



August 31, 2007

Mr. Bill Donohue, Executive Director
Jekyll Island Authority
100 James Road
Jekyll Island, Georgia 31527

Dear Mr. Donohue:

I am writing on behalf of the Georgia First Amendment Foundation. We are an organization that seeks to advance the cause of open government and monitors freedom of information issues throughout this state.

It has been brought to our attention that the Jekyll Island Authority appears to have improperly conducted its public meetings. See O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1, 50-14-3. Additionally, the Authority appears to be failing to comply properly with the requirements of the open records act. See O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72. We are concerned that these activities are contrary to public policy and urge you to review O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 *et seq.* and O.C.G.A. § 50-18-70 *et seq.* which set forth the requirements for properly held public meetings and the release of public records.

To that end, I have enclosed a copy of our publication, *Georgia's Sunshine Laws: A Citizen's Guide to Open Government*, which discusses both the open records and meetings acts as well as other open government issues pertinent to your work. Similarly, this foundation would be pleased to visit with you and conduct a workshop on the mechanics of both of the open government laws.

We would appreciate an explanation of what will be done to remedy these actions that go against the interests of the public. I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hollie Manheimer
Executive Director

Enclosure

Cc: GFAF Board

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150 East Ponce de Leon Avenue, Suite 230, Decatur, GA 30030 • (404) 525-3646 • (404) 377-0486 (fax)
E-mail: info@gfaf.org • <http://www.gfaf.org>

"Because public men and women are amenable 'at all times' to the people, they must conduct the public's business out in the open."
The late Charles L. Weltner Sr., Chief Justice, Georgia Supreme Court