hold a hearing before denying a party's court cost waiver.
- a community activist speaking out on various issues including fixing the county water billing problem, GDOT Flatshoals Bridge Construction Delay, Transportation issues, Police Pay Increase , Education funding, Economic Development and other social issues.

Dr. Ed Williams is a professor of education, technology professional, writer, author, community activist, and the president of the Rainbow Creek Homeowner Association. He is a former candidate for DeKalb County 7th District commissioner. He also recently helped get a new ethics law passed in DeKalb County

Dr. Ed Williams formerly served as an Assistant Professor in Educational Leadership at Clark Atlanta University. He received a Project Management Professional (PMP) certification from Georgia Tech. He received an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from Clark Atlanta University, a Master's degree in Computer Science from Clark Atlanta University, and a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Morehouse College. Dr. Williams has held numerous jobs, including Managing Director of a computer technology consultant company; and an Educator Researcher.

Dr. Ed Williams is a community activist and leader speaking out on issues including opposing cityhood, fixing the water bill problem, Flatshoals Bridge Construction Delay, Crime, Police Pay, Education, Economic Development, Leadership at the County level, and Social Justice Issues. He has spoken at the DeKalb BOC, State Capital, Community Forums, and Stone Mountain Park. He has appeared on several news stories including CBS News, and several local news stations, and radio programs including WABE and V-103. In addition, he has written several articles that have appeared in local newspapers including On Common Grounds, Crossroadsnews, Decaturish, DeKalb Free Press, and The Champion, Atlanta Daily World, Rolling Out, and AJC. Served as an expert witness for Rep. Viola Davis' draft of the Ethics Legislation. The Ethics Referendum was passed with 87% of the vote.

Ed has won two civil appellate lawsuits against the government. and currently, two civil cases pending in the Court of Appeals and the Georgia Supreme Court Williams v. MARTA.

(1) Williams v. DeKalb County, et al March 13, 2020 (S19A1163) Georgia Supreme Court (Open Meeting Act violation and Governing Authority Compensation).

2) DeKalb County, et al May 1, 2020, in the Georgia Court of Appeals. (A20A0157) (Hearing required to deny a waiver of court costs).

(3) MARTA Suspension of 70 bus routes in April 2020 without a public hearing and MARTA board vote.

(4) MARTA extension of the Local Percent Retail Sales Tax without a referendum beyond the August 2021 final and binding contract term.

**Valerie Murphy: DID NOT RESPOND**

**Stan Watson: DID NOT RESPOND**

**5. Please list your education degrees, licenses and certifications – the years completed and from which institutions or programs.**

**Diandra Hines**

I have a Bachelor of Science Degree from the Sydney Lewis School of Business - Virginia Union University (HBCU). From my Alma Mater I also hold a Franchise Management Certification.

I successfully completed the “Critical Links In Protecting Children in Georgia” Certification.

ADM-6- To possess legal knowledge for effective management. ECE 1.4 – To create emotionally and physically safe environments for children. Approved by the National Association of Social Work, Georgia Chapter (NASW-GA).

**Angela Moore**

BS- Biology: Univ. District of Columbia

Business certificate from from GA Tech school of Business.

CMA- Commications Workers of America (Union)

USA Assoc of African American Chefs

Certified Public Relations specialist

Certified Minority Business owner

**Greg Shealey**

Goldman Sachs 10kSB Alum, Babson College, Boston, Ma, 2016

University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Ms, Community Health (Ph. D) 2004

Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Ga, (English as a second Language Endorsement) 2002

Illinois State University, Normal, IL, Sports Medicine (MS) 1998

Georgia State University, Atlanta, Ga, Education (BSE) 1996

Allegheny Community College, Pittsburgh, Pa (AS) 1992

**Professional Affiliation/Certifications:**

Georgia EPA Lead Abatement Certified

Certified General Contractor

Member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, inc

Georgia Association of Real Estate Investors (GAREI)

Professional association of Georgia educators (PAGE)

NAACP

Atlanta Business League (ABL) Former



**Joel Thibodeaux**

AAT-Accounting – Georgia Piedmont Technical College (DeKalb Technical Institute), 1994

BS-Accounting – DeVry University-Decatur, 1996

Masters-Public Policy (MPP) - Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University, 2012

- Legislative Budget Fellowship

**Ed Williams**

Bachelor in Computer Science – Morehouse College

Master in Computer Science – Clark Atlanta University

Doctorate in Educational Leadership – Clark Atlanta University

Project Management Professional Certification – Ga. Tech

**Valerie Murphy: DID NOT RESPOND**

**Stan Watson: DID NOT RESPOND**