



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF **JUVENILE JUSTICE**

AVERY D. NILES, COMMISSIONER

A MESSAGE FROM THE
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Avery D. Niles, Commissioner

Jim Shuler, Director
Office of Communications



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 07, 2012

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**COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCES THOMAS L. COLEMAN APPOINTED
NEW DJJ BOARD MEMBER**

(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. Commissioner Avery D. Niles will confirm the appointment of Mr. Thomas L. Coleman of Lithonia, Georgia at an upcoming DJJ Board meeting. Mr. Coleman currently serves as a volunteer commissioner with the DeKalb County Housing Authority.

He is a retired Air Force officer and Vietnam veteran with more than 25 years of service. "Mr. Coleman has contributed a lifetime to the armed services and public administration in Georgia and we can use his dedication because we have much more work to do," said DJJ Commissioner Avery D. Niles.

Dr. Coleman earned his Master's Degree in Public Administration from Central Michigan University and a Doctoral Degree in Higher Education Administration from Atlanta University. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Georgia State University and served four years as a Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Juvenile Justice over Programs and Education.

"There are new goals to be set to make DJJ safer and more secure," said Commissioner Niles. "We welcome Dr. Coleman back to the Juvenile Justice team as a new Board partner and we are pleased to take advantage of his years of experience and contributions at DJJ," Commissioner Niles said.

Dr. Coleman is also former Director of the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety. He has been appointed by Governor Deal to represent the 4th Congressional District. Coleman and his wife, Beverly, reside in Lithonia. They have two children and three grandchildren.

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

(END RELEASE)

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