

1 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 (ADMINISTRATION), ARTICLE II**
2 **(OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES), DIVISION 2 (CODE OF ETHICS), SECTION 2-77 OF**
3 **THE CODE OF LAWS OF FULTON COUNTY RELATING TO THE CODE OF ETHICS**
4 **REGARDING UNEMPLOYED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES; AND FOR OTHER**
5 **PURPOSES.**

6
7 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners (“BOC”) has authority,
8 pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Georgia (Art. 9, § 2, ¶ 1(a)) to adopt
9 reasonable ordinances, resolutions, or regulations relating to the affairs of Fulton
10 County, Georgia for which no provision has been made by general law and which is not
11 inconsistent with the Constitution or any local law applicable thereto; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the BOC has, by ordinance, established a Code of Ethics (Fulton
13 County Code of Ordinances (“FCC”) § 2-66, *et seq.*) governing minimum standards of
14 conduct for Fulton County “officers or employees”; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the BOC recognizes that County officials and employees are
16 expected to discharge their duties in a manner that promotes the public interest; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the BOC finds that maintaining the integrity, impartiality, and
18 independence of County government is essential to preserving public confidence in
19 local government; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County has compelling interests in avoiding conflicts of
21 interest, preserving the integrity of and public confidence in its governing body, and
22 ensuring that commissioners do not misuse their positions for private gain or create the
23 appearance of undue influence or impropriety in County operations; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the BOC finds that establishing reasonable limitations on a
25 commissioner during the time immediately following their service as a commissioner
26 promotes transparency and helps avoid both actual and perceived undue influence in

County decision-making processes, particularly during the latter part of the commissioner's term; and

WHEREAS, the BOC recognizes the importance of ensuring that commissioners do not improperly benefit from information, relationships, or influence acquired through public service to obtain paid employment in the County that is not based solely on merit; and

WHEREAS, the BOC finds it necessary and appropriate to amend the County's ethics provisions to strengthen public confidence in the fairness, integrity, and independence of County government.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners hereby amends Fulton County Code of Ethics §2-77 to read as follows:

Sec. 2-77. – Unemployed officers and employees.

(a) No officer or employee shall, after the termination of his or her employment with the county, participate in any contract with the county, in a managerial, entrepreneurial, or consulting capacity. For the purposes of this section, "consulting" shall include, but not be limited to, advising any person doing business with the county or seeking to do business with the county (whether as a prime contractor or subcontractor) regarding the meaning and application of county rules and regulations, the administration of which were a part of the official responsibility of the officer or employee before termination of his or her employment. In addition, no officer or employee shall, after termination of his or her employment with the county, knowingly make, with the intent to influence,

any communication to or appearance before any department, board, or other authority of the county in connection with a particular matter:

(1) In which the county has a direct and substantial interest; and

(2) In which such person knows or reasonably should know was under his or her official responsibility as such officer or employee before the termination of his or her employment with the county.

(b) The restrictions set forth in this section shall be in effect for a period of one year after the termination of the officer's or employee's employment with the county; provided, however, with respect to former members of the board of commissioners, the restrictions shall be in effect for a period of two years after leaving office; ~~provided, further, that in the case of any former member of the board of commissioners, the restrictions shall include employment with any county department not under an elected or state official and receiving compensation for services rendered on behalf of any county department not under an elected or state official. who is convicted of a felony criminal offense in connection with the solicitation or award of a county contract, the restrictions shall be in effect for a period of seven years, beginning at the time of the conviction, except that in cases where a period of imprisonment is ordered, the seven years shall begin at the completion of the period of imprisonment.~~

(1) In the case of any former member of the board of commissioners who is convicted of a felony criminal offense in connection with the solicitation or award of a county contract, the restrictions shall be in effect for a period of seven years, beginning at the time of the conviction, except that in cases

where a period of imprisonment is ordered, the seven years shall begin at the completion of the period of imprisonment.

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption, and that all ordinances, resolutions, and parts of ordinances and resolutions in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County,
Georgia this _____ day of _____, 2026.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SPONSORED BY:

Robert L. Pitts, Chairman
(At-Large)

ATTEST:

Tonya R. Grier, Clerk to the Commission

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Y. Soo Jo, County Attorney