

L. Gale Buckner, Commissioner  
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## DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **DJJ COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS**

**(ATLANTA - GA)** The Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice is pleased to announce the appointment of two DJJ Board members newly named by Governor Nathan Deal. Commissioner L. Gale Buckner confirmed the appointments of Mr. Willie Bolton and Mr. Frank Rozier during the regular DJJ Board meeting Thursday, March 22, 2012.

Mr. Willie Bolton of Athens-Clarke County will represent Georgia's Congressional District 10. "We at the Board should make certain all DJJ Staff know they have a role in this agency's mission and I am committed," said Mr. Bolton. The District 10 seat was previously held by former Board Chairman Ed Risler. Chairman Risler's term expired last summer after more than ten years of service with the Board, working with five DJJ Commissioners.

Mr. Frank Rozier of Pierce County will represent the Board's First Congressional District, taking a seat which was presently vacant. Judge Rozier told members today, "I truly look forward to serving on this Board."

Both new members are appointed to serve in an advisory capacity to DJJ, providing leadership and guidance to the Commissioner to help improve Georgia's juvenile justice system. The Board is made up of 15 members representing each Congressional District in the state. DJJ Board members are appointed by the Governor and then confirmed by the State Senate.

Mr. Willie Bolton has been warden and director of the Athens-Clarke County Department of Corrections for the past eighteen years. He has been active in community service on the Athens Regional Medical Center Hospital Authority, the Georgia Public Safety Training Center Advisory Board and the Boys Scouts of America Northeast Georgia Council. Professionally, Mr. Bolton is a member of the Georgia and National Associations of Chiefs of Police, the Georgia Prison Wardens Association and the Georgia Peace Officers Association. He holds a bachelor's degree from Brenau University and a master's degree from Clark Atlanta University. He and his wife have two children and two grandchildren. They reside in Athens where Mr. Bolton has been with Athens-Clarke County Government for 39 years.

Mr. Frank Rozier is the State Court Judge in Pierce County, Georgia. He also maintains a private law practice in Blackshear where he resides. Judge Rozier has been an attorney for 35 years. He served as a judge advocate in the U.S. Army Reserve and retired as a lieutenant colonel. Judge Rozier earned a bachelor's degree in History from Mercer University and a law degree from the John Marshall School of Law in Atlanta.

The Commissioner commended former Board Member Ed Risler for his decade of service as Board Chairman. In a letter to Board Members, Risler described his work with DJJ as "a personal honor and privilege" and commended juvenile justice employees for their "dedication and service."

Commissioner Buckner expressed the appreciation of the agency and Board for Risler's years of service to DJJ and the state. "We admire the professionalism Chairman Risler brought to this task," said Commissioner Buckner, "And we wish all the best for our new appointees who are about to face the many challenges that lie ahead for the Department of Juvenile Justice."

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