

1 **A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE FULTON COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR**
2 **THE PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES, TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE**
3 **WITH GEORGIA LAW AND FIREFIGHTER STANDARDS.**

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5 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners is vested with authority under
6 O.C.G.A. Title 25, Chapter 3, to establish and maintain fire departments for the
7 protection of life and property; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 25-4-8 and the Rules of the Georgia Firefighter
10 Standards and Training Council (Chapter 205), all fire departments organized within the
11 State of Georgia must employ, train, and supervise firefighters who meet the minimum
12 qualifications and certification requirements established by law; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Executive Airport (Brown Field) is a public-use general
15 aviation airport of regional significance, which, due to projected growth in flight
16 operations, corporate aviation, structural and infrastructure development, requires the
17 establishment of dedicated on-site fire protection services; and

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19 **WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Fulton County Fire Department is necessary to
20 safeguard the traveling public, aviation infrastructure, and surrounding community by
21 providing fire protection services consistent with the Rule and Regulations of the
22 Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council; and

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24 **WHEREAS**, the Department shall provide fire protection services during designated
25 operational hours, with coverage during all other hours ensured through the existing
26 Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of South Fulton Fire Department, thereby
27 guaranteeing continuous 24/7 fire and emergency response capability; and

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29 **WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of Fulton County to establish the Fulton County Fire
30 Department in full compliance with Georgia law, the standards of the Georgia Firefighter
31 Standards and Training Council, and recognized best practices for fire service
32 operations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FULTON COUNTY:

1. Establishment of Department

The Fulton County Fire Department (hereinafter "the Department") is hereby established as a legally recognized fire department under O.C.G.A. § 25-3-1 et seq., authorized to provide fire protection services and emergency response at the Fulton County Executive Airport, consistent with applicable state law, Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council requirements, and nationally recognized fire protection standards.

2. Compliance with Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council

- The Department shall comply with all provisions set forth in O.C.G.A. § 25-4-1 et seq. and the Rules of the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council (Chapter 205).
- All firefighters employed by the Department shall meet minimum qualifications, certification, and training requirements established by state law and the Council.
- The Department shall maintain accurate and up-to-date records of personnel, training, and certifications. These records shall be made available for inspection to ensure compliance with Council requirements and audits.
- The Fire Chief, or their designee, shall be responsible for ensuring that all fire department personnel remain current in their certifications and recurrent training, and the Department remains in continuous compliance with all applicable state, national, and federal standards governing fire department operations.

3. Scope of Services

The Department shall:

- Provide fire protection services, including Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF), in compliance with Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council (Chapter 205) requirements.
- Perform fire suppression, rescue, hazardous materials response, emergency medical response and fire prevention duties at Fulton County Executive Airport.
- Conduct fire safety inspections, risk assessments, and public education programs as appropriate to enhance airport and community safety.
- Coordinate with the City of South Fulton Fire Department to ensure continuous emergency services coverage during non-operational hours.

68 **4. Hours of Operation**

69 The Department shall provide appropriate staffing during designated operational
70 hours. Coverage during all other hours shall be provided through the existing
71 Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of South Fulton Fire Department, thereby
72 ensuring uninterrupted 24/7 fire and emergency response capability for the Fulton
73 County Executive Airport.

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75 **5. Mutual Aid & Intergovernmental Agreements**

76 The Department shall:

- 77 • Operate under the terms of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City
78 of South Fulton Fire Department to provide mutual support and ensure seamless
79 continuity of fire and emergency services as specified.
- 80 • May enter into additional mutual-aid agreements, subject to approval by the
81 Fulton County Board of Commissioners, with surrounding jurisdictions and
82 agencies as necessary to enhance fire protection capability, strengthen regional
83 response capacity, and ensure compliance with state and federal readiness
84 standards.
- 85 • Ensure that agreements establish protocols for communication, command,
86 training, interoperability, and joint operations to promote efficient coordination
87 during multi-agency emergencies.

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89 **6. Governance and Administration**

90 The Department shall:

- 91 • Be led by the Fire Division Chief, hereinafter referred to as the "Fire Chief", who
92 shall serve as the operational leader of the Fire Division and shall hold the
93 statutory and administrative powers, duties, and authorities customarily
94 associated with the title of "Fire Chief".
- 95 • The Fire Chief shall have command authority at all fire and emergency incidents
96 under the jurisdiction of the County; authority to develop, implement, and enforce
97 operational policies, procedures, training standards; to make recommendations
98 regarding hiring, promotion, discipline, and training of fire personnel; to oversee
99 operational readiness and safety; to manage and direct the daily operations; and
100 to represent the Department in coordination with other local, state, and federal
101 agencies.

102 • The Fire Chief shall further be authorized to recommend and administer the
103 Department's budget; to coordinate mutual aid activations and intergovernmental
104 agreements subject to county approval; to ensure compliance with applicable
105 statutes and standards; and to advise the Emergency Management Director,
106 County Manager, and Board of Commissioners on fire protection matters.

107 • The Fire Chief shall report to the Emergency Management Deputy Director and
108 Director, who in turn reports to the County Manager and ultimately the Board of
109 Commissioners.

110 • This Resolution formally establishes and effectuates the reporting and authority
111 structure described herein, providing for the Fire Chief's role as the senior
112 operational official responsible for fire protection services within the County's
113 jurisdiction.

114 • In the temporary absence, incapacity, or vacancy of the Fire Chief, the
115 Emergency Management Director may designate an Acting Fire Chief who shall
116 assume all powers and responsibilities of the position until such time as the Fire
117 Chief resumes duty or a successor is appointed.

118 • The Fire Chief may, consistent with County policy, designate subordinate officers
119 or deputies to act on their behalf for specified functions or during incidents,
120 ensuring continuity of command and operations.

121 • All powers and authorities conferred under this Section shall be exercised in
122 accordance with County ordinances, personnel policies, approved budgets,
123 procurement regulations, and applicable state and federal law. Nothing in this
124 Section shall be construed to supersede the fiscal, legal, or administrative
125 oversight of the County Board of Commissioners or the County Manager.

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127 **7. Funding**

128 The Fulton County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes and directs the
129 allocation of funds necessary to staff, equip, train, and sustain the Department. Such
130 funding shall be appropriated in accordance with Fulton County budgetary policies and
131 financial procedures and shall ensure compliance with all applicable state and national
132 fire service standards.

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134 **8. Effective Date**

135 This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

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137 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall become effective upon its
138 adoption, and that all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution
139 are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

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144 **SO PASSED AND ADOPTED**, this 17 day of December, 2025

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146 **FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**



148 Chairman, Robb Pitts,

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Fulton County Board of Commissioners

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ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



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Clerk, Tonya R. Grier

Attorney, Y. Soo Jo

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Fulton County Commissioners

Fulton County

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ITEM #250956 SRM 12/17/25
SECOND REGULAR MEETING