



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

WHEREAS: On June 11, 2024, Mr. Marcello Banes, Chairman of the Newton County Board of Commissioners, was indicted by the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia on one count of Money Laundering Conspiracy, three counts of Transactional Money Laundering, one count of Concealment Money Laundering, and one count of False Statements to a Federal Agent; and

WHEREAS: A certified copy of the indictment was transmitted to the Governor pursuant to Code Section 45-5-6(b), and received on July 9, 2024; and

WHEREAS: An Executive Order was issued on July 25, 2024, appointing members to the Review Commission to determine whether the indictment relates to and adversely affects the administration of the Office of Chairman of the Newton County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS: By report dated July 31, 2024, the Review Commission found that the indictment of Mr. Marcello Banes does relate to and does adversely affect the administration of the Office of Chairman of the Newton County Board of Commissioners, and that the rights and interests of the public are adversely affected thereby; and recommended that Mr. Marcello Banes be suspended from office pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-5-6.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO CODE SECTION 45-5-6, AND THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That Mr. Marcello Banes is hereby suspended from office immediately and without further action pending the final disposition of the case or until the expiration of his term of office, whichever occurs first, as provided in Code Section 45-5-6(c).

This 1ST day of August 2024.

GOVERNOR