

HALL COMMISSIONERS/HALL TAX ASSESSORS ALLOW CHIEF APPRAISER HENDERSON TO WORK UNDER INVALID CONTRACT FOR OVER THREE YEARS!!!

HCCFEG filed an open records request on 10-16-2009 requesting the Hall County Commissioners to provide a copy of the minutes or other documentation to verify they had officially approved the employment contract/ agreement that Chief Appraiser Henderson has been working under since 12-21-2006. OCGA 48-5-298(a) requires the Hall County Commissioners to approve any employment or contract agreement offered by the tax assessors. The fact is the Hall County Commission has allowed this individual to work illegally for over three years! The response to our request was received by e mail on 10-20-2009. This e mail stated ***THERE WERE NO DOCUMENTS RESPONSIVE*** to our request for documentation to verify the Hall County Commissioners had ever approved the Chief Appraiser contract/employment agreement!

Evidently the Commissioners had this issue on their minds as well in that HCCFEG discovered ,through an open records request, a letter dated 10-12-2009 that was sent to the Hall County Tax Assessors from the Hall County Commissioners asking that a copy of the contract/ employment agreement that Chief Appraiser Henderson was working under be sent to them. This letter further stated their request was made in accordance with OCGA 48-5-298(a) which ***REQUIRES THE COMMISSION TO APPROVE*** any employment contract or agreement offered by the Hall County Board of Tax Assessors. This letter was signed by four commissioners. Commissioner Billy Powell did not sign the letter and stated he was opposed to the letter. Why would Billy Powell be opposed to following the law as outlined in 48-5-298(a)? Did the assessors send this information to the Commissioners as requested? If the information was sent to the Commissioners as requested, what actions have the Commissioners taken to remedy this law violation over the last five months ?

HCCFEG reviewed this matter once again on February 11,2010 and was advised by Hall County that Mr. Henderson was still working under the original contract/ employment agreement and it has not been approved by the Commission and remains in violation of OCGA 48-5-298(a).

Why do the Hall County Commissioners continue to drag their feet on this matter? What power does Chief Appraiser Henderson hold over the tax assessors? What power do the tax assessors hold over the Hall County Commissioners? Tax payers should begin asking questions about this matter during this election year and see if we have at least one Commissioner that will have the courage to come forward with an explanation as to why they are knowingly disregarding the law!

Paul S. Barnes, President
Hall County Citizens For Efficient Government
P O Box 5322
Gainesville, Ga 30504
Paul Barnes @hccfeg.org

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Heather Bennett (Administration)" <hbates@hallcounty.org>
Date: October 20, 2009 10:54:25 AM EDT
To: 'paul sherman barnes' <paul2213@bellsouth.net>
Subject: RE: ORR Wording

Please see the following in response to your ORR.

- 1 there are not documents responsive to request number one.
- 2 please see the letter attached.

If you need anything further, please let me know. Thank you

Heather

From: paul sherman barnes [mailto:paul2213@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2009 6:55 AM
To: Heather Bennett (Administration)
Subject: Fwd: ORR Wording

Ms. Bennett:

please consider this an official ORR for:

1. A copy of the minutes and/or other documentation to verify the Hall County Commission's Official approval of the employment contract for Michael A. Henderson dated 12-21-2006 and Don Elrod dated february 11, 2009. under which they are, or may be working pursuant to the legal requirement of OCGA 48-5-298(a).
2. Any documentation, letter, or communication from the Hall County Commissioners

2/8/2010

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to the Hall County Tax Assessor Board from July 1, 2009 to
October 15, 2009

thank you for your assistance.

Paul S. Barnes, President
Hall County citizens for Efficient government
770-967-6433

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> To: Heather Bennett (Administration)
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>
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>>> 1. A copy of the minutes and/or other documentation to verify
>>> the Hall County Commission's Official approval of the employment

2/8/2010

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>>>
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>>> 2. Any documentation, letter, or communication from the Hall
>>> County Commissioners
>>> to the Hall County Tax Assessor Board from july 1, 2009 to
>>> October 15, 2009

>>>
>>> thank you for your assistance.

>>>
>>>
>>> Paul S. Barnes, President
>>> Hall County citizens for Efficient government
>>> 770-967-6433

>>
>
>
[OBJ]

HALL COUNTY GOVERNMENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 12, 2009

Hall County Board of Tax Assessors
P.O. Box 2895
Gainesville, GA 30503

Re: Contract for Chief Appraiser

Dear Board Members:

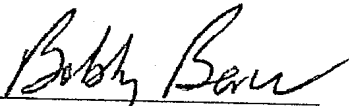
The Hall County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests that the Board of Assessors provide an employment contract for the Chief Appraiser Mike Henderson for review during our October 21, 2009 Board Meeting. This request is made under OCGA sec. 48-5-298 which requires the Commission to approve any employment contract or agreement offered by the Board of Tax Assessors.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Best regards.

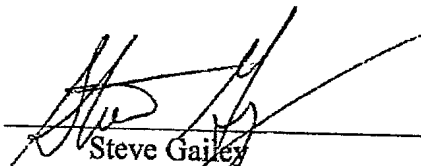
Sincerely,



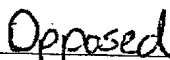
Tom Oliver
Chairman




Bobby Banks
Commissioner, District 1



Steve Gailey
Commissioner, District 3



Billy Powell
Commissioner, District 2



Ashley D. Bell
Commissioner, District 4



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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT