

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Atlanta Marriott Marquis  
Emergencies

404/521-0000  
911

## REGISTRATION DESK/ INFORMATION AND MESSAGE CENTER

*The ACCG Fall Policy Conference Registration Desk is located in the Imperial Registration Booth on the Marquis Level. The registration desk also serves as the information and message center during the conference.*

## REGISTRATION HOURS

Wednesday, October 8, 2008  
7:00 am until 6:00 pm

Thursday, October 9, 2008  
7:00 am until 6:00 pm

Friday, October 10, 2008  
7:00 am until 11:45 am

## CREDENTIALS PICK-UP

Under the by-laws of ACCG, each county is entitled to one vote on matters coming before the association. It is up to the county to determine the individual to cast that vote. For those counties that returned a reply to ACCG, your voting credentials are ready for pick-up. If your county did not respond, you may still sign up to vote: an official of the county must request voting credentials then sign the designation form. Credentials pick up will be at the Fall Policy Conference Registration Desk on the Marquis Level.

Friday, October 10, 2008  
*7:00 am until 9:00 am*

**NAME BADGES ARE REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION  
TO ALL MEETING EVENTS. PLEASE MUTE ALL  
CELL PHONES DURING SESSIONS.**

# **2008 Fall Policy Conference Schedule**

## **Wednesday, October 8 Commissioners Training Program**

### **Registration**

*7:00 am – 6:00 pm*

*-Imperial Registration Booth, Marquis Level*

### **Continental Breakfast**

*7:00 am*

*-International Foyer, International Level*

### **Commissioners Training Program**

*8:30 am – 3:30 pm*

#### **Federal and State Relations: The Art of Getting Things Done**

*-International 4 and 5, International Level*

This course fosters the idea that counties are in a position to benefit from the intergovernmental system in which they operate. In the hierarchical scheme of things, counties are positioned below the state legislature, Congress, and their respective administrative agencies.

Fundamentals of sound intergovernmental relations will be explored and how commissioners and counties can take an active role in lobbying for their counties and their concerns. A panel will discuss issues related to intergovernmental relations and best practices examples will demonstrate how counties have implemented the concepts.

*Instructor: Scot Wrighton, The University of Georgia*

## **Financial Management I**

*-International 6, International Level*

This course focuses on financial policy decisions that commissioners face. It stresses the consequences of financial management in county government. It is not a “how-to-do-it” course but emphasizes “why to do it.” An effective budget process will be reviewed.

*Instructor: Sabrina Cape, The University of Georgia*

## **CCAP: Advanced County Law**

*-International 7, International Level*

This course will expose participants to legal issues related to risk management, safety and loss control, and risk financing. Participants will explore what happens when a commissioner or county gets sued, learn how to handle complaints, and learn about the statute of limitations, attorney-client relationship, and personal liability and immunity. The course also examines the litigation process from original complaint to trial and appeal. The course will also expose participants to recent court decisions and allow for questions and discussion.

*Instructor and Moderator: Kim Hullett, Attorney at Law*

*Instructors: Mike O’Quinn, Butts County Attorney;*

*Dave Gelsthorpe, Local Government Local*

*Control/Safety Services; David Uhlman, ACCG*

*Insurance Programs*

## **CCAP: Managing Growth – A Blueprint for County Governments**

*-International 8 and 9, International Level*

This course will concentrate on effective growth management and reinforce the importance of taking a holistic approach when developing a community growth blueprint. Participants will explore types of community and economic development, which one a community is trying to attract, and how it will impact existing infrastructure and resources. Additional topics to be discussed will include the importance of census data, how population projections affect transportation needs, and the importance of

creating a; community-wide vision by considering mixes of uses, housing options, quality of life, and protection of natural resources.

*Instructors: Jeff Dorfman, The University of Georgia; Liz Kramer, The University of Georgia; Melissa Roberts, The University of Georgia; Ron Sprinkle, Sprinkle Design Conservancy*

## **Cooperative Extension Reception**

*3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.*

*-International 1/2/3, International Level*

Take this opportunity to meet your UGA Cooperative Extension District Director and visit with them and other county officials from your area of the state over refreshments!

## **Opening Reception**

*6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.*

*-Skyline, 10th Floor*



# **Thursday, October 9**

## **Fall Policy Conference Day 1**

### **Registration**

*7:00 am - 6:00 pm*

*-Imperial Registration Booth, Marquis Level*

### **Continental Breakfast**

*7:30 am*

*-Imperial Foyer, Marquis Level*

### **Policy Seminars**

*8:30 am - 11:45 am*

*-Rooms 301, Marquis Level and Rooms 302 and 303, Marquis Level*

These Policy Seminars will provide updates on the work of each of ACCG's policy committees this year and outline their final recommendations which will be considered by the Resolutions Committee later today.

The format for these sessions is different this year. Three policy areas will be featured in Rooms 301 and the three other areas will be featured in Rooms 302/303 between 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. At 10:15 a.m., ACCG staff will swap rooms. You will have an opportunity to hear information on the policy recommendations of all six policy areas and to ask questions about their findings. So stay where you are and you'll hear everything!

### **Opening Luncheon**

*12:00 noon*

*-Imperial Ballroom, Marquis Level*

Presiding: Virginia Gray, Clayton County Commissioner and ACCG President



### **Call to Order and Welcome**

*President Gray*

## **Invocation**

Tom McMichael, Houston County  
Commissioner and ACCG Immediate Past  
President

## **Lunch**

## **Keynote Remarks**

The Honorable Casey Cagle,  
Lieutenant Governor, State of  
Georgia



## **Resolutions Committee Meeting**

*2:00 pm - 4:00 pm*

*-Lobby 508, Lobby Level*

## **Concurrent Sessions**

*2:00 pm - 3:30 pm*

### **“Transportation Update 2008”**

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*Marquis 301, Marquis Level*

Do you have questions about the new State Aid Program? Do you want to learn about GDOT's proposed Project Prioritization Process that will determine which state transportation projects receive funding? Are you curious about the Governor's initiative to create a statewide strategic transportation plan? If so, then come to this exciting session and hear first-hand updates on all of these topics and more.

*Moderator: Lamar Paris, Union County Sole  
Commissioner*

*Speakers: Terry Gable, GDOT State Aid*

*Administrator; Gerald Ross, GDOT Chief Engineer;*

*Dick Anderson, GRTA Executive Director*

## **“An Overview of the Cost of Running County Government”**

*-Marquis 302 and 303, Marquis Level*

There has been much speculation about the cost of running a county government versus the cost of running state government. It is very difficult to compare one level of government to the next because of the differences in services provided and the economies of scale. ACCG has taken a closer look at the differences between the state and counties and what are the cost drivers behind the county budgets. A summary of these findings will be presented at this session.

*Presenters: Michele NeSmith, ACCG Director of Research, and the ACCG Policy Interns: Amanda Deaton, Adam Edge, and Andrea Reed*

## **“The National Response Framework: Where Do Counties Fit In?”**

*-Marquis 304, Marquis Level*

This session will clarify the National Response Framework for handling large-scale emergency situations and explain the role of county governments within the framework. There will be an explanation of all of the Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) established in the framework and a discussion of counties' responsibility for planning and executing these ESFs. Finally, there will be a local perspective of the issues and an examination of what elected officials should expect from their emergency management professionals.

*Presenters: Byron Lombard, Greene County Manager/EMA Director; Chuck Ray, Director - Field Programs, Field Coordinators and School Safety, Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA)*

## **Reception**

*6:00 pm - 7:00 pm*

*-Imperial Foyer, Marquis Level*

## **Banquet**

*7:00 pm*

*-Imperial Ballroom, Marquis Level*

## **Call to Order and Welcome**

*President Gray*

## **Invocation**

*Rev. Frederick Favors, McDuffie County Commissioner*

## **Dinner**

## **Presentation of Certified County Commissioners and Certified County Officials, Certified Commissioners Advanced Program (CCAP) and ACCG Academy for Leadership Graduates**

*Dr. Steve Wrigley, Director, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, The University of Georgia and Jim Stephens, Director-Governmental Training and Education Division, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, The University of Georgia*

## **“The 2008 Election – What It Means to Georgia”**

*Dr. Charles S. Bullock III, Richard B. Russell Professor of Political Science, The University of Georgia*



## **Announcements**





# **Friday, October 10**

## **Fall Policy Conference Day 2**

### **Registration**

*7:00 am - 11:45 am*

*-Imperial Registration Booth, Marquis Level*

### **Credentials Pickup**

*7:00 am - 9:30 am*

*-FPC Registration Desk, Imperial Registration Booth, Marquis Level*

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### **Breakfast**

*8:00 am*

*Imperial Ballroom, Marquis Level*

### **Call to Order and Welcome**

*President Gray*

### **Invocation**

*Deborah Mack, Hall County Commissioner*

### **Breakfast**

### **Remarks**

*by video*

*-Saxby Chambliss, Republican  
Nominee for United States Senate*



*-Jim Martin, Democratic Nominee  
for United States Senate*



# **Video Presentation: “Informed Decision: Georgia’s Proposed Constitutional Amendments”**

## **Business Session**

*10:00 am*

### **Call to Order**

*President Gray*

### **Report of Credentials Committee**

*Melvin Davis, Oconee County Commission Chairman, ACCG 3rd Vice President, and Chairman, 2008 Credentials Committee*

### **Adoption of Business Session Procedures**

### **Report of Resolutions Committee and Adoption of 2009 ACCG Policy Statement**

*Jan Tankersley, Bulloch County Commissioner, ACCG 1st Vice President and Chairman, 2008 Resolutions Committee*

### **Other Business**

## **2008 Fall Policy Conference Adjourns**

