

## EAST COBB ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR NOV 8

On November 8, East Cobb County residents will join Georgians to vote for a variety of political offices including a Governor, U.S. Congressional Representative and United States Senator. In addition to the national and state elections, the EAST COBBER has listed the local elections East Cobb citizens will be asked to vote on.

On the next few pages, the EAST COBBER has also pulled together a brief Voters Guide for some of those local races. Qualified candidates for local offices were invited to answer questions prepared by the EAST COBBER. We asked the candidates some questions and they submitted their answers (limited to a 50-word count). Candidate replies have been reprinted as received, free of edits. The EAST COBBER does not support or oppose any candidate or political party. We hope the information helps in your process to make an informed decision.

**Editor's Note:** Due to a requirement that both Republican and Democrat candidates for a given race must have responded to the survey by press time, not all races have been featured in this Voters Guide. More races will be included on our online Voters Guide as responses come in. Visit [eastcobber.com](http://eastcobber.com) for an updated and expanded Voters Guide.

### Cobb Commission District 3

- JoAnn Birrell (R, incumbent)  
[www.joanncan.com](http://www.joanncan.com)
- Christine Triebsch (D)  
[www.christineforga.com](http://www.christineforga.com)

### Cobb School Board Post 4

- David Chastain (R, incumbent)  
[davidchastainforcobb.com](http://davidchastainforcobb.com)
- Catherine Pozniak (D)  
[www.catherinepozniak.com](http://www.catherinepozniak.com)

### State Senate District 6

- Fred Glass (R, incumbent)  
[www.fredglassforga.com](http://www.fredglassforga.com)
- Jason Esteves (D)  
[www.jasonesteves.com](http://www.jasonesteves.com)

### State Senate District 32

- Kay Kirkpatrick (R, incumbent)  
[www.kayforsenate.com](http://www.kayforsenate.com)
- Sylvia Bennett (D)  
[www.sylviabennett.us](http://www.sylviabennett.us)

### State Senate District 56

- John Albers (R, incumbent)  
[www.senatoralbers.com](http://www.senatoralbers.com)
- Patrick Thompson (D)  
[www.georgiacando.com](http://www.georgiacando.com)

### State House District 37

- Mary Frances Williams (D, incumbent)  
[maryfranceswilliams.com](http://maryfranceswilliams.com)
- Marites Redding (R)

### State House District 43

- Soloman Adesanya (D)  
[www.solomonforgeorgia.com](http://www.solomonforgeorgia.com)
- Anna Tillman (R)  
[www.annatillman.com](http://www.annatillman.com)

### State House District 44

- Don Parsons (R, incumbent)  
[www.donparsons.org](http://www.donparsons.org)
- Willie Mae Oyogoa (D)  
[www.williemaeoga.com](http://www.williemaeoga.com)

### State House District 45

- Sharon Cooper (R, incumbent)  
[www.sharoncooper.org](http://www.sharoncooper.org)
- Dustin McCormick (D)  
[www.dustinmccormick.com/](http://www.dustinmccormick.com/)

### State House District 46

- John Carson (R, incumbent)  
[www.Votejohncarson.com](http://www.Votejohncarson.com)
- Micheal Garza (D)  
[www.michealgarza.com](http://www.michealgarza.com)

**ADVANCE  
VOTING  
BEGINS OCT 15**

**FOR MORE INFO:  
[cobbelections.org](http://cobbelections.org)**

## GET REGISTERED!

The last day to register or update your address for the November General Election is October 11. Some precincts and polling locations have changed! Be sure your voter registration is up to date so you can vote in the correct precinct.

To register or check your registration:

- >Go to [www.mvp.sos.ga.gov](http://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov), or
- >Text 'GA' to 2VOTE to receive a link, or
- >Download the 'GA SOS' mobile app.

The general election will be November 8. If you need additional information go to [CobbElections.org](http://CobbElections.org) or contact the Cobb County Elections office at 770-528-2581. ☎



# POLL WORKERS NEEDED

The Cobb County Board of Elections and Registrations is in need of election poll workers for the 2022 election season.

"We cannot conduct elections without an army of people willing to help at the polls," says Janine Eveler, Director of the Cobb County Board of Elections and Registrations, "as every poll worker plays a vital role to ensure free and fair elections in Cobb County."

Eveler goes on to say that serving your neighbors on Election Day can also be a very rewarding experience, adding that it's not volunteer work: "You can earn money."

There are also opportunities for multi-day work during Advance Voting if residents would like to get even more involved. Training starts in late September and election poll workers are paid for attending training.

Poll workers:

- Can choose to volunteer or be paid for their service.
- Are trained prior to working the election.
- Help set up and break down the polling location.
- Work as a team. Most teams have been together for years and enjoy serving with each other.
- Must stay at the poll the entire time, from 6am to approximately 9pm.
- Earn a flat rate of pay per election: \$250 for poll managers, \$195 for assistant poll managers and \$150 for clerks. Poll workers are also paid \$25 to help set up the poll to which they are assigned for Election Day.

Interested in serving as an election poll worker? There are basic legal requirements, including:

- Being a judicious, intelligent and upright person.
- Being a resident of Cobb County or adjoining county, or employed by Cobb County Government.
- Being at least 16 years of age.
- Being a U.S. citizen, as well as read, write and speak English.
- Having no prior felony convictions for the previous 10 years.
- Not serving in public office.

To learn more, visit [cobbcounty.org/elections/employment/election-day-poll-worker-jobs](http://cobbcounty.org/elections/employment/election-day-poll-worker-jobs) or email [pollworkers@cobbcounty.org](mailto:pollworkers@cobbcounty.org). 📧



**Genuine Leadership.  
Genuine Caring.  
Genuinely Effective.**

**I respectfully ask for your VOTE  
on November 8  
45th House District  
Early voting starts October 17**

**770-956-8357 - SharonCooper.org**

## CANDIDATES FOR COBB COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD POST 4

On November 8, Cobb County residents will have the opportunity to vote for a variety of political offices. The EAST COBBER presents the candidates running for Cobb County School Board Post 4.



**DAVID CHASTAIN (R)**

[www.davidchastainforcobb.com](http://www.davidchastainforcobb.com)

**AGE:** 65

**CITY, STATE BORN:** born in Atlanta, GA and reared in Cobb County

**EDUCATION:** BBA - University of Georgia, HS Diploma - Wheeler High School Instructional Technology, Univ. of West Georgia

**OCCUPATION:** Proposal Analyst

**FAMILY:** Wife, Lori, three married adult children, four grandchildren.

**HOBBIES:** Reading, genealogy, travel, gardening, hiking.

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** Northeast Cobb Business Assn, Georgia School Board Assn, First Baptist Church - Marietta.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** 55 years

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE? IF YES, PLEASE LIST OFFICE AND YEAR(S):** Cobb School Board - Post 4: 2014 and 2018.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST COBB:** The job of the Cobb Board of Education is to represent the citizens and taxpayers of Cobb County in determining and demanding appropriate organizational performance. Board members are responsible for the operation of the District and to provide for the education of all children of Cobb.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.** My background in working with all kinds of businesses, large and small, in addition to my knowledge of government contracting has provided the experience and knowledge to understand the various skill sets, training, and creativity necessary to build the commerce and infrastructure that supports a healthy community.

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?** The most important issue facing our school district is setting aside political agendas and focusing on the safety, security, and learning environment for our students and personnel so that students succeed and our employees continue to be supported.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** I admire so many individuals, but lately it would be Lawrence Reed, President Emeritus at the Foundation for Economic Education. His life has been dedicated to educating people, using layman's terms, throughout the world on the value of understanding the importance of economics and its necessity to personal liberty.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:** Enthusiastic, collaborative, determined.



**DR. CATHERINE POZNIAK (D)**

[www.catherinepozniak.com](http://www.catherinepozniak.com)

**CITY, STATE BORN:** Atlanta, GA

**EDUCATION:** Cobb County Post 4: Kincaid Elementary School, Daniell Middle School, Sprayberry High School Class of 1997; Bachelor of Arts, First Class Honors - University of Sydney; Master's Degree - University of Cambridge; Doctor of Education Leadership - Harvard University

**OCCUPATION:** Civilian career - educator, certified teacher and certified administrator/superintendent. Military career - education officer for Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command, United States Army Reserve.

**HOBBIES:** Starting with rearranging my room when I was a child, I've always enjoyed home DIY projects. My current goal is to become a better gardener. My neighbor, who has known my family since I was in 4th grade, has been teaching me how to propagate my own plants.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** My family has lived in East Cobb and Post 4 since my father retired from the Army in 1988. I attended Post 4 elementary, middle, and high schools. Today, I live in the house I grew up in and have the same address I had when I was nine-years old.

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE? IF YES, PLEASE LIST OFFICE AND YEAR(S):** Cobb County Board of Education Post 4 is the first and only office for which I have run.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST COBB:** The Cobb Board of Education has three broad responsibilities: hiring and holding accountable the superintendent, setting policy, and overseeing the budget. This office impacts the quality of East Cobb schools through the decisions the board makes about how the district spends taxpayer funds and the quality of academic programs offered.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.** I am a lifelong educator and started my career as a teacher in a two-classroom K-8 school. I have extensive experience in education policy and was assistant state superintendent overseeing an annual budget of \$5.5 billion. I serve as an officer in the Army, advising commanders on education matters.

**WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?** Before the pandemic, only 54.8% of Cobb's 3rd graders were proficient readers. Recent Georgia Milestones results show declining reading for grades 3-8. Additionally, only 50.5% of Cobb's students passed the Algebra I exam. If elected, I will leverage my experience as an educator and focus on academic recovery.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** My father, who passed away at the beginning of the pandemic, continues to be an example of service and sacrifice that has inspired my career in education, both civilian and military. Dad was modest and humble, refrained from judgment, honored different perspectives, and people remember him for his kindness.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:** Experienced, values-driven, persistent.

# EAST COBBER

**NEXT ISSUE:**

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER**

**DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15**

**CALL EAST COBBER:**

**770-640-7070**



## CANDIDATES FOR COBB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 3

On November 8, Cobb County residents will have the opportunity to vote for a variety of political offices. The EAST COBBER presents the candidates running for the Cobb County Board of Commissioners District 3.



**JOANN K. BIRRELL (R-Incumbent)**

JoAnnCan.com

**AGE:** 68

**CITY, STATE BORN:** Goldsboro, North Carolina

**EDUCATION:** BA in Political Science - UNCG and Litigation Certificate from Paralegal School of Atlanta

**OCCUPATION:** District 3 Commissioner

**FAMILY:** Husband Dave, 2 stepchildren, 3 Grandchildren, Mother and Sister.

**HOBBIES:** Spending time with Family, spoiling grandkids and puppies and Volunteering for Veterans.

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** Cobb County Republican Women's Club, Cobb GOP, Charter member of Northeast Cobb Business Association (NCBA) Cobb Chamber, American Legion Post 29 Auxiliary, Cobb Veterans Memorial Foundation Advisory Board, Catholic Church of St. Ann, KCB Adopt a Mile, Leadership Cobb Alumni (2005 Class) and Honorary Commanders Class of 2020-2021

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** 27 years

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE? IF YES, PLEASE LIST OFFICE AND YEAR(S):** District 3 Commissioner - 12 years (2011 -present)

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST COBB:** Everything I do in this position impacts not only East Cobb but the entire county from adopting and amending County Codes and Ordinances, Public Safety, Millage, Zoning, Taxes and Budgets.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS OFFICE:** Serving in this position for 12 years has given me the training and experience that qualifies me for Cobb County District 3 Commissioner. I have also received certification for Commissioner training through ACCG and served in the past as vice chair and chair of the finance and revenue Committee of ACCG (statewide). I have also served as Vice Chair for three Commission Chairs. (Tim Lee, Mike Boyce and currently Lisa Cupid)

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?** Public safety is and always has been my number 1 priority. In the climate today with regards to police it is very difficult to retain and recruit. Implementing the Step and Grade for our sworn officers in 2019 and now for the last two years and next year getting rid of compression I feel will help us with retention and recruiting police officers and firefighters as we continue to budget for public safety. Keeping your taxes low and maintaining our quality of life in Cobb along with providing the stellar services that we offer is also a top priority. Continuing to reduce the water transfer incrementally over the next 4 years is also a priority and has been since 2012.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** I most admire and I am grateful for our public safety personnel (Police Officers- including K-9's, Firefighters, 911 operators, Sheriff Deputies, Animal Services) and our military, both active and veterans, who put their lives on the line every day to ensure our safety and protect our freedoms.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:** Honest, Hardworking and Compassionate.



**CHRISTINE TRIEBISCH (D)**

ChristineForGa.com

**AGE:** 60

**CITY, STATE BORN:** Kearney, NE

**EDUCATION:** J.D., John Marshall Law School (Atlanta) (1995)

**OCCUPATION:** Family Law Trial Attorney in Superior and Juvenile Courts. Christine A. Triebisch, P.C.

**FAMILY:** Kevin and I have been married for 29 years. He is in his 27th year with the Cobb County School District and is an assistant principal at East Cobb Middle School. Our son graduated from University of Missouri in Columbia with a Journalism Degree and is currently working for United Soccer League in Tampa, Florida. Our daughter is a sophomore at American University in Washington, D.C. Jeanie is our rescue lab mix.

**HOBBIES:** Spending time with family, reading non-fiction and working out at Orange Theory Fitness.

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** St. James Episcopal Church; State Bar of Georgia; Cobb County Bar Association; East Cobb Rotary

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** I have lived in Cobb County for 25 years, and in East Cobb for 14 years.

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE? IF YES, PLEASE LIST OFFICE AND YEAR(S):** No. I have never been elected to public office.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST COBB:** The lives of the homeowners and residents including potential job growth and quality of life are directly impacted by the decisions of the Commissioners. Those decisions include but are not limited to: Adopting a budget; Adopting ordinances; Levy, collecting taxes; Exercise zoning, planning, land use; Providing a healthy and safe community which include parks, senior centers, libraries, etc. This is not a complete list, but addresses some of the duties of a Commissioner.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.** I have been a practicing family law trial attorney for over 27 years. My extensive legal background gives me an edge as the next Commissioner. I work daily with individuals and families in crisis and conflict. I help them navigate their contested legal issues.

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?** A Commissioner should not be, nor appear to be, beholden to the development community or special business interests. (Riggall, C. (2022, August 11). Birrell boasts over \$35k raised in bid for fourth term. *Marietta Daily Journal*. MDJonline.com.) A Commissioner must balance business interests with the interests of the homeowners and residents while being mindful of the community quality of life. The decisions made by special interest-leaning Commissioners have created undesirable situations some homeowners and residents find themselves in today. I will be the voice for the homeowners and residents in Cobb County District 3.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** My Mom - always! She was a single parent, worked a full-time job, and raised five children. And I admire my awesome husband, Kevin. He is brilliant with a great head of gray hair and he always, always makes me laugh.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:** Compassionate, Committed, and Humble.



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## CANDIDATES FOR GEORGIA STATE SENATE DISTRICT 6

On November 8, Cobb County residents will have the opportunity to vote for a variety of political offices. The EAST COBBER presents the candidates running for Georgia State Senate District 6.



**FRED GLASS (R)**

[www.fredglassforga.com](http://www.fredglassforga.com)

**AGE:** 51

**CITY, STATE BORN:** Greenwich, Connecticut

**EDUCATION:** Pace Academy, BBA University of Georgia, MBA Georgia State University

**OCCUPATION:** Financial Advisor

**FAMILY:** Wife: Elizabeth, Daughters: Merritt Ann, age 22; and Kathleen, age 18.

**HOBBIES:** Running, Travel, Fly Fishing, American History

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, Atlanta Estate Planning Council

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** I'm a Fulton County resident

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE? IF YES, PLEASE LIST OFFICE AND YEAR(S):** No

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST COBB:** The person who wins this race will serve on the Cobb County Legislative Delegation, which is responsible for Georgia Local Legislation. Local legislation determines important things such as potential property tax freezes, potential cityhood for certain areas, and the charters of the county and all of the Cobb Cities. The new senator for East Cobb will also be responsible for representing Cobb County's interests at the state level as it relates to limits on public zoning.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.** I've held numerous leadership positions with social, business, and civic organizations. I consider one of my greatest strengths is my ability to collaborate with others in the interest of the common good.

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?** The increases in crime in Atlanta and the spread of crime into Cobb County. I will vote to pass legislation which supports law enforcement and first responders. I will not keep company with community activists who oppose law enforcement, and I will work directly with the Cobb Sheriff's office as a member of the Cobb delegation to support local legislation designed to keep Cobb County residents safe.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** My wife Elizabeth. She has supported me and our two daughters through thick and thin, and I am incredibly blessed to be with her. She inspires me to live the best life I can and to bring good to the people around me.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:** Thoughtful. Driven. Determined.



**JASON ESTEVES (D)**

[www.jasonesteves.com](http://www.jasonesteves.com)

**AGE:** 39

**CITY, STATE BORN:** San Juan, Puerto Rico

**EDUCATION:** B.A., University of Miami; J.D., Emory University School of Law

**OCCUPATION:** Attorney

**FAMILY:** My wife, Ariel, is a nurse practitioner and owns her own urgent and primary care clinic in northwest Atlanta. We are proud

parents to Jaeden, 7, and Zoe, 4. Both attend Bolton Academy, a school in Atlanta Public Schools.

**HOBBIES:** I love to play basketball. It's my stress-relief. I also love to coach my kids' sports teams and travel.

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** I belong to a few attorney groups and am a member of the 100 Black Men of Atlanta. I am also an alumnus of LEAD Atlanta (2012), Leadership Georgia (2015), Outstanding Atlanta (2020), and Leadership Atlanta (2022). I am on the boards of the Children's Museum of Atlanta and GALEO.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** I am from Columbus, Georgia. While I have not lived in Cobb County, I have lived in northwest Atlanta for 15 years.

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE? IF YES, PLEASE LIST OFFICE AND YEAR(S):** Yes, I've been a board member on the Atlanta Public Schools Board of Education for eight years. I have been re-elected twice and served as chair for four of those years. While on the board, I focused my efforts on promoting equity and improving the financial outlook of the district.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST COBB:** The senate is the upper chamber of the Georgia General Assembly. As state senator, I am a member of the legislative branch of state government, which is tasked with adopting laws and a state budget. As the policymaking body in the state, the legislature impacts every Georgian's quality of life.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.** My legal training at Emory and experience as an attorney provides me the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful as a legislator. My work on the APS school board and experience as a former school teacher will help me articulate how policies impact our classrooms and neighborhoods.

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?** The most important issue is improving the quality of life for Georgians across the state. As a state senator, I will fight for a thriving economy, a strong public education system, access to affordable healthcare, and a healthy, livable state that is welcoming and inclusive to all.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** My wife--In the midst of the pandemic, she opened an urgent and primary care clinic in our neighborhood because she saw a need. She did that while working a full-time job, raising beautiful children, and being a great partner to me. Her story is reflective of many in our state.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:** Optimistic, Responsive, and Energetic



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## CANDIDATES FOR GEORGIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 45

On November 6, Cobb County residents will have the opportunity to vote for a variety of political offices. The EAST COBBER presents the candidates running for Georgia State Representative District 45.



**SHARON COOPER (R)**

[www.sharoncooper.org](http://www.sharoncooper.org)

**CITY, STATE BORN:** Houston, Texas

**EDUCATION:** BSN and MSN in Nursing from the Medical College of Georgia; MS in Child Development from the University of Tennessee; and MA in Education from the University of South Florida

**OCCUPATION:** Registered Nurse - Former nursing professor, author and small business owner

**FAMILY:** Widow, (James T. Cooper, MD, MPH)

**HOBBIES:** Reading, travel and enjoying time

with my corgi puppy - Maggie

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** Primrose Garden Club, Book Club, East Cobb Civic Association, Board of Directors - Historic Oakland, Board of Directors - Georgia Museum of Art

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** 47 years

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE? IF YES, PLEASE LIST OFFICE AND YEAR(S):** Yes, State Representative, District 43 (Now District 45 due to redistricting)

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST COBB:** A State Representative creates and passes legislation that serves the best interests of all Georgians. My responsibility is to discuss, listen and learn about the priorities and challenges facing our state. I then conduct extensive research to fully understand the needs in East Cobb and the local impact of my decisions before I cast my vote. The role that is most impactful is serving as a connection point and advocate for East Cobb citizens. As Chairman of the Health and Human Services committee, I also work with healthcare providers and patients to develop solutions, often without the need for legislation.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.** As a registered nurse and former educator, my professional career has equipped me with a wide range of subject matter expertise to speak on behalf of healthcare and education - two critical priorities for Georgians. These experiences have given me a sense of duty and a heart for service to others, collaborating with people from different backgrounds and priorities. As Chairman, I have worked hard to build relationships, earning the reputation as a trusted leader who delivers positive results for every Georgian.

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?** We are all facing the challenge of rising costs and runaway inflation. In Georgia, we have maintained our balanced budget, reduced taxes, focused on removing barriers in our job market and kept Georgia open for business. I will continue to seek fiscally responsible solutions that help drive down costs and protect Georgia families. At the same time, East Cobb families are concerned with safety, as we see rising crime in surrounding counties. I am proud to support law enforcement and ensure first responders are equipped to protect our community. Recent Co-Responder legislation helps train police officers and mental health workers to intervene as a team in crisis situations as many crimes are related to behavioral health. Mental health continues to be a priority for safety and I am dedicated to increasing access to quality care for all Georgians.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** The more time passes, the more I recognize how much I continue to admire my late husband, Tom Cooper. As a family practitioner, he was committed to his patients and treated all with dignity and respect. He was unwavering in his support and encouragement of me as I served this community. His memory gives me the continued confidence and desire to make a difference in other people's lives.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:** Trustworthy, Knowledgeable, Determined



**DUSTIN MCCORMICK (D)**

[DustinMcCormick.com](http://DustinMcCormick.com)

**AGE:** 40

**CITY, STATE BORN:** Lynchburg, VA

**EDUCATION:** Glynn Academy; BA in Finance at Georgia Southern University; MBA at the University of Georgia

**OCCUPATION:** Project Management

**FAMILY:** Fiancé Misty Silverwise, Two Kids who attend Cobb Public Schools- Audrey and Finn

**HOBBIES:** Traveling, Reading, Tennis, Cooking, Community Service, and Volunteering

**ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:** Cobb Democrats, East Cobb Rotary, Cobb Chamber of Commerce, UGA Mentor, Volunteer with Project Mail Call, East Cobb Civic Association, MDE School (Special Education Non-Profit) Board Member

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN EAST COBB/COBB COUNTY?** Since 2011

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ELECTED TO A PUBLIC OFFICE? IF YES, PLEASE LIST OFFICE AND YEAR(S):** No, not yet. With your help, we can change this.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THIS OFFICE'S DUTIES & ITS IMPACT ON EAST COBB:** The primary function of the legislature is to set the state's budget and pass state laws. A state representative represents the values of its citizens, makes decisions on how our tax dollars are spent, and acts as an advocate for the community. I believe the citizens in House District 45 want a public servant that represents their values. State legislation and budget decisions impact our local quality of life.

**PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS OFFICE.** In addition to being well-educated, a previous award-winning Model United Nations delegate, and a debate club member, I believe I will be an excellent state rep by applying my communication skills, entrepreneurial spirit, and familiarity with local groups. Furthermore, as a father and community servant, I can personally relate to my constituents and bring that suburban perspective when considering legislation.

**WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR POLITICAL OFFICE, AND, IF ELECTED, WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?** This state's most pressing issue is jobs, economy, reproductive rights, and education. We must focus on creating an environment where businesses (small and large) can thrive. We must do more for mental health and reproductive rights. We've got to find creative ways to retain our nurses and teachers and ensure they have the resources needed to succeed.

**WHO DO YOU ADMIRE MOST, AND WHY?** My Grandfather, Harris Spell. As the grandson of a farmer, veteran, and entrepreneur, he passed down his core family values to me: do your best, the importance of education, unconditional love, community service, strong faith, providing grace and kindness, hard work, love of family, and patriotism. These values have guided me throughout my life.

**PLEASE LIST THREE ADJECTIVES THAT DESCRIBE YOU AS A PERSON:** Inspirational, Accountable, Collaborative

