



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

WHEREAS: On June 14, 2019, a committee consisting of Attorney General Chris Carr, Sheriff Neal Jump of Glynn County, and Sheriff Jud Smith of Barrow County was formed to investigate "criminal charges, alleged misconduct in office, or alleged incapacity" as it related to the May 29, 2019, arrest of Bacon County Sheriff Mark Cothren; and

WHEREAS: The committee, in the course of its investigation, reviewed portions of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation criminal file, including a video of the incident and recorded interviews with witnesses, and other relevant materials; and

WHEREAS: On July 12, 2019, the committee delivered to me its recommendation that, based on his actions on the morning of May 22, 2019, Sheriff Mark Cothren should be suspended for a period of twenty days.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-16-26, Mark Cothren is hereby suspended from the Office of Sheriff of Bacon County for a period of twenty days, beginning Thursday, July 18, 2019.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-16-26(d), the Chief Judge of the Superior Court of Bacon County shall appoint a person who meets the qualifications for sheriff pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-16-1 to assume the duties and responsibilities of the office of sheriff during the period of suspension.

This 17th day of July, 2019.


GOVERNOR