

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARDROOM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2024

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, VICE CHAIRMAN DENNIS BRINSON, COMMISSIONERS, BOBBY BARBER, JR, RUSTY DAVIS, GEORGE ANDERSON, AND STEVE BROCK, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ALAN THOMAS, COUNTY ATTORNEY BRUCE KIRBO, AND COUNTY CLERK MICHELLE WEST

INVOCATION AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Stephens called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. After the call to order, Randy Williams gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Stephens requested to amend the agenda to remove item 5 and replace with District Attorney Grant. Commissioner Barber made a motion to approve the agenda, with the amendments. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There were no Special Presentations.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting held August 13, 2024, as presented. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approval of Resolution Adopting Millage Rate. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas who stated included in the Commissioners' packet was the resolution to set the tax levy for 2024, with a net M & O millage rate recommended at 8.91 mills, which is a reduction from last year. The resolution also identifies the Board of Education's levy at 14.565 mills, which the Board of Education has approved. County Administrator Thomas is recommending approval by the Board. Commissioner Bock made a motion to approve the resolution, a copy of which is attached. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Proposed Building Permit Fees – Steve O'Neil. Chairman Stephens recognized Community and Economic Development Director Steve O'Neil who stated Georgia House Bill 461 was signed into law in May 2024 and was effective July 1, 2024. Georgia House Bill 461 focuses on the regulation and use of local government fees. The bill mandates that the proceeds from regulatory fees must be used exclusively for covering the costs of regulatory activities and not for general operations of the local government. Also, the bill modifies how fees for building inspections are calculated. Director O'Neil stated he contacted the surrounding counties to discuss what they are charging for

building fees and came up with an updated fee schedule and is recommending approval by the Board. Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve the updated fee schedule, a copy of which is attached. Commissioner Barber seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Director Steve O'Neil stated in August of 2022 the Board approved the Decatur County Unified Development Ordinance and the issue has come up about what constitutes a home occupation and it has been discovered that no definition was provided for "home occupation." Director O'Neil is presenting a definition for consideration by the Board, a copy of which is attached. Commissioner Barber made a motion to table the approval of the definition pending further discussion. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Georgia Forestry Annual Report – Bryan Cottles. Chairman Stephens recognized Ranger Matthew Combs who stated he was filling in for Chief Ranger Cottles to present the annual report. Ranger Combs stated the Decatur County Unit is currently fully staffed and they have issued a total of 1,608 permits. The Unit has provided burning assistance, created fire breaks, assisted with wildfires with a quick response time. The Unit has participated in educational outreach programs, as well as educating people on fire prevention. Ranger Combs stated no permit is required for burning yard debris, the State has implemented the SSTAR system for burning, the details can be found on the website or you can come by the office and pick up pamphlets. Ranger Combs thanked the Commissioners for their continued support.

Update – Lease Agreement for Solar Development. No action taken.

Consider Approval MOU - District Attorney Grant. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas who apologized for the late notice of the grant, but the copy was delivered to our office late this afternoon and must be submitted by August 29, 2024. County Administrator Thomas stated the District Attorney's Office is applying for the FY25 Georgia Gang Activity Prosecution Grant and the application requires approval by the Board. If approved, the total amount of grant funds is \$24,660 with no cost match requirement. The performance period will be September 19, 2024 to May 15, 2025.

County Administrator Thomas stated the purpose of the FY 2025 Georgia Gang Activity Prosecution Grant program is to support state and local efforts to prosecute gang related activity and is recommending approval by the Board. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the MOU, a copy of which is attached. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

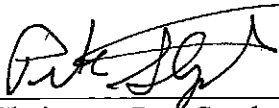
Consider Approval of Errors & Releases. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas who recommended that the Board approve the errors and releases, stating the Tax Commissioner and the Board of Assessors have approved. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the Errors and Releases, a copy of which are attached. Commissioner Barber seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONERS/ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

The Commissioners thanked everyone for coming.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting, on motion by Vice Chairman Brinson, was duly adjourned. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Approved: 
Chairman, Pete Stephens

Attest: Michelle B. West
County Clerk, Michelle B. West



PT-32.1 - Computation of MILLAGE RATE ROLLBACK AND PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES - 2024

COUNTY: Decatur TAXING JURISDICTION: Decatur County

ENTER VALUES AND MILLAGE RATES FOR THE APPLICABLE TAX YEARS IN YELLOW HIGHLIGHTED BOXES BELOW

DESCRIPTION	2023 DIGEST	REASSESSMENT OF EXISTING REAL PROP	OTHER CHANGES TO TAXABLE DIGEST	2024 DIGEST
REAL	1,021,095,277	3,692,807	17,957,112	1,042,745,196
PERSONAL	277,105,566		1,979	277,107,545
MOTOR VEHICLES	12,868,460		503,790	13,372,250
MOBILE HOMES	14,891,954		1,884,943	16,776,897
TIMBER -100%	14,137,215		(8,868,941)	5,268,274
HEAVY DUTY EQUIP	208,453		(165,574)	42,879
GROSS DIGEST	1,340,306,925	3,692,807	11,313,309	1,355,313,041
EXEMPTIONS	247,396,514		(5,729,078)	241,667,436
NET DIGEST	1,092,910,411	3,692,807	17,042,387	1,113,645,605
	(PYD)	(RVA)	(NAG)	(CYD)
2023 MILLAGE RATE:	8.940		2024 MILLAGE RATE:	

CALCULATION OF ROLLBACK RATE

DESCRIPTION	ABBREVIATION	AMOUNT	FORMULA
2023 Net Digest	PYD	1,092,910,411	
Net Value Added-Reassessment of Existing Real Property	RVA	3,692,807	
Other Net Changes to Taxable Digest	NAG	17,042,387	
2024 Net Digest	CYD	1,113,645,605	(PYD+RVA+NAG)
2023 Millage Rate	PYM	8.940	PYM
Millage Equivalent of Reassessed Value Added	ME	0.030	(RVA/CYD) * PYM
Rollback Millage Rate for 2024	RR - ROLLBACK RATE	8.910	PYM - ME

CALCULATION OF PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES

If the 2024 Proposed Millage Rate for this Taxing Jurisdiction exceeds Rollback Millage Rate computed above, this section will automatically calculate the amount of increase in property taxes that is part of the notice required in O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32.1(c) (2)	Rollback Millage Rate	8.910
	2024 Millage Rate	8.910
	Percentage Tax Increase	0.00%

CERTIFICATIONS

I hereby certify that the amount indicated above is an accurate accounting of the total net assessed value added by the reassessment of existing real property for the tax year for which this rollback millage rate is being computed.

Chairman, Board of Tax Assessors Date

I hereby certify that the values shown above are an accurate representation of the digest values and exemption amounts for the applicable tax years.

Tax Collector or Tax Commissioner Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct computation of the rollback millage rate in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32.1 for the taxing jurisdiction for tax year 2024 and that the final millage rate set by the authority of this taxing jurisdiction for tax year 2024 is 8.91

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE PARAGRAPH BELOW THAT APPLIES TO THIS TAXING JURISDICTION

If the final millage rate set by the authority of the taxing jurisdiction for tax year 2024 exceeds the rollback rate, I certify that the required advertisements, notices, and public hearings have been conducted in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 48-5-32 and 48-5-32.1 as evidenced by the attached copies of the published "five year history and current digest" advertisement and the "Notice of Intent to Increase Taxes" showing the times and places when and where the required public hearings were held, and a copy of the press release provided to the local media.

If the final millage rate set by the authority of the taxing jurisdiction for tax year 2024 does not exceed the rollback rate, I certify that the required "five year history and current digest" advertisement has been published in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32 as evidenced by the attached copy of such advertised report.

Responsible Party Title Date
Debra Styer Chairman 8/27/2024

COUNTY MILLAGE RATE CERTIFICATION FOR TAX YEAR 2024

Please provide a copy of this form to your county's Clerk of Superior Court.

<http://www.dor.ga.gov>



COUNTY: Decatur Submit original signed copy with digest submission

COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 3	COLUMN 4	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 6	COLUMN 7	COLUMN 8	COLUMN 9	COLUMN 10
District Number Must be Shown	District Name (Inc, Uninc, School, Special Districts, Etc.)	Mark X if District Falls in Unincorporated Area	Mark X if District Falls in Incorporated Area	Enter Gross Millage Rate Before Rollbacks	Sales Tax Rollback O.C.G.A. § 48-8-91	Insurance Premium Rollback O.C.G.A. § 33-8-8.3	Net M&O Millage Rate Column 4 less Column 5, 6 & 7	Enter Bond Millage Rate	Total Millage Rate Column 8 plus Column 9
1,2,3,5,6	Incorporated		X	11.810	2.900		8.910	0.000	8.910
4	Unincorporated	X		11.810	2.900		8.910	0.000	8.910
1,2,3,4,5,6	School	X	X	14.115	0.000		14.115	0.000	14.115
List Special Service Districts:									
1,3,4,5	Fire Services District	X	X	1.500			1.500	0.000	1.500
1,2,3,4,5,6	Recreation Authority	X	X	1.250			1.250	0.000	1.250
1,2,3,4,5,6	Hospital Indigent Care Cost	X	X	1.330			1.330	0.000	1.330
1,2,3,4,5,6	Library	X	X	0.450			0.450	0.000	0.450
1,2,3,4,5,6	Development Authority	X	X	0.250			0.250	0.000	0.250
1,2,3,4,5,6	Economic Development Bonds	X	X	1.000			1.000	0.000	1.000
4	Uninc. Services Per SDS	X		0.860			0.860	0.000	0.860
	CID/BID:						0.000		0.000
							0.000		0.000
							0.000		0.000
							0.000		0.000

I hereby certify that the rates listed above are the official rates for the Districts indicated for Tax Year 2024

8-27-2024

Tracie Shykes

Date

Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DECATUR COUNTY TAX LEVY FOR 2024

BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Decatur County, Georgia, at a regularly scheduled meeting on August 27, 2024 that the following rate of taxes be and the same is hereby fixed and levied on all taxable property within Decatur County, Georgia, for the year 2024, to-wit:

- 8.91 mills (on all taxable property located in the incorporated areas) for County general purposes (M&O).
- 8.91 mills (on all taxable property located in the unincorporated areas) for County general purposes (M&O).
- 1.50 mills (on all taxable property except for that located within the City of Bainbridge) for the Fire Services Special District.
- 0.250 mills (on all taxable property county wide) for the Development Authority of Bainbridge and Decatur County.
- 1.250 mills (on all taxable property county wide) for the Bainbridge-Decatur County Recreation Authority.
- 1.33 mills (on all property county wide) for the Hospital Authority of the City of Bainbridge and Decatur County.
- 0.86 mills (on all property in unincorporated areas) for items specifically identified by the Service Delivery Agreement as for the unincorporated areas.
- 1.00 mills (on all property county-wide) for Economic Development Bonds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the millage rates per tax district are as follows:

Description	Unincorporated	City Attapulugus	City Bainbridge	Town Brinson	City Climax
Gross M&O Mill Rate	11.81	11.81	11.81	11.81	11.81
Less: Sales Tax Rollback	(2.90)	(2.90)	(2.90)	(2.90)	(2.90)
Net M&O Millage	<u>8.91</u>	<u>8.91</u>	<u>8.91</u>	<u>8.91</u>	<u>8.91</u>
Fire Services District	1.50	1.50	-	1.50	1.50
Hospital Authority	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.33
Recreation Authority	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
Uninc. Services per SDS	0.86	-	-	-	-
Economic Development Bonds	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Development Authority of Bainbridge & Decatur County	<u>0.25</u>	<u>0.25</u>	<u>0.25</u>	<u>0.25</u>	<u>0.25</u>
Total Special Districts	<u>6.19</u>	<u>5.33</u>	<u>3.83</u>	<u>5.33</u>	<u>5.33</u>
Total of M&O & Special Distircts Millage	<u><u>15.10</u></u>	<u><u>14.24</u></u>	<u><u>12.74</u></u>	<u><u>14.24</u></u>	<u><u>14.24</u></u>

BE IT RESOLVED that the Insurance Premium Tax shall be used for fire protection in the unincorporated area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Commissioner of Decatur County, Georgia, be and he is hereby ordered to make out and collect taxes for the year 2024, and to pay over to the County General Fund, at the rate herein levied for general county purposes, and the rate levied herein for Fire Services, and to pay over to the County Bond Debt Service Fund at the rate levied herein for Economic Development Bonds, and to pay over to the Development Authority of Bainbridge and Decatur County that portion of the tax herein levied for that Authority, and to pay over to the Bainbridge-Decatur County Recreation Authority that portion of the tax herein levied for that Authority, and to pay over to the Hospital Authority of the City of Bainbridge and Decatur County, GA that portion of the tax herein levied for that Authority.

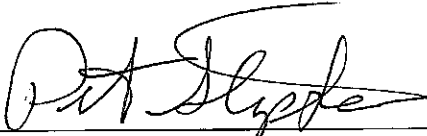

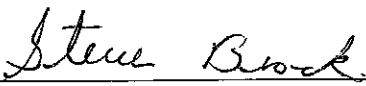
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by this Board that the tax rate of County-wide School Taxes in Decatur County, Georgia, outside of any independent school systems therein, of 14.565 (14.115 School and 0.450 Library) mills, or \$14.565 on the \$1,000.00 valuation, as recommended and certified to this Board by the Decatur County Board of Education be and the same is hereby fixed and levied on all property subject to taxation in the county, for the year 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tax Commissioner of Decatur County, Georgia is hereby ordered to collect said taxes for said year and to pay over to the said Decatur County Board of Education that portion of the tax herein levied for the support and maintenance of education for the county-wide schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board advertise this levy as required by law, and that the same be recorded on the minutes of this Board, a copy of the same to be furnished to the Tax Commissioner of Decatur County, Georgia, a copy to the Revenue Department of the State of Georgia, and a copy to the County Superintendent of Schools.

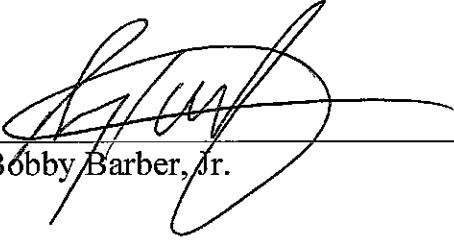
ON MOTION of Commissioner Brock and seconded by Commissioner Davis, this resolution was adopted by a vote, as designated below, this 27th day of August 2024.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF DECATUR COUNTY, GEORGIA

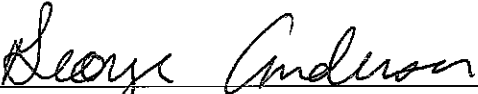
	YEA	NAY
 _____ Pete Stephens, Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 _____ Dennis Brinson, Vice Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 _____ Steve Brock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YEA

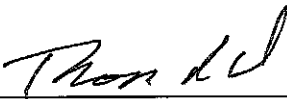
NAY



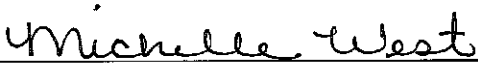
Bobby Barber, Jr.



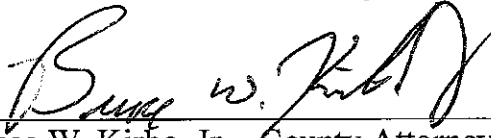
George Anderson



Thomas R. (Rusty) Davis



Attest: Michelle West, County Clerk



Bruce W. Kirbo, Jr. - County Attorney

Building Department Fee Schedule Updates

COMMERCIAL PERMITS

FEE

Building Permit	\$100 base fee plus \$0.75/sq ft
Electrical Permit	\$350 flat fee
Plumbing	\$350 flat fee
Mechanical	\$350 flat fee
Roofing/Specialty	\$0.25/sq ft
Low Voltage	\$100 flat fee
Gas Permit	\$350 flat fee
Utility Grade Solar Building	\$1,000/MW

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS FEE

Building Permit	\$100 base fee plus \$0.50/sq ft
Plan Review Fee (Residential)	\$75
Electrical Permit	\$100 flat fee
Plumbing	\$100 flat fee
Mechanical	\$100 flat fee
Roofing/Specialty	\$150 flat fee
Low Voltage	\$100 flat fee

Gas Permit \$100 flat fee

OTHER PERMITS

FEE

Sign \$75 flat fee

Mobile Home Setup \$250 flat fee

Commercial Occupancy \$75

House Moving \$500

Home Occupation \$50

Demolition \$50 base fee plus \$0.10/sq ft

Irrigation \$150 flat fee



FY25 Georgia Gang Activity Prosecution Grant Project Investment Justification/Application

The State of Georgia set aside funds from the Fiscal Year 2025 state budget for a competitive grant to facilitate gang activity prosecutions in the state. The FY25 Georgia Gang Activity Prosecution (GAP) Grant will be open for applications between 16 July – 29 August 2024 with award decisions announced on 19 September 2024. Eligible applicants for the GAP grant are the State of Georgia law enforcement agencies, prosecuting attorneys, or nonprofits primarily focused on gang prosecutions (State Agency, Judicial District/Circuit, County Sheriff, and Police Departments).

Successful applicants must show a commitment to (and ideally a track record of) successful prosecutions of gang activity. Favorable consideration will be given to counties with both prosecutors and law enforcement applying in tandem or in support of one another, as they are more likely to result in successful prosecutions. State agencies and nonprofits must articulate how their work will result in prosecutions.

Cost-share or match is not currently required for the FY 2025 Georgia Gang Activity Prosecution Grant. The period of performance will be from 19 September 2024 to 15 May 2025.

Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS) is providing you this Investment Justification (IJ)/application to submit funding proposals for projects that will facilitate gang activity prosecutions in the State of Georgia.

You may distribute this form to any jurisdictions and agencies that have projects to propose so that they can begin the process of collecting the required information. All applicants should:

1. **Fill out the form electronically** and save it as a **Microsoft Word file** with a title that describes the GEMA/HS Area, county/city, and project number (for example: “*Area #-XXXCounty1.doc*”).
2. Applicants should type answers in the gray-colored blocks that appear when they open this file on a computer or check the required checkboxes. The gray-colored blocks will expand as words are typed into them.
3. **GEMA/HS requires that any FY25 IJ/application be submitted along with this application to the email address listed on the front page of this document. As some projects may only be partially funded, if possible and appropriate, the items in the Line-Item Cost Section should be listed in the order of descending priority, with the most important item first, then second most important next, and so on. Costs for individual items should be rounded to the nearest even amount.**
4. **The deadline for the submittal of the IJ/application is 11:59 p.m. on 29 August 2024.**
5. Completed applications and budgets must be emailed to the following address:

GAP-Grant@gema.ga.gov

All potential sub-recipients must send in an application!

If you encounter difficulty in utilizing this form or uploading the document, please contact GAP-Grant@gema.ga.gov.

INSTRUCTIONS/OVERVIEW

Summary:

The purpose of the FY 2025 Georgia Gang Activity Prosecution Grant program is to support state and local efforts to prosecute gang related activity. The budget narrative must clearly identify and explain how the project will assist the applicant in creating safer communities by prosecuting gang activity.

The program is based on risk-driven, capabilities-based strategic plans that outline high-priority needs relating to gang activity prosecution. For these plans to be effective, government officials and elected leaders, working with the whole community, must consider how to sustain current capability levels, while also addressing potential gaps.

Priorities:

Projects that align with the Priority of Gang Activity Prosecution will be the only projects given consideration.

Note: Not all projects/applicants are guaranteed to receive funding. Sustainment of current programs will be given funding priority.

Proposed Budgets:

Wherever possible in your budget request, please round the figure to the next even amount. Do not use "cents." Use, for example, "\$10.00" instead of "\$9.59."

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION:

Please complete **all sections** of the following form, Also, be sure to fill in the boxes at the top of the cover page, above. The gray boxes will expand to accommodate the words as they are typed in the form. There are several hyperlinks in the form that will connect you to documents and websites that will provide you with the information needed to complete the application.

2025 GEORGIA GANG ACTIVITY PROSECUTION GRANT APPLICATION**Contact Information**

Name and type of Agency applying for funding: **Decatur County Board of Commissioners / South Georgia Judicial Circuit Office of the District Attorney**

GEMA/HS Area (click for [map](#)): **2**

Agency DUNS Number: **070332051** (usually obtainable from your Finance section)

Information for the chief executive who has the authority to sign contracts: (Usually the County Commissioner, Mayor, or Sheriff)

Name: **Pete Stephens, County Commissioner Chairman**

Phone: office **229-248-3030** mobile N/A

Mailing Address: **P.O. Box 726 Bainbridge, Georgia 39818**

E-mail: **michelle@decaturcountyga.gov**

Zip Code: **39818- 0726** (Zip Code + 4 required)

Information for the Point of Contact who will manage the grant locally:

Name: **Salome Mosely – Office of the District Attorney**

Phone: office **229-246-1823 / 229-246-5222** mobile **229-220-9334**

Mailing Address: **P.O. Box 1870 Bainbridge, Georgia 39818**

E-mail: **smosely@pacga.org**

Zip Code: **39818- 1870** (Zip Code + 4 required)

Project Information:

Total Project Budget Requested: **\$24,660.00**

I authorize GEMA/HS to use the value of this project for federal costs sharing matching purposes and do not otherwise believe that this project is being used to satisfy any other federal costs sharing obligation.

Yes No

Summarize the proposed project:

The rise in gang-related violence and criminal activity has placed a significant strain on our criminal justice system. The South Georgia Judicial Circuit Office of the District Attorney is seeking funding to enhance the training and capabilities of our investigators to better address and prosecute gang-related crimes. By equipping our gang task force team with the proper training and knowledge, we aim to disrupt gang operations, secure successful prosecutions, and ultimately ensure safer communities. Specifically, we are requesting funds strictly related to training purposes. Line item costs include The Georgia Gang Investigators Association Membership Fees, GGIA Conference attendance fees, a budget for hotel and lodging, and classes for Basic or Intermediate Investigators. Within the last 24 months alone, this judicial circuit has

established 12 criminal street gang cases, including 14 Defendants, 77 criminal street gang warrants have been applied for and granted, and 14 Juvenile Complaint Forms (Juvenile warrants taken). Analytics show that currently 191 gang members have been validated, with 26 criminal street gangs, and 17 gang subsets. Our goal is to appoint two or three officers per agency within our circuit to make up the Gang Task Force and receive the necessary training to effectively carry out the goals outlined in this application.

Line-Item Costs:

Line Item	Individual Cost	Quantity	Total Line-Item Cost
GGIA Initial Membership Cost	\$25.00	18	\$450.00
GGIA Conference Attendee Fee (Tues-Fri)	\$345.00	18	\$6,210.00
Hotel/Lodging	\$800.00	18	\$14,400.00
Specialized GGIA Class	\$100.00	18	\$1,800.00
Basic / Intermediate Gang Investigator	\$100.00	18	\$1,800.00

What type of project is this?

Building New Capability Sustaining Existing Capability

Will these funds supplant other funding for this project (example: SPLOST or other local funds already planned for use to do this project)?

Yes No

Estimate the amount of the funding you are requesting that will be used to strengthen each Solution Area addressed by the project:

Solution Areas (POETE)	Amount of Proposed Funding
Planning	\$0
Organization	\$0
Equipment	\$0
Training	\$24,660.00

Solution Areas (POETE)	Amount of Proposed Funding
Exercises	\$0
Total:	\$24,660.00

Provide up to four major milestones and their associated completion dates that will be required to complete the project:

- a. Enhance skill sets among investigators leading to more effective gang activity investigations. (within 12-month period)
- b. Improve case building resulting in a higher rate of successful prosecutions. (within 12-month period)
- c. Better coordination and communication among agencies involved in gang-related crime investigations. (within 12-month period)
- d. Reduction in gang-related violence and criminal activity, contributing to overall public safety. (at the end of the 12-month period)

If you encounter difficulties using the links embedded in the text above, the information described can be found at the following websites:

GEMA/HS Area Map:

<https://gema.georgia.gov/document/document/em-and-hs-field-coordinatorspdf/download>

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Instructions

1. The MOU consists of a 7-page document and 1 Exhibit (A); 8 pages total. All documents must be completed and returned Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS) with the appropriate signatures.
2. The MOU and Exhibit A should be filled out electronically. If you cannot fill it out electronically, please make sure to print all of the required information.
3. To complete the MOU and Exhibit A, use either the tab key or the arrow keys to move through the pages field by field. All fields must be completed prior to submission.
4. Once all required information has been entered into the fillable fields of the MOU and Exhibit A; print the entire document.
5. The last page of the MOU document, before Exhibit A, requires the signature of the Chief Elected/Appointed Official or the Chief Executive Officer, title, telephone and date of signature. The MOU also requires the signature of a witness.
6. Exhibit A (Designation of Applicant's Agent) requires the signature of the Chief Elected/Appointed Official or the Chief Executive Officer, title, telephone and date of signature. An email address is required to obtain access to the system (all email addresses must be unique, no duplicates are allowed).
7. **Please Note: The same person must sign the MOU and Exhibit A.**
8. Once the documents are complete and signed, they must be sent to the following email address: HSgrants@gema.ga.gov

Note: If email is unavailable to you, a paper copy may be submitted to the address below. Please note that this may slow the process of obtaining access to the Georgia EMGrantsPro system as it will need to be scanned and uploaded by our staff.

GEMA/HS Post Office
Box 18055 Atlanta,
Georgia 30316
ATTN: Preparedness Grants and
Programs Division

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
BY and BETWEEN
GEORGIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY AGENCY
AND

Decatur County, Georgia

This Memorandum of Understanding (Agreement) made and entered into between the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, hereinafter referred to as the "GEMA/HS" and Decatur County Board of Commissioners

officially domiciled at 203 W. Broughton Street Bainbridge, Georgia 39817

hereinafter referred to as Subgrantee relating to an application for grants under the U. S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and GEMA/HS Homeland Security Division Grant Programs.

WHEREAS, GEMA/HS as the State Administrative Agency (SAA), on behalf of the State of Georgia, is the Grantee receiving funding under the DHS FEMA as authorized under Section 2002 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended (Pub. L. No. 107-296) (6 U.S.C. 603) and has the fiduciary responsibility to ensure those funds are spent on eligible Subgrantee facilities and activities and are properly reimbursed to the Subgrantee; and

WHEREAS, the agreement is part of the referenced Subgrantee's application and profile record in the Georgia EM Grants Manager system and will become effective and binding upon approval by GEMA/Homeland Security;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration thereof, the parties hereby agree as follows:

Responsibilities of the Subgrantee

The Subgrantee is primarily responsible for compliance with and agrees to obtain a working knowledge of the Homeland Security Act and all applicable DHS FEMA regulations as provided in all applicable Subparts of 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200 and 44 CFR that govern the Department of Homeland Security grant programs and shall adhere to the application of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 and those applicable regulations and policies as a condition for acceptance of and expenditure of said DHS FEMA funding.

As a further condition for the acceptance of and expenditure of DHS FEMA funding, the Subgrantee hereby agrees to follow all GEMA/HS guidelines, regulations, and directives, including but not limited to the following:

- Use gema.ga.gov and ga.emgrants.com, as applicable to access forms, request time extensions, and submit requests for reimbursements with supporting documentation.
- The Subgrantee shall assure that all project documents are made available to GEMA/HS, DHS FEMA, Office of Inspector General (OIG), or to any state or federal agency as determined by GEMA/Homeland Security, including but not limited to procurement policies, accounting policies, and all other documentation substantiating eligible costs.
- All records, reports, documents and other materials delivered or transmitted to GEMA/HS by the Subgrantee shall become the property of GEMA/HS.
- The Subgrantee will be required to execute a separate subgrant agreement in addition to this MOU.
- The Subgrantee agrees to monitor gema.ga.gov and ga.emgrants.com for any changes in law, regulations, policy, or procedure which affect the Subgrantee's grant requirements.
- The undersigned, as the appointed agent of the Subgrantee hereby declares that the individuals named herein as the Subgrantee's agents are knowledgeable of the requirements outlined herein.

The subgrantee hereby acknowledges that failure to adhere to all applicable state and federal laws, regulations, policies, and directives may result in suspension and/or termination of funding/reimbursements and/or all or part of the de-obligation of previously received funding.

Responsibilities of GEMA/HS

- GEMA/HS agrees to maintain gaemgrants.com subject to the availability of funding.
- GEMA/HS shall, through the Subgrantee's assigned Program Manager and Grant Specialist, review Subgrantee's requests for reimbursement, assist Subgrantee in correcting deficiencies, and disburse reimbursements to the Subgrantee as timely as possible.
- GEMA/HS shall communicate to the Subgrantee, in a timely manner, any changes in law, regulations, policy, or procedure which affect the Subgrantee's grant requirements through gaemgrants.com, gema.ga.gov and/or the appropriate alternate methods of communication.
- GEMA/HS shall provide technical assistance to assist the Subgrantee in the formulation and management of its DHS FEMA grants (see Disclaimer paragraph herein below).

Term of Agreement

This MOU shall remain in full force and effect for the duration of any DHS FEMA grants Subgrantee receives, including the record retention period. Any changes in regulations, policies, or procedures shall constitute an amendment to this Agreement.

Limitation of Liability

The Subgrantee acknowledges that this MOU is intended for the benefit of the Grantee and the Subgrantee and does not confer any rights upon any third parties. Furthermore, the Subgrantee hereby agrees to hold harmless and indemnify Grantee from any actions or claims brought on behalf of any third parties, including those to whom services or materials are provided under any project funded by the DHS FEMA.

Disclaimer

In its capacity as the Grantee and state fiduciary of (DHS FEMA) and other federal grant funds, GEMA/HS provides technical assistance to current and potential Subgrantees (collectively referred to as "Subgrantees").

Technical assistance includes the application of specific knowledge to a specific situation in order to address a specific need and as such is not a legal opinion or an endorsement of the Subgrantee's grants management practice. GEMA/HS does not render legal opinions to Subgrantees, but rather provides information intended to assist a Subgrantee prudently managing its own grants management program by employing effective methods and sound practices to manage DHS FEMA grants.

Technical assistance and other grants management information provided by GEMA/HS and adopted by the Subgrantee does not serve as GEMA/HS's endorsement of the Subgrantee's grants management practice and does not relieve the Subgrantee of the responsibility of assuring that its grants management practice is in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies as required by the DHS FEMA.

The Subgrantee, by its decision to participate in the GEMA/HS Homeland Security Division grant programs, bears the ultimate responsibility for ensuring compliance with all applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and policies, and bears the ultimate consequences of any adverse decisions rendered by GEMA/HS, DHS FEMA, or any other state and federal agencies with audit, regulatory, or enforcement authority. Throughout the grants management process, GEMA/HS, as the state fiduciary of this federal funding, reserves the right to demand that the Subgrantee comply with all applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and policies, terminate reimbursements and take any and all other actions it deems appropriate to protect those funds for which it is responsible.

Additional Laws and Policies

The Subgrantee agrees to abide by the requirements of the following as applicable: Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Opportunity Act of 1972, Federal Execution Order 11246, the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The Subgrantee agrees not to discriminate in its employment practices and will render services under this Agreement without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, veteran status, political affiliation, or disabilities.

Any act of discrimination committed by the Subgrantee or failure to comply with these statutory obligations, when applicable, shall be grounds for termination of this Agreement.

Notices

All notices and other communications pertaining to this Agreement shall be in electronic format and/or writing and shall be transmitted either by email, personal hand delivery (and receipted for), or deposited in the United States Mail, as certified mail, return receipt requested and postage prepaid, to the other party, addressed as follows:

GEMA/Homeland Security
Post Office Box 18055
Atlanta, Georgia 30316
ATTN: Preparedness Grants and Programs

Or

HSgrants@gema.gov

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement on the day, month, and year first written above.

WITNESSES:

State's Witness

Preparedness Grants and Programs
Manager or Deputy Manager

Date:

Telephone Number: (404) 635-7095

Michelle B. West

Subgrantee's Witness

Name :Michelle B. West

Pete Stephens

Chief Elected/Appointed Official
or Chief Executive Officer

Name: Pete Stephens

Title: Chairman

Date: 8/27/2024

Telephone Number: 229-248-3030

Exhibit A

Designation of Applicant's Agent

Provide the information below for 1 primary, 1 alternate (optional), 1 authorized, and 1 financial individual that will be designated as agents. Changes to the below-authorized agents must be communicated to GEMA/HS in the manner as detailed above within fourteen (14) days of such change.

Primary Agent's Name: Michelle B. West

Title: County Clerk

Telephone number: 229-248-3030

Email Address:

michelle@decaturcountyga.gov

Alternate Agent's Name (Optional): Click or tap here to enter text.

Title: Click or tap here to enter text.

Telephone number: Click or tap here to enter text..

Email Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Authorized Agent's Name: Salome Mosely

Title: Victim Services Director

Telephone number: 229-246-1823

Email Address: smosely@pacga.org

Financial Agent's Name: Michelle West

Title: County Clerk

Telephone number: 229-248-3030

Email Address:

michelle@decaturcountyga.gov

I, as Chief Elected or Appointed Official of the Subgrantee am authorized to execute and file an Application for GEMA/HS Homeland Security Division grant program on behalf of the Subgrantee for the purpose of obtaining funding under the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296 as amended). The above-named agent(s) is/are authorized to represent and act on behalf of the Subgrantee in all dealings with the State of Georgia on all matters pertaining to the management of grants as required by this MOU.



Chief Elected/Appointed Official
or Chief Executive Officer

Name: Pete Stephens

Title: County Commissoner
Chairman

Telephone Number: 229-248-3030

8/27/2024

Date



Mark Harrell
DECATUR COUNTY TAX COMMISSIONER
 P.O. Box 246 / 112 W. Water St
 Bainbridge, GA 39818
 Phone: 248-3021 / Fax: 248-2110

8/15/2024

E & R / NOD - Property Tax Digest

2023 Digest Year

Map & Parcel	Name	100% Value From	100% Value To	Memo
B81A 40	Close Diana C	\$ 80,726.00	\$ 73,125.00	Finalized appeal. Refund \$95.80 to CoreLogic Tax Service.
		\$ 80,726.00	\$ 73,125.00	

E & R / NOD - Mobile Home Tax Digest

2023 Digest Year

Map & Parcel	Name	100% Value From	100% Value To	Memo
72 9	Marshall Curtis & Tracey	\$ 3,045.00	\$ -	Delete 2023 mobile home tax bill. Mobile home demolished May 2021.
		\$ 3,045.00	\$ -	

E & R / NOD - Mobile Home Tax Digest

2022 Digest Year

Map & Parcel	Name	100% Value From	100% Value To	Memo
72 9	Marshall Curtis & Tracey	\$ 1,859.00	\$ -	Delete 2022 mobile home tax bill. Mobile home demolished May 2021.
		\$ 85,630.00	\$ 73,125.00	

Mark Harrell - Tax Commissioner

Larry Carroll - Board of Assessors

Pete Stephens, Chairman - Board of Commissioners