



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

WHEREAS: Clinch County Sheriff Winston Peterson was indicted on five counts related to alleged extortion, obstruction of justice, perjury, and forced labor; and

WHEREAS: Under the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 15-16-26(a), the Governor has determined that an investigation of Sheriff Peterson should be made as a result of alleged misconduct in office; and

WHEREAS: O.C.G.A. § 15-16-26(a) provides that the Governor shall appoint two sheriffs who are members of the Georgia Sheriffs' Association to conduct the investigation along with the Attorney General.

NOW, THEREFORE, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That Attorney General Thurbert Baker; Wayne Bennett, Sheriff of Glynn County; and Wiley Griffin, Sheriff of Decatur County, are hereby appointed as the committee to conduct an investigation and to make a report of their investigation to me within 30 days as provided in O.C.G.A. § 15-16-26(b), with a recommendation as to whether Winston Peterson should be suspended from office as prescribed by O.C.G.A. § 15-16-26(c).

This 4th day of December, 2007.


GOVERNOR