



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

L. GALE BUCKNER, COMMISSIONER

A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

L. Gale Buckner, Commissioner
Jim Shuler, Director
Office of Communications



DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

3408 Covington Highway ▪ Decatur, Georgia ▪ 30032-1513
Telephone: (404) 508-7238 ▪ Fax: (404) 508-7341

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 17, 2012

CONTACT:

**Jim Shuler, Director
DJJ Communications**

JimShuler@djj.state.ga.us

DJJ COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCES FORMER GBI AGENT EDWARDS APPOINTED TO BOARD

(ATLANTA - GA) The Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice is pleased to announce the appointment of a newly named DJJ Board member by Governor Nathan Deal. DJJ Commissioner L. Gale Buckner will confirm the appointment of veteran Georgia peace officer John B. Edwards during the next regular DJJ Board meeting.

John Edwards is a former GBI Agent who retired as Special Agent in Charge with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation after 30 years of service. His current law enforcement responsibilities are with the Evans County Sheriff's Office as their Chief Deputy.

"We are honored Chief Deputy John Edwards will join us as a partner on the DJJ Board in our ongoing mission to move this agency closer to its critical objectives," said Commissioner Buckner. "We appreciate Governor Deal's latest appointment to help us meet this important challenge."

John Edwards serves on the Executive Board of the Peace Officers Association of Georgia. He is an author and former adjunct at the Georgia Law Enforcement Command College. Edwards is also involved as a project manager in a law enforcement research collaboration with Georgia Southern University and the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Smart Policing Project.

Mr. Edwards will represent the DJJ Board's 12th Congressional District, taking the seat vacated by former Board Chairman J. Daniel Shuman from Reidsville.

The DJJ Board is composed of 15 members representing each Congressional District in the state. DJJ Board members are appointed by the Governor to provide leadership and guidance to the Commissioner in an advisory capacity to the Department of Juvenile Justice.

DJJ's newest Board Member is a resident of Claxton, Georgia where he lives with his wife Anita and their two college-age sons. John is a member of the [First Methodist Church of Claxton](#) and is active with the Evans County Family Connections youth and outreach programs.

(END RELEASE)

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER