

Steve Farrow  
Chairman  
Jack Williams  
Vice-Chairman  
C. Theodore Lee  
Executive Secretary



**State Ethics Commission**

205 Jesse Hill Jr. Dr. S.E.  
East Tower - Suite 478  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
(404) 463-1980  
Facsimile (404) 463-1988

Emmett W. Bowers  
Member  
David H. Moskowitz  
Member  
Sonny Watson  
Member

January 3, 2006

Ms. Viola Davis  
Unhappy Taxpayer and Voter Alliance  
909 Rays Road  
Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083

RE: Viola Davis (Unhappy Taxpayer and Voter Alliance) v. Dekalb County  
CEO Vernon Jones and Dekalb County Board of Commissioners

Dear Ms. Davis:

Please find enclosed a copy of the Response of Dekalb County Commissioner Kathy Gannon in the above-styled matter.

Respectfully yours,

*Jennifer Ward*  
Jennifer Ward  
Compliance Coordinator

Enclosure: Filed Response (Commissioner Kathy Gannon)

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DEC 19 2005

Kathie Gannon  
Dekalb County Commission  
Super District 6  
1300 Commerce Drive  
Decatur, GA 30030

December 14, 2005

C. Theodore Lee, Executive Secretary  
Steve Farrow, Chairman  
Members  
State Ethics Commission  
203 Jesse Hill Fr. Dr. S. E.  
East Tower - Suite 478  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Sirs:

This letter serves as my response to the November 7 Complaint alleging a violation of the Ethics in Government Act. It is my understanding that Vivian Ernestes, Acting County Attorney for Dekalb County, will represent the Board of Commissioners with respect to paragraph 1 and 7 of the Complaint. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8 do not apply to me. In reference to paragraph 4, at no time other than the August 23 vote to put the bond referendum on the ballot for decision by the citizens of Dekalb County did I use my resources to promote its passage. I was asked to make a financial contribution and to make endorsement telephone calls, which I declined. I had no knowledge of the Dear Neighbor mailer until it arrived in the mail. At no time did I authorize the use of my name or picture. I respectfully request that the charges against me be dismissed.

Sincerely,



Kathie Gannon, Commissioner  
Super District 6

# Memorandum

**To:** CEO Vernon Jones  
**CC:** DCTV Staff, DeKalb County Law Department and All Appropriate Parties  
**From:** Viola Davis  
**Date:** 11/4/2005  
**Re:** Violation of Civil Rights to Petition the People and Government

## Violation of Civil Rights to Petition the People and Government

The Unhappy Taxpayer and Voter Alliance demand the DeKalb County Government play the public comment portion of the Board of Commissioner meeting in its entirety without censoring and altering the initial televised meeting. By refusing to televise the complete Board of Commissioner meeting on October 25, 2005, you are violating our 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Rights to Freedom of Speech. This socialistic action also violates our civil rights to petition the people and our government. DeKalb County continues to stop us from informing the public on controversial issues such as the \$230 million dollar bond referendum, water contamination, and Seminole landfill. DeKalb must stop its attempt to silence the "voice of dissent".

Sincerely,



Viola Davis

Unhappy Taxpayer & Voter



# Memorandum

NOV - 4 2005

**To:** CEO Vernon Jones  
**CC:** DCTV Staff, DeKalb County Law Department and All Appropriate Parties  
**From:** Viola Davis  
**Date:** 11/4/2005  
**Re:** Violation of Civil Rights to Petition the People and Government

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Sincerely,



Viola Davis

Unhappy Taxpayer & Voter

# Memorandum

To: DCTV Staff

CC: CEO Vernon Jones, DeKalb County Law Department and All Appropriate Parties

From: Viola Davis

Date: 11/04/05

Re: Request for a copy of Board of Commissioners meeting

## Request for a copy of Board of Commissioners meeting

The Unhappy Taxpayer and Voter Alliance request a copy of the last four Board of Commissioners meeting under the open records meeting. The BOC meetings dates include:

- ❖ BOC on October 25, 2005
- ❖ BOC on October 11, 2005
- ❖ BOC on September 27, 2005
- ❖ BOC on September 13, 2005

We would appreciate these copies within the next five-business day. If you need additional information, call 770-256-0034.

Sincerely,



Viola Davis

Unhappy Taxpayer & Voter

CONFIDENTIAL

EXHIBIT "A"

2005-0107

S.E.C. Form C Rev 7/04

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

205 Jesse Hill Jr. Dr., SE  
Suite 478 - East Tower  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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COMPLAINT

ALLEGING A VIOLATION OF THE ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT ACT.

I. PERSON BRINGING COMPLAINT:

Name: Viola Davis with Unhappy Taxpayer and Voter  
Address: 909 Kays Road  
City: Stone Mountain State: Georgia County: DeKalb Zip Code: 30083  
Telephone Number: (770) 256-0034

II. PARTY AGAINST WHOM COMPLAINT IS BROUGHT:

Name: CEO Vernon Jones and DeKalb Board of Commissioners  
Address: 1300 Commerce Drive  
City: Decatur State: Georgia County: DeKalb Zip Code: 30030  
Telephone Number: (404) 371-2425  
Title of office held or sought (if applicable): (SAME AS ABOVE)

III. STATEMENT OF FACTS:

State in your own words the detailed facts and the actions of the party named in Paragraph II upon which the complaint is based along with an allegation that such facts constitute one or more violations of the Ethics in Government Act. The brief space provided below is not intended to limit your statement of facts. Use the back of this form or additional sheets if necessary. Include relevant dates and times and the names and addresses of other persons who you believe have knowledge of the facts and any documentary evidence that supports the facts alleged in the complaint.

SEE ATTACH DOCUMENTS

(If continued on other side or additional sheets, please check here )

VERIFICATION BY OATH OR AFFIRMATION

STATE OF Georgia COUNTY OF Fulton

I, the undersigned Complainant, being duly sworn, depose (affirm) and say that the information in this Complaint is true, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Complainant  
Viola Davis

This section to be completed by a Notary Public.

Sworn to and subscribed before me on 7 November 2005

Signature of Notary Public  
DeWitt  
My Commission expires December 14, 2008

PENALTIES: False Swearing  
A person to whom a lawful oath or affirmation has been administered or who executes a document knowing that it purports to be an acknowledgment of a lawful oath or affirmation commits false swearing when, in any matter or thing other than a judicial proceeding, he knowingly and willfully makes a false statement. A person convicted of false swearing shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not less than one or more than five years, or both.

# Memorandum

**To:** C. Theodore Lee  
**CC:** Jennifer Ward, Dekalb County Government, State Ethics Commission, and All Appropriate Parties

**From:** Unhappy Taxpayer and Voter Alliance

**Date:** 11/07/05

**Re:** CEO VERNON JONES AND DEKALB BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS ENDORSE THE 2005 DEKALB BOND  
REFERENDUM AND SILENCE THE VOICE OF DISSENT

## CEO VERNON JONES AND DEKALB BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ENDORSE THE 2005 DEKALB BOND REFERENDUM AND SILENCE THE VOICE OF DISSENT

The Unhappy Taxpayer and Voter Alliance request the State Ethics Commission investigate CEO Vernon Jones and the Dekalb Board of Commissioners violation of the Ethics in Government Act and Constitution of the State of Georgia. CEO Vernon Jones and the Dekalb Board of Commissioners used the power of their elected office to influence voter to approve the 2005 Dekalb Bond Referendum by silencing the voice of dissent. The elected officials abused their power to the detriment of public to withhold opposing facts and reasons to ensure the 2005 Dekalb Bond Referendum pass on November 8, 2005. The Georgia General Assembly enacted the Ethics in Government Act (O.C.G.A. Section 21-5-1 et seq.) in 1986. The intent of the Act was to protect the integrity of the democratic process and to ensure fair elections with the public disclosure of campaign financing and significant private interests of public officers and candidates for public office.

As taxpayers and voters, we have a duty to hold these elected officials accountable for cutting the public comment to silence the voice of dissent. CEO Vernon Jones and the Dekalb County Board of Commissioners violated our freedom of speech, and the Dekalb County Board of Commissioners violated our freedom of speech, equal protection under the law, and the right to assemble/petition our government. We were instructed the elected officials could not tell the public to vote "yes" or

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"no" once they have voted to place the bond referendum on the ballot. We request an injunction on the bond referendum if the elected officials violated the law and/or void the special election on the bond referendum.

CEO Vernon Jones and the Dekalb Board of Commissioners have violated Georgia Ethics in Government Act due to the following facts:

1. On October 25, 2005, CEO Vernon Jones and the Dekalb Board of Commissioners cut the public comment portion of the commissioners meeting because we stated our opposing views to the 2005 Dekalb Bond Referendum. On November 1, 2005, Diamond Lewis with DCTV stated that she was instructed by the Chief of Staff Ann Kimbrough to cut the public comment portion of the commissioners meeting. CEO Vernon Jones and the Dekalb Board of Commissioners abused their power by refusing to play the public comment to ensure the taxpayers and voters did not hear negative facts and reasons to vote "no" to the 2005 Dekalb Bond Referendum. The witnesses to these violations are CEO Vernon Jones, Chief of Staff Ann Kimbrough, DCTV employees Diamond Lewis and Mark, Joe Arrington, Ruby L. Davis, and Viola Davis.
2. On November 2, 2005, CEO Vernon Jones appeared on Good Day Atlanta on Channel 5 (Fox) with Co-Host Suchita Vadlamani to tell the taxpayers and voters to vote "yes" three times for the 2005 Dekalb Bond Referendum. However, CEO Jones used the power of his office to cut the public comment to silence the voice of dissent. The witnesses are CEO Vernon Jones, Co-Host Suchita Vadlamani, and the viewing public.
3. On November 4, 2005, we paid for a copy of the Campaign Contribution Disclosure Report for the Committee for a Better Dekalb. On the Contribution List, the campaign committee for Burrell Ellis, Hank Johnson, Larry Johnson, and Vernon Jones list approximately \$5,500 contributed to the campaign to endorse the bond referendum. In the article titled, "Local leaders urge residents to get out and vote" in On Common Ground newspaper, Angela Graham stated the money would provide for signs, commercials on all Comcast Cable Channels, radio announcements, and direct mailings. The Committee for a Better Dekalb put out signs that say, "votes yes" ... throughout the county. These elected officials used their power to limit our "voice of dissent" by cutting the public comment from the commissioners meeting. Yet, the same elected officials used campaign funds to influence the taxpayers and voters to vote "yes" for the bond referendum. The elected officials also sent out a voice message to tell the voters to vote "yes". The witnesses and evidence are a copy of the On Common Ground article and the Campaign Contribution Disclosure Report.
4. On November 5, 2005, we received a mail out from the Committee for a Better Dekalb that featured all the Dekalb Board of Commissioners and CEO Vernon Jones asking the taxpayers and voters to join them on November 8 and vote "yes" three times to reduce traffic congestion, continue our parks and green space program, and expand our library facilities. However, they abused the power of their elected

official to silence the voice of dissent. The witnesses and evidence include a copy of the mail out with pictures of CEO Vernon Jones and the DeKalb Board of Commissioners.

5. On November 5, 2005 from 9:00 am - 11:00 am, we attended Representative Stan Watson's Community Cabinet Meeting that featured presenter CEO Vernon Jones. While attending the meeting, we heard CEO Vernon Jones personally ask the people to vote "yes" on all three questions listed on the 2005 DeKalb Bond Referendum. The witnesses are CEO Vernon Jones, Representative Stan Watson, Joe Arrington with the Champion, Jennifer Parker with Crossroads Newspaper, and the taxpayers/voters in attendance.
6. CEO Vernon Jones had a commercial advertisement air during the Georgia Gang telling the public to vote "yes" for the referendum. However, he instructed his executive staff to cut the public comment to silence our voice of dissent.
7. On September 27, 2005, DeKalb Board of Commissioners voted to change the standing procedural rules for the commissioners meeting. The vote was illegal because the commission failed to have two readings of the proposed amendment to the standing procedural rules. The DeKalb Board of Commissioners had no right to cut the public comment portion of the commissioners meeting. This is a form of censorship to control the information disseminated over the television to the taxpayers and voter. The public comment is advertised to start at 11am; however, the public routinely waited until after 1:00pm to voice their comments. The DeKalb Board of Commissioners changed the comment time from five minutes to three without following the rules of law to silence the voice of dissent.
8. Commissioner Hank Johnson stated within the last six meeting that he favored the bond referendum after the DeKalb Board of Commissioners voted 7-0 in favor of placing the bond referendum on the ballot. Commissioner Johnson was reminded not to speak on the bond referendum; however, he continued to discuss the issue at the commissioners meeting. We were instructed that after the vote to place the bond referendum on the ballot, the elected officials are not to tell the public to vote "yes" or "no". Commissioner Hank Johnson pointed out that I, Viola Davis, told the public not to vote for the 2005 bond referendum during public comment. It was implied that we did not have the right to express our political view. This was the reason public comment was cut from the commissioners meeting. The witnesses and evidence include the tapes of the commissioners meeting, DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, CEO Vernon Jones, CEO Vernon Jones executive staff, and Joe Arrington.

As taxpayers and voters, we have a duty to hold these elected officials accountable for cutting the public comment to silence the voice of dissent. CEO Vernon Jones and the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners violated our freedom of speech, equal protection under the law, and the right to assemble/petition our government. They violated the Georgia Ethics in Government Act by telling the taxpayers and voters to vote "yes" on all three questions on the bond referendum. The same

elected official abused their power by cutting the public comment to make sure our  
 opposing voices were not heard.—We were instructed the elected officials could not  
 tell the public to vote “yes” or “no” once they have voted to place the bond  
 referendum on the ballot. We request an injunction on the bond referendum if the  
 elected officials violated the law and/or void the special election.

As a grassroots organization of everyday taxpayers and voters, we use the public  
 comment to inform the public of the truth our elected officials refuse to tell the  
 taxpayers and voters. The commissioners meeting are financed with our tax dollars  
 and fees on our cable bill. If the elected officials are allowed to cut public comment  
 without consequences because they did not want us to speak negative about the bond  
 referendum, taxpayers and voters are limited in voicing our dissent. A message  
 must be enforced to ensure the elected official do not abuse their power against the  
 public which place them in office and pay their salaries.

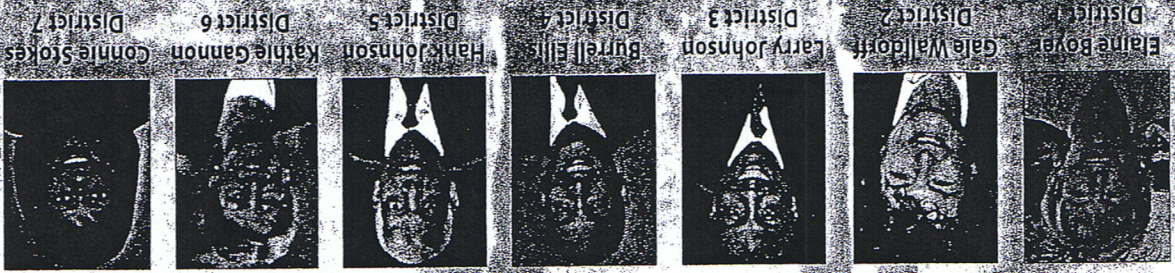
Please contact the Unhappy Taxpayer and Voter Alliance at 770-256-0034 if you are  
 in need of additional information.

Sincerely,



Viola Davis

Community Missionary



For a Better DeKalb,

Please join us at the polls on November 8 and VOTE YES three times. Let's keep DeKalb County a great place to live, work and play.

- 1. Vote Yes - Reduce traffic congestion with road improvements
- 2. Vote Yes - Continue our parks and greenspace program
- 3. Vote Yes - Expand our library facilities and educational resources

On November 8 you have the opportunity to further invest in our future.

Recognizing the success of the 2001 bond referendum, the Board of Commissioners and the CEO created a Future Funding Task Force comprised of a cross-county group of community and business leaders to independently assess areas that need additional attention. The Task Force identified three critical areas that required additional funding in order to keep up with the growth rate of our county - transportation, libraries, and parks and greenspace. The findings were reported to the Board of Commissioners, and on August 23, the Board voted 7-0 in favor of putting the bond referendum on the ballot.

In 2001 DeKalb voters approved a bond referendum that allowed for the acquisition of over 2,100 acres of greenspace and the development of parks throughout the county. The bond enabled us to increase our greenspace by more than 58% and made it possible to construct or renovate recreational centers, swimming facilities, tennis complexes, playgrounds, picnic areas and walking trails.

On November 8<sup>th</sup> DeKalb voters have the opportunity to make it possible for our County to continue its efforts in improving our quality of life.

Dear Neighbor,



Vernon Jones  
Chief Executive Officer

*House of Representatives*



**91<sup>ST</sup> & 92<sup>ND</sup> HOUSE DISTRICTS-DEKALB COUNTY  
COMMUNITY CABINET MEETING  
REPS. STAN WATSON & PAM STEPHENSON  
November 5, 2005  
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

Representative Stan Watson

Opening Remarks

Pastor Dexter Roland  
New Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Invocation/Welcoming

\*\*\*\*\*Breakfast\*\*\*\*\*

Jeryl Rosh, Probate Judge  
DeKalb County

Presenters

Vernon Jones, CEO  
DeKalb County

David Burgess, Commissioner  
Georgia Public Service

Community Announcements

Representative Stan Watson

Closing Remarks

# State of Georgia Campaign Contribution Disclosure Report

<p><b>1. Check One:</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Report</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Amendment <small>(Please indicate Reporting Period and Year of Original)</small></p>	<p><b>2. Name of proposed Constitutional Amendment, Statewide Referendum, or Ballot Question in any County or Municipal Election:</b></p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">Decalb County 2005 Bond Referendum</p> <p><small>[Include county or municipality in the case of local ballot questions]</small></p>	
<p><b>Filing Office use Only</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">2005 OCT 25 PM 3:45</p>	<p><b>Use Earlier of Post Mark or Hand Delivered Date</b></p>	

**3. Identifying and Contact Information**

(1) Full Name of Campaign Committee: The Committee For A Better Decalb

(2) Today's Date: 10/24/05

(3) Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1461 Decatur GA 30031

(4) Contact Phone Number (We will understand the release of this information as permission to call your office if necessary.): (404) 477-2117 and / or ( )

(5) Name of Chairperson and / or Treasurer of committee: Angela L. Graham

**The Committee is required to be registered with the Secretary of State!**

**4. Period for which you are Reporting**  
You Must Check Only One box

<p><input type="checkbox"/> 75 days before Date of Election, _____ (Year)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 45 days before Date of Election, _____ (Year)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 15 days before Date of Election, _____ (Year)</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 15 days before Date of Election, <u>2005</u> (Year)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> December 31, _____ (Year)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> December 31, _____ (Year)</p>
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**Constitutional Amendment, or Statewide Referendum, County, or Municipal Ballot Question**

**Verification by Oath or Affirmation**

I, Angela L. Graham, being duly sworn (affirm), depose and say that the information in this report form is complete, true, and correct. Further, I affirm that the contents in this report are the same as the contents in the electronic filing submitted, if also sworn to and subscribed before me on October 24, 2005

Michelle Clonax  
Notary Public  
My Commission expires Oct 12, 2008

a. Signature of Organization/Chairperson/Treasurer: Angela L. Graham

**Penalties:** Any person who knowingly fails to comply with or who knowingly violates any of the provisions of the Ethics in Government Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

**Do Not Forget To Notarize!**  
My Commission Expires October 12, 2008

**CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE SUMMARY REPORT**

Full name of:

The Committee for a Better Dekalb

Chairperson and Treasurer:

Angela L. Graham

**Contributions Received**

1 I have: <input type="checkbox"/> No contributions to report. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following contributions, including Common Source, to report:	
2 A. If this is the first time to file a disclosure report, ENTER 0 in both columns (one time only); or B. If this filing is the second or subsequent filing of this Reporting Cycle, list totals from line 6 of previous report in both the In-Kind and cash amount columns.	If this is the first report of the Reporting Cycle* Enter 0.
3 Total amount of all contributions of \$101.00 or more received in this reporting period. Each such contribution must be listed on the "Listed Contributions Received" page!	\$ 158,950
4 Total amount of all separate contributions of less than \$101.00 each that were received in this reporting period. "Common Source" contributions must be aggregated on the "Listed Contributions Received" page!	\$ 5.00
5 Total contributions reported this period (line 3 + 4).	\$ 159,450
6 Total contributions to date (line 2 + 5). Total to be carried forward to next report of this reporting cycle.	\$ 159,450

**Expenditures Made**

7 I have: <input type="checkbox"/> No expenditures to report. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following expenditures to report:	
8 Total expenditures made and reported prior to this reporting period (line 12 of previous report). IF THIS IS THE FIRST REPORT OF THIS REPORTING CYCLE, ENTER 0	0
9 Total amount of all expenditures of \$101.00 or more made in this reporting period. Each such expenditure must be listed on the "Listed Expenditures Made" page!	\$ 50,377.56
10 Total amount of all separate expenditures of less than \$101.00 each that were made in this reporting period.	\$ 669.36
11 Total expenditures reported this period (line 9 + 10).	\$ 50,946.92
12 Total expenditures to date (line 8 + 11). Total to be carried forward to next report of this reporting cycle.	\$ 50,946.92
13 Net Balance On Hand (subtract line 12 from "Cash Amount" in line 6).	\$ 109,483.08

The Committee For A Better DeKalb  
Contribution List 10/24/05

Original

Name	Address	City	State	Zip Code	Date	Occupation	Employer	Amount
1. Allan Vigil Ford	6790 Mt. Zion Blvd.	Morrow	GA	30260	10/24/2005	Car Dealership		\$ 5,000.00
2. Altamira Design and Common Sense	591 North Highland Ave.	Atlanta	GA	30307	9/30/2005	Landscape		\$ 500.00
3. Bell Sembler II, LLC	P.O. Box 41847	St. Petersburg	FL	33743	10/7/2005	Developer		\$ 5,000.00
4. Boris M. Jerkunica	5091 Riverview Rd., NW	Atlanta	GA	30327	10/19/2005	Sports Team Management		\$ 2,000.00
5. C.W. Matthews Contracting	P.O. Drawer 970	Marietta	GA	30061	10/12/2005	Contractors		\$ 5,000.00
6. Campbellton Properties, Inc.	2434 Gresham Rd.	Atlanta	GA	30316	10/20/2005	Real Estate		\$ 500.00
7. Committee to Elect Burrell Ellis	P.O. Box 526	Avondale Estates	GA	30002	10/24/2005	Campaign Committee		\$ 2,000.00
8. Committee to Re-Elect Hank Johnson	5240 Snappinger Park Dr., Suite 140	Decatur	GA	30035	10/18/2005	Campaign Committee		\$ 2,000.00
9. Committee to Re-Elect Vernon Jones	P.O. Box 361360	Decatur	GA	30036	8/23/2005	Campaign Committee		\$ 500.00
10. Corporate Holdings, LLC	3625 Cumberland Blvd., Suite 400	Atlanta	GA	30339	9/22/2005	Real Estate		\$ 5,000.00
11. Darro Willey	21 Berkeley Rd.	Avondale Estates	GA	30002	9/18/2005	Library	DeKalb County	\$ 200.00
12. Decatur First Bank	1120 Commerce Drive	Decatur	GA	30030	10/14/2005	Banking		\$ 1,000.00
13. Ed McBrayer	P.O. Box 14327	Atlanta	GA	30324	10/18/2005	Engineer	The PATH Foundation	\$ 150.00
14. Friends of Larry Johnson	P.O. Box 362054	Decatur	GA	30036	10/22/2005	Campaign Committee		\$ 500.00
15. Friends of Larry Johnson	P.O. Box 362054	Decatur	GA	30036	10/22/2005	Campaign Committee		\$ 500.00
16. H.J. Russell	275 13th St., NW	Atlanta	GA	30309	10/21/2005	Developer		\$ 500.00
17. Jacobs Civil Inc.	One Concourse Parkway, Suite 600	Atlanta	GA	30328	9/9/2005	Engineers		\$ 1,000.00
18. Johnson Concrete Company	P.O. Box 738	Lithonia	GA	30058	10/20/2005	Concrete		\$ 2,000.00
19. Jordan Jones & Goulding	6801 Governors Lake Parkway	Norcross	GA	30071	10/20/2005	Engineers		\$ 5,000.00
20. Lang Enterprises, LTD	2632 Mt. Industrial Blvd.	Tucker	GA	30084	10/20/2005	Developer		\$ 500.00
21. Laurence D'Anese	6386 Wedgewood Trce	Tucker	GA	30084	10/10/2005			\$ 200.00
22. ILCW Engineering	1950 Greensbrooke Close	Stone Mountain	GA	30088	10/24/2005	Engineering		\$ 200.00
23. Marketing Results	900 Hammond Dr.	Atlanta	GA	30328	10/13/2005	Marketing		\$ 2,000.00
24. MBC Management, LLC	5072 Bristol Industrial Way, Suite A	Buford	GA	30518	10/20/2005	Management		\$ 500.00
25. Milani Estates, Inc.	1510 Oak Grove Rd., Ste. 2	Decatur	GA	30033	10/21/2005	Real Estate		\$ 2,000.00
26. PBS&J	5665 New Northside Dr., Suite 400	Atlanta	GA	30328	10/3/2005	Engineering		\$ 5,000.00
27. Perimeter CID	One Ravinia Drive, Bldg. 1, Suite 1125	Atlanta	GA	30346	10/11/2005	Community Improvement		\$ 75,000.00
28. REL Properties, Inc.	755 Commerce Drive, Suite 700	Decatur	GA	30030	10/20/2005	Real Estate		\$ 10,000.00
29. Robert and Carol Silverman	2022 Rivermeade Way NW	Atlanta	GA	30327	9/22/2005	Construction		\$ 1,000.00
30. Rubicon Investments, LLC	3060 Peachtree Rd., NW, Ste. 1855	Atlanta	GA	30305	10/20/2005	Real Estate		\$ 2,000.00
31. Sembler Company	P.O. Box 41847	St. Petersburg	FL	33743	10/7/2005	Developer		\$ 5,000.00
32. Siebert Brandford Shank & Co. LLC	885 Third Ave., Suite 1720	New York	NY	10022	9/20/2005	Law Firm		\$ 5,000.00
33. Silverman Construction	1075 Zonolite Rd., Suite 5	Atlanta	GA	30306	9/6/2005	Construction		\$ 2,500.00
34. Susan Hood	1148 Clydedale Drive	Clarkston	GA	30021	8/23/2005	Private Citizen	DeKalb County	\$ 200.00
35. The Battle Law Group	68 N. Avondale Rd., Suite D	Avondale Estates	GA	30002	10/20/2005	Attorney		\$ 500.00
36. Thrasher Contracting, LLC					10/17/2005	Contractors		\$ 2,000.00
37. William H. McCahan	2409 Delverton Dr.	Dunwoody	GA	30338	8/23/2005	Professional		\$ 500.00
38. Yancey Bros. Co.	330 Lee Industrial Blvd.	Austell	GA	30168	10/24/2005	Equipment Suppliers		\$ 5,000.00
39. Zonolite Road Properties II, LLC	1123 Zonolite Road, NE, Suite 2	Atlanta	GA	30306	10/13/2005	Developers		\$ 500.00
40. Zonolite Road Properties III, LLC	1123 Zonolite Road, NE, Suite 2	Atlanta	GA	30306	10/13/2005	Developers		\$ 500.00
41. Zonolite Road Properties, LLC	1123 Zonolite Road, Suite 2	Atlanta	GA	30306	10/13/2005	Developers		\$ 500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>								<b>\$ 158,950.00</b>

*Wynola L. Bohannan*

The Committee For A Better DeKalb										
Expense List 10/24/05										
Original	Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Date	Occupation	Expenditure Purpose	Amount	
	1 Adco Printing & Mailing	1180 Beaver Ruin	Lawrenceville	GA	30093	10/18/05	Printing & Mailing	Mailing	\$ 3,587.00	
	2 Beverly Aarons					10/11/05	Writer	Writing	\$ 150.00	
	3 Bisi Coker	1238 Cahaba Dr.	Atlanta	GA	30341	10/5/05	Consultant	Campaign Consulting	\$ 500.00	
	4 Byron Johnson	4008 Chase Court	Decatur	GA	30034	10/16/05	Sign Placement	Sign Placement	\$ 250.00	
	5 Capital Strategies	233 Mitchell St., Ste. 500	Atlanta	GA	30303	10/13/05	Voter Data	Voter Data Services	\$ 1,500.00	
	5 Crier Newspaper	16 Perimeter Park Dr.	Dunwoody	GA	30338	10/17/05	Newspaper	News Ads	\$ 2,682.00	
	7 Crossroads News	2346 Candler Rd.	Decatur	GA	30032	10/14/05	Newspaper	News Ads	\$ 2,652.00	
	8 Debbie Payne Design	4975 Village Terrace Dr.	Atlanta	GA	30338	10/11/05	Design	Desing & Printing	\$ 9,036.65	
	9 DeKalb County Elections	4380 Memorial Drive	Decatur	GA	30032	9/13/05	Elections	Voting Files	\$ 585.00	
	10 Extra Printing Services	4559 Granite Dr.	Tucker	GA	30084	10/5/05	Printing	Sign Printing	\$ 3,492.48	
	11 Extra Printing Services	4559 Granite Dr.	Tucker	GA	30084	10/14/05	Printing	Sign Printing	\$ 3,492.48	
	12 James Hartry	4354 Riverview Lane	Lithonia	GA	30038	10/13/05	Sign Placement	Sign Placement	\$ 500.00	
	13 James Hartry	4354 Riverview Lane	Lithonia	GA	30038	10/20/05	Sign Placement	Sign Placement	\$ 500.00	
	14 Jamie L. Gray	2795 Semmes St.	Atlanta	GA	30344	9/9/05	Web Designer	Web Site Design	\$ 1,000.00	
	15 Landmark Communications	P.O. Box 2124	Duluth	GA	30096	10/12/05	Polling	Polling	\$ 10,250.00	
	16 MarkStarr Multimedia	644 Antone St., Suite 5	Atlanta	GA	30318	10/24/05	Media Provider	Commercial	\$ 2,650.00	
	17 On Common Ground News	7331 Stonecrest	Lithonia	GA	30038	10/24/05	Newspaper	News Ads	\$ 3,600.00	
	18 Political Solutions	687 Malvern Blvd.	Stone Mountain	GA	30087	10/12/05	Consultant	Strategic Planning	\$ 1,000.00	
	19 Thompson Design	73 Fairview Rd.	Stockbridge	GA	30281	10/7/05	Designer	Design Work	\$ 2,300.00	
	20 Thompson Design	73 Fairview Rd.	Stockbridge	GA	30281	10/24/05	Web Designer	Domain Name & Host	\$ 219.95	
	21 Volunteers	N/A				10/22/05	Volunteers	Campaigning	\$ 350.00	
	<b>Total</b>								<b>\$ 50,297.56</b>	

Angela S. Dribham  
10/24/05

Notary:  
Michelle Clomax

exp: Oct. 12, 2008

Michelle Clomax  
Notary Public, Clayton County, Georgia  
My Commission Expires October 12, 2008

# November 1, 2005 Volume 11, No. 15

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**General Information**

On Common Ground News is published twice a month by On Common Ground, Inc. The newspaper serves DeKalb County and surrounding communities. The opinions expressed by writers and contributors are not necessarily those of the publisher or the newspaper's advertisers.

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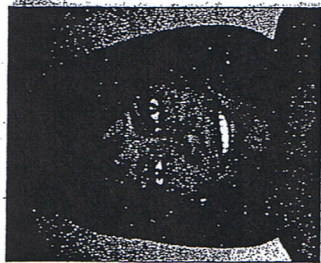
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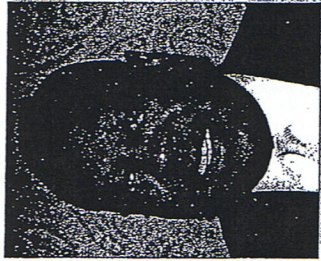
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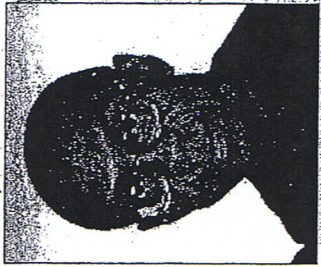
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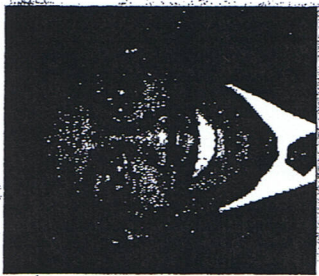
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**State Rep. Stan Watson  
(District 91)**



**Pastor James C. Ward  
Antioch-Lithonia Baptist Church**



**DeKalb Commissioner  
Larry Johnson**

## Local leaders urge residents to get out and vote

### Advance voting is set for Oct. 31 - Nov. 4

**By Edoye Porbeni**

When you stack things up, DeKalb County residents really don't have an excuse not to go to the polls and vote in the Nov. 8 election:

- No one will be turned away for lack of identification, thanks to a federal judge's recent decision to suspend the new controversial Georgia law that limits the number of acceptable voting IDs. Voters still have 17 options of identification they can show at the polls, or they may sign an oath to their identity, if they can't produce any of the 17 forms of identification.
- Advance voting is available one week

before the election to those who don't want to wait until Nov. 8.

- And perhaps most importantly, voters will have the chance to decide on future infrastructure—whether to fund parks, libraries and road improvements to the tune of a \$230 million bond referendum—to improve quality of life.

Linda Latimore, director of the DeKalb Office of Registration and Elections, said her staff is preparing for advance elections that will be held Oct. 31-Nov. 4, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 4380 Memorial Drive, Decatur. Residents who will choose leadership in municipalities may vote during that period, as well as residents who live in



**Campaign Manager  
Angela Graham**

unincorporated DeKalb who will decide on the bond referendum.

Angela Graham, who is leading a campaign for the bond referendum, said that proponents have been putting out signs that say "Vote Yes..." throughout the county. In the countdown to Election Day, her team plans to crank up the volume.

"We will have commercials on all Comcast Cable channels and radio announcements on a couple of stations," said Graham. "We just sent out direct mailings to residents, so people should be getting those soon as well."

Graham said she and the Committee for a Better DeKalb, the group pushing the bond, are planning to hold community forums. At the meetings, residents have the opportunity to ask questions about the proposed referendum, as well as the status

*See Elections, page 7*

## Eye on DeKalb

Many who spoke said they felt the new rules were overly restrictive. In addition, the public comment portion of the Oct. 25 commission meeting was cut from the first week of rebroadcasts of the meeting on Channel 23. The second week of the edited rebroadcasts began Oct. 30.

Some visitors said they were not aware of the study and appreciated the information, while others expressed reservations about certain proposed transportation projects. Dan Magee, president of a 600-home neighborhood in central DeKalb, was critical of the one-day notice for the first of two visits to the quadrant 2 area. He asked, "If they wanted to reach the maximum number of residents, why schedule both visits to the area on Friday afternoons from noon to 4 p.m.?"

In addition, Magee complained that he did not find the county's Web site to be user friendly, saying it was too difficult to navigate effectively and asking where one could

pers started coming in after work. However, Saturday and Sunday traffic seemed to pick up.

Joe Arrington is an independent writer and long-time observer of DeKalb's communities.

As provided in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Avondale Estates, the following is a summary of the proposed budget for 2006 as submitted to the Board of Mayor and Commissioners for review, amendment, and final adoption. Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004, 7:30 p.m. at City Hall, 21 North Avondale Plaza to receive citizen comments on the 2006 Budget. Final adoption of the 2006 Budget will occur in conjunction with the Board's November meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005, 7:30 at City Hall. A copy of the proposed budget is on file at City Hall and available for review.

City of Avondale Estates  
2006 Proposed Budget

Revenue

General Fund:

General Property Ad Valorem Taxes

Franchise and Other Taxes

Penalties and Interest

Licenses, Occupational Taxes & Permits

1,644,425

649,108

300

101,395

meeting. According to the written version of the rules, a maximum of 30 collective minutes are allowed for all speakers. Each speaker is limited to three minutes and cut off immediately, even in mid-sentence, when the buzzer sounds. Speaker information cards must be legible and completed in an exact manner. If not, the cards are rejected and the speaker loses his or her turn. Those desiring to speak must turn in completed cards to the clerk before the "public comment period" begins. Once it begins, additional cards may not be submitted. If the total number of speakers exceeds the allotted 30 minutes, remaining speakers are carried over to the next meeting and are allowed to speak first in the order their cards were submitted. If a carryover speaker is not present when his or her name is called, the person is not allowed to speak at all.

The public hearing portion of the agenda is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. but seldom starts before 12:45 p.m. Public comments follow the completion of all other public hearing

by Joe Arrington  
(joeba@earthlink.net)

**Volunteers needed to test water quality** - On Saturday, Nov. 5, from 9-11 a.m., the River Rendezvous, an annual environmental community event, will collect water samples along creeks and tributaries in the South River watershed. This simultaneous effort will result in the collection of important information about the water quality and environmental status of the stream network.

The information collected helps the community and various government agencies to understand the status of local streams and look for ways to protect these waterways. Equipment and training will be provided. No special skills are required. Volunteers will be notified of a staging area, given a map of sites to test, and how-to instructions. Interested persons should contact: Doug Denton dcbewdd@yahoo.com or call 404-377-8388.

**Public comment period draws residents' complaints**

A summary number of county

expect to find similar information on the county's Web site.

**MARTA gets support proposed modification LaVista bus route** - Se does MARTA conduct a hearing for proposed "revisions" and hear residents of a community speaking in favor of the proposed changes.

However, that was the sentiment of at least a third of the nearly 20 residents who spoke at last week's public hearing conducted at the Recreation Center on Sacramento St. in Decatur. A modification to Route 30 LaVista Road would drop Leafmore loop and continue on La Vista Road.

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