

## **BOARD OF CORRECTIONS**

**June 3, 2026**

**Buford, Georgia**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Duke Blackburn  
Mr. J.C. “Spud” Bowen  
Ms. Kellie Brownlow  
Mr. Chris Clark  
Mr. Ester Fleming Jr. – Chairman  
Ms. Sandra D. Hudson  
Sheriff Donnie Pope  
Mr. Alton Russell  
Mr. Luis “Lou” M. Solis Jr.  
Mr. W. D. Strickland  
Dr. William “Bill” Whaley

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. Rodney Bryant  
Sheriff Barry H. Babb  
Mr. Thomas Culpepper  
Mr. John B. Edwards  
Sheriff Stacy Jarrard  
Mr. Rossie Ross

### **ATTORNEY GENERAL’S OFFICE:**

Ms. Elizabeth Crowder, Attorney General’s Office

### **DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:**

Mr. Tyrone Oliver, Commissioner  
Mr. Matthew Wolfe, Acting Chief of Staff  
Ms. Latera M. Davis, Assistant Commissioner, Inmate Services Division  
Mr. Louis DeBroux, Assistant Commissioner, Research, Strategic Planning, Government Affairs  
Mr. Jackson Defore, Assistant Commissioner of Finance and Admin  
Mr. Randy Sauls, Assistant Commissioner of Health Services Division  
Mr. Antione Caldwell, North Regional Director  
Mr. Lee Clark, Warden, Rogers State Prison  
Ms. Komola Edwards, Director of Human Resources  
Dr. Kenneth Ellis, Statewide Chaplain  
Mr. Benjamin Ford, Facilities Division Director  
Ms. Joan Heath, Director of Office of Communications  
Mr. Cliff Hogan, Director of Data Management and Research  
Ms. Gwendolyn Hogan, Executive Assistant  
Dr. Jennifer Irvin, Director, Academic Education and Programs  
Ms. Angela Ivestor, Director, Office of Information Technology  
Mr. David Jones, Director of Engineering & Construction Services  
Ms. Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison  
Ms. Quana Kemp, Admin Assistant  
Ms. Dawn Mock, Office of Information Technology  
Mr. Antonio Printup, Director of Office of Professional Development  
Ms. Janine Robinson, Executive Director of Georgia Correctional Industries  
Mr. Bryan Wilson, General Counsel

### **VISITORS FROM THE STATE BOARD OF PARDONS & PAROLES:**

Ms. Joyette Holmes, Chair  
Mr. Wayne V. Bennett, Vice Chair  
Mr. Robert Markley, Board Member  
Ms. Kimberly McCoy, Board Member  
Mr. Josh Waters, Board Member  
Mr. Chris Barnett, Executive Director  
Ms. Felecia Holloway, Deputy Executive Director  
Ms. Susan Ruthven, Agency Affairs Director  
Ms. Crystal L. Moon, Director of Pre-Release Considerations Division  
Ms. Kim Patton-Johnson, Director of Post-Release Considerations Division  
Mr. Chris Kimner, Director of the Investigations Division  
Mr. Keir Chapple, Director of Georgia Office of Victim Services (GOVS)  
Mr. Steve Hayes, Director of Communications  
Ms. Kristen Kinney, Chief Financial Officer and Legislative Liaison

Ms. Eris McKennon, Director of Human Resources  
Mr. Thomas Green, Training Director, Chief Security Officer, & Policy & Procedure Coordinator  
Mr. Carlos Turner, Senior Information Technology Manager  
Ms. Carolyn Brown, Secretary

**VISITORS:**

Ms. Teresa Fleming, Citizen  
Mr. Kenneth Hudson, Citizen

First, Chairman Ester Fleming Jr. called to order the June 3, 2026, meeting for the Board of Corrections (“the Board”) at 10:00 a.m. and Board Liaison, Simone Juhmi, recorded the minutes.

Chairman Fleming then asked Chaplain Kenneth Ellis to deliver the invocation. Following such, Chairman Fleming led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Fleming welcomed and recognized all guests and visitors and the Board meeting, being duly convened, proceeded with business.

Chairman Fleming welcomed and swore-in new Board of Corrections member Dr. William “Bill” Whaley – Member at Large. Dr. Whaley signed his official oath, and a photo was taken of the swearing-in.

Chairman Fleming welcomed and recognized all guests and visitors and the Board meeting, being duly convened, proceeded with business.

Chairman Fleming presented the June 3, 2026, Agenda to the Board for approval. Mr. W. D. Strickland made a motion to approve the Agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Luis “Lou” M. Solis Jr. The Agenda was voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

Chairman Fleming presented the May 7, 2026, Minutes to the Board for approval. Mr. W. D. Strickland made a motion to approve the Minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Luis “Lou” M. Solis Jr. The Minutes were voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

**COMMISSIONER’S REPORT**

To begin the Commissioner’s Report, Commissioner Oliver briefly congratulated new Board Member Dr. William “Bill” Whaley for being appointed to the Board. Commissioner Oliver also gave an update on Mr. Ahmed Holt, Assistant Commissioner of Facilities Division, who has been out on medical leave. Commissioner Oliver then gave brief updates on the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation hosting the PROJECT 2000 XXXVII, being held in Salt Lake City, Utah, from June 11–14, 2026, which honors fallen correctional officers and supports their families, Crime Victim’s Week, the Correctional Leadership Association on the Hill, the Georgia Department of Corrections upcoming Family Day being held on July 24<sup>th</sup> at State Offices South at Tift College, the Southern States Conference, and bodycams and taser rollout. Last of all, Commissioner Oliver gave a fifteen-year service award to his Executive Assistant, Ms. Gwendolyn Hogan.

Next, Commissioner Oliver discussed the Commissioner’s Dashboard, which is a four-page overview highlighting key areas and significant events within the Agency.

Commissioner Oliver then asked Mr. Lee Clark, President of the Georgia Prison Warden’s Association (GPWA) to present a Georgia Prison Warden’s Association Update.

Mr. Clark began by discussing several key items in his presentation. Some of the highlights were the GPWA’s Executive Committee, the history of the Georgia Prison Wardens Association, membership, Code of Ethics, conference details, the scholarships GPWA have offered, the scholarships they are currently offering, some of the Board of Corrections scholarship past awardees, and ending with the 2025 Board of Corrections scholarship.

Mr. Clark concluded his presentation with a few photos and by discussing GPWA's yearly fundraising events such as the Golf Tournament held annually in October and the Clay Shoot held annually in March.

This concluded Mr. Clark's report.

Next, Commissioner Oliver asked Mr. Aaron Pineiro, Warden of Phillips State Prison, to do a Phillips State Prison Update.

Mr. Pineiro began by discussing the history of Phillips State Prison. Some of the highlights were when the facility was established, rehabilitation, education, vocational training, and programs that help inmates reintegrate into society successfully by promoting positive change and reducing recidivism.

In addition, Mr. Pineiro reviewed the mission, values, core values, and Top 5 Priorities for the facility.

Mr. Pineiro discussed the Cultural Beliefs (Better Together, Change Agent, and Take Ownership), leadership development beyond the basics, the Facilities Identification Board, Phillips State Prison's leadership staff, various facility information, facility challenges, recruitment and retention, education and programming, administration, care and treatment, security, accomplishments, and current projects and successes.

This concluded the report for Mr. Pineiro.

Last of all, Commissioner Oliver asked Mr. Christopher Barnett, Executive Director, State Board of Pardons and Paroles, to present a State Board of Pardons and Paroles presentation.

Director Barnett first began by introducing all the members of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles. Mr. Barnett's presentation included photos of the 91 Georgia Department of Corrections facilities that the State Board of Pardons and Paroles board members and Executive Team visited throughout the year. To conclude the presentation, Commissioner Oliver presented Mr. Chris Barnett with a plaque in appreciation and support of their visits. A group photo was taken of the presentation.

This concluded Mr. Barnett's presentation and the Commissioner's Report.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

There was no business under the Chairman's Report, so Chairman Fleming moved to Old or New Business.

Under Old or New Business, Chairman Fleming asked Mr. Bryan Wilson, General Counsel for the Office of Legal Services, to present five (5) property resolutions for approval to the Board.

Mr. Wilson stated that he would present all five resolutions at one time and that the following resolutions were being presented for approval:

#### **Savannah (new) Transitional Center Purchase**

The Palm Way Investments, LLC holds title to 6.8 acres located at 104 Coleman Blvd, Savannah, Chatham County, Georgia Parcel #20985 04075 ("the Property"). The Property is more particularly described in the information package attached hereto as "Exhibit A"; and the Georgia Department of Corrections is desirous of acquiring the Property at or below the fair market appraised value and remains contingent upon the successful completion of all necessary appraisals, environmental reports, and land surveys. The Georgia Department of Corrections intends to use the Property as a new Transitional Center in Chatham County.

#### **Warner Robins (new) Transitional Center Purchase**

Kevin Sean Stokes, Kelly Dorothy Griffith, Stephen Young Stokes, Lori Stokes Brooks, and Kim Stokes McKinney holds title to 20.52 acres located at 7231 South Nowell Road, Macon, Bibb County, Georgia Parcel #K014-0015 ("the Property"). The Property is more particularly described in the information package attached hereto as "Exhibit A". The Georgia Department of Corrections

is desirous of acquiring the Property at or below the fair market appraised value and remains contingent upon the successful completion of all necessary appraisals, environmental reports and land surveys. The Georgia Department of Corrections intends to use the Property as a new Transitional Center in Bibb County.

**Washington State Prison – Atlanta Gas Light Easement**

The State of Georgia owns and holds title to, and the Georgia Department of Corrections has custody of, property in Washington County, Georgia, known as Washington State Prison (“the Property”) located at 13262 Georgia Highway 24, Davisboro, Georgia 31018. The Georgia Department of Corrections requires the installation of natural gas service lines to support new facilities currently under construction at Washington State Prison. Atlanta Gas Light Company (AGL) has requested a Revocable Lease Agreement (RLA) followed by a permanent Non-Standard Easement to facilitate the project scope, which includes approximately 1,300 feet of newly installed 6-inch high-pressure steel pipe and a metering station to provide the required gas supply. The easements request is more particularly described in the attached documentation. The Georgia Department of Correction, as custodian of the aforementioned property, is willing to grant the request of AGL for the RLA and Easement.

**Coastal State Prison – FAA Conduit Upgrade Easement**

The State of Georgia owns and holds title to, and the Georgia Department of Corrections is in custody of, property in Chatham County, Georgia, known as the Coastal State Prison (“the Property”) located at 200 Gulfstream Road, Garden City, Georgia 31418. The Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) has requested assistance in securing a Revocable Lease Agreement (RLA) and a subsequent permanent Non-Standard Easement with L3Harris, acting on behalf of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The FAA has contracted L3Harris to complete a conduit upgrade project for an FAA- owned radio tower located in the center of the property. The proposed permanent Non-Standard Easements will permit L3Harris to install approximately 523 feet of 4-inch conduit at a depth of 36 inches across GDC property to support the aforementioned radio tower upgrade and reflected on the document attached as “Exhibit A”; and the GDC has authorized the FAA and L3Harris to proceed with the work in coordination with the GDC staff at Coastal State Prison. The GDC has thoroughly reviewed the request and determined that the installation of the proposed conduit system will solely benefit the FAA and will not interfere with institutional operations or security protocols of Coastal State Prison.

**Metro State Prison – Georgia Power Easement for (new) Kennels**

The State of Georgia owns and holds title to, and the Georgia Department of Corrections is in custody of, property in DeKalb County, Georgia, known as the Metro State Prison (“the Property”) located at 1301 Constitution Road Southeast, Atlanta, Georgia 30316. The Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) has requested assistance in securing a Revocable Lease Agreement (RLA) and a subsequent permanent Non-Standard Easement with the Georgia Power Company (GPC). The purpose of the project is to install overhead and underground electric distribution infrastructure to supply power to the new Kennels. The scope of work will include a proposed GPC underground distribution line running parallel to the eastern property line, connecting from a proposed GPC pole situated at the northeast corner of the property and reflected on the document attached as “Exhibit A”. This infrastructure installation is deemed necessary to support the facility’s new Kennel installation.

Mr. Wilson then stated that all the necessary paperwork was in the board members packets and that he was seeking approval for all five-board resolutions.

Chairman Fleming asked for a motion to approve the five property resolutions. Mr. Alton Russell made a motion to approve the resolutions, which were seconded by Mr. J. C. “Spud” Bowen. The resolutions were voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

Next Chairman Fleming asked Dr. Jennifer B. Irvin, Director of Academic Education and Programs to present the School Name for Approval. Dr. Irvin stated the board members needed to approve the proposed school name for the offender school for the Georgia Department of Corrections.

Dr. Irvin submitted the following six (6) names:

- **Keystone Bridge Academy**
- **Keystone Academy**
- **Bridge Academy**
- **Tift Academy of Georgia**
- **Georgia Academic Institute**
- **Georgia Educational Institute**

There was some discussion; however, Mr. J. C. “Spud” Bowen expressed he liked the **Tift Academy of Georgia** best, so he placed his suggestion in the form of a formal motion, which was seconded by Ms. Kellie Brownlow and Mr. W. D. Strickland. The offender school name of **Tift Academy of Georgia** was voted “approved” by the Board as presented.

Dr. Irvin thanked the Board and concluded her presentation.

Chairman Fleming reminded the Board that the summer board meetings (July and August) are canceled. The next board meeting is on Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at State Offices South at Tift College.

There being no further business, the board meeting was adjourned.

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Ester Fleming Jr., Chairman

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Chris Clark, Secretary

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Simone Juhmi, Board Liaison