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# GEORGIA ADVOCACY CONFERENCE



## 1/30/24 - 1/31/24 Atlanta, GA

**Tuesday, January 30**

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

### Registration

*Chastain Terrace*

Registration sponsored by Registration Break sponsored by Welcome Gift sponsored by

9:30 AM - 9:40 AM



### Welcome and Update from the League of Southeastern Credit Unions

*Chastain Room*

Samantha Beeler, President, League of Southeastern Credit Unions

9:40 AM - 10:00 AM



### Protecting Members from Fraud

*Chastain Room*

Laura D. Pfister, Senior Attorney General, CIPP/US, Office of the Attorney General Chris Carr, Public Integrity & White Collar Crime

10:00 AM - 10:20 AM



### How Credit Unions Can Engage in Financial Literacy Efforts

*Chastain Room*

Noula Zaharis, Assistant Commissioner of Securities and Director of the Georgia Secretary of State's Securities and Charities Division, Office of Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger

10:20 AM - 10:45 AM



### Credit Unions Under the Gold Dome: People and Issues Important to Credit Unions

*Chastain Room*

Sydney Seral, VP of Advocacy, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates

10:45 AM - 11:05 AM



### Update from the Office of Governor Brian P. Kemp

*Chastain Room*

Ian Caraway, Director of Policy, Office of Governor Brian P. Kemp

11:05 AM - 11:30 AM



### How Foundations Can Play a Role In Advocacy

*Chastain Room*

Bobbi Grady, Foundation Director, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates  
Roy Bibb, President, MidSouth Community Federal Credit Union

**Facilitated by Sydney Seral, VP of Advocacy, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates**



11:30 AM - 12:00 PM



### Making a Difference: Understanding the Importance of State Grassroots Advocacy

*Chastain Room*

Natalie Riner, Deputy Director of Political Strategy, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM



### 2023 PAC Awards Luncheon and Advocacy Trivia

*Chastain Room*

Natalie Riner, Deputy Director of Political Strategy, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates  
Grace Newcombe, VP of Federal Advocacy and Communications, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates

Lunch sponsored by LEVERAGE  
Your Advantage

1:00 PM - 1:15 PM

### Break

1:15 PM – 2:15 PM

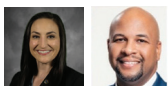


**Regulatory Panel: Examination Expectations from the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance**

Chastain Room

Kevin Hagler, Commissioner, Georgia Department of Banking and Finance  
Bo Fears, Senior Deputy Commissioner, Georgia Department of Banking and Finance  
Melissa Sneed, Deputy Commissioner for Supervision, Georgia Department of Banking and Finance  
Facilitated by Samantha Beeler, President, League of Southeastern Credit Unions

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM



**Georgia on the Map: Navigating the 2024 Election Season**

Chastain Room

Tharon Johnson, Democratic Strategist, Founder and CEO, Paramount Consulting  
Brian Robinson, Republican Strategist and President, Robinson Republic  
Facilitated by Sydney Seral, VP of Advocacy, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates



3:15 PM - 3:30 PM



**Legislative Briefing: Top Legislative Priorities**

Chastain Room

Sydney Seral, VP of Advocacy, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

**Break**

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM

**Bus Departs for Legislative Reception**

Hotel Lobby

Transportation will be provided to and from the hotel to the Freight Depot.  
Attendees can be picked up by the shuttle at the front entrance to the hotel.



5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**Legislative Reception/2023 Lawmaker of the Year Award Presentation**

Georgia Freight Depot

Honoring Senator Jason Esteves (D-Atlanta) Lawmaker of the Year  
Blue Room of the Georgia Freight Depot, 65 M.L.K. Jr. Drive Atlanta, GA 30303



**Wednesday, January 31 - Credit Union Capitol Day**

7:00 AM – 7:45 AM

**Grab and Go Breakfast/Head to Capitol**

Chastain Room

Westin Peachtree Plaza, 210 Peachtree St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30303



8:15 AM

**Meet at Georgia State Capitol**

CAP Room 125

206 State Capitol, Room 125, Atlanta, GA 30334  
LSCU staff will direct you into room

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

**House Priorities from Speaker Jon Burns (R-Newington)**

CAP Room 125

Jon Burns, Georgia's 75th Speaker, House of Representatives



8:45 AM – 9:00 AM

**What to Expect in the Second Year of the Biennium**

CAP Room 125

Kash Trivedi, Partner, Capital City Public Affairs  
Josh Mackey, Founder & Partner, Capital City Public Affairs  
Justin Kirnon, Vice President of Government Relations, Capital City Public Affairs



9:00 AM – 9:15 AM

**Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee Priorities**

CAP Room 125

Chairman Carden Summers (R-Cordele)



9:15 AM – 9:30 AM

**House Banks and Banking Committee Priorities**

CAP Room 125

Chairman Noel Williams (R-Cordele)



9:30 AM – 9:50 AM

**An Update from Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones' Office: Tax Reform and Regulatory Transparency**

CAP Room 125

Brad Vaughan, Legislative Director and Counsel, Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones



10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

**Photo with Governor Brian P. Kemp**

North Wing Stairs

Georgia State Capitol

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

**Observe Session from Gallery / Legislative Meetings**

11:30 AM

**Adjourn**

# 2024 Legislative Priorities

## **MAINTAIN THE CURRENT PAYMENT SYSTEM**

- Electronic payments using credit or debit cards account for trillions of dollars in transactions every year. These transaction databases have rapidly become a target of cyber thieves and dark web data merchants. In 2020, over 300 million individuals were affected by data breaches, and since 2011, fraud expenses paid by financial institutions have doubled.
- Changes to interchange calculations based on sales tax would lead to increased costs, not only to financial institutions like credit unions and community banks, but to Georgia's small businesses.
- Calculating interchange rates and merchant discount fees based on individual items is an invasion of Georgians' privacy and the millions of visitors who travel to the Peach State every year.
- Needlessly upending the interchange system will make it harder for Georgians to access the funds they may need to keep food on their table or gas in their tank.
- Credit unions depend on interchange income to both protect consumers from fraud and cover any losses as a result of merchant data breaches.
- **Credit unions oppose legislation aimed at removing sales tax on the calculation of interchange fees.**

## **INCREASE RESOURCES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF BANKING & FINANCE**

- The FY25 Budget includes proposed increases to the DBF's budget.
- Credit unions support salary increases for examiners.
- Examiner salaries are less than similar state and federal supervisory examiners.
- Examiner compensation is less, and often significantly so, than other state banking departments in the southeast including AL, AR, and MS - states with comparable bank portfolios and cost of living.
- **Credit unions support the proposed increases to the FY25 Budget.**

## **CODIFY ELECTRONIC AND REMOTE ONLINE NOTARIZATION (RON)**

- RON would increase the ability of credit unions to serve their members more efficiently.
- With RON, credit unions would be able to reduce turnaround times and improve operational efficiencies.
- RON improves access to notary services and thus financial services in underserved and unbanked communities.
- **Credit unions support a permanent RON law to provide a boost of efficiency that would translate directly to benefit Georgians.**

# 2024 Legislative Priorities

## **IMPROVE THE OPERATING ENVIRONMENT FOR CREDIT UNIONS (HB 876)**

- To continue to effectively serve the needs of Georgians, credit unions need the freedom and environment that enables us to do what we do best.
- Exploring opportunities to decrease credit unions' regulatory burdens and empower credit unions with increased authorities and greater parity with federal credit unions and other state financial institutions is a top priority.
- Credit unions prioritize partnering with the Department of Banking & Finance and General Assembly every year to identify opportunities that enhance credit unions' operating environment.
- **Credit unions support the passage of HB 876 by Rep. Bruce Williamson (R-Monroe).**

## **RETAIN LOCAL FINANCIAL ACCESS FOR GEORGIANS**

- Across the country, banks are consolidating and leaving communities with fewer banking options.
- When community banks go up for sale, credit unions are increasingly providing the strongest purchase proposals.
- Those proposals make sense for many reasons, such as communities retaining access to locally focused financial partners, staff is typically retained at a higher rate than bank competitors, and members (former bank customers) gain access to more branches and additional services and appreciate a mission-driven institution that puts their needs ahead of profits.
- **Credit unions oppose any efforts by the General Assembly to prevent Georgians from retaining local financial access.**

## **PROTECT THE CREDIT UNION TAX STATUS**

- Credit unions' member-owned, not-for-profit cooperative status allows them to fulfill their mission to put their members ahead of the bottom line.
- Removal of the tax status would erode that progress for over 3 million Georgians.
- Only 8.5% of all financial assets in the state are deposited in credit unions.
- The credit union mission is to ensure secure financial choices at lower costs for their members. That's why credit unions offer financial products that provide better returns on savings, reduced rates on loans, and lower or no fees on services.
- The credit union tax status — based on their unique structure — allows them to advance communities across the country and offer a wide range of benefits that help members to save and reach their financial goals.
- **Credit unions oppose any and all efforts by the General Assembly to change the credit union tax status.**



# Speakers

## **Samantha Beeler**, *President, League of Southeastern Credit Unions*



Samantha Beeler serves as President of the League of Southeastern Credit Unions. She previously served as Vice President of Advocacy for the Northwest Credit Union Association (NWCUA) which was the regional trade association for credit unions in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. In her role, Samantha manages advocacy, compliance, communications, member engagement, education and training, and the Southeastern Credit Union Foundation. Prior to her work in the credit union industry, she led communications for a Government Contracts Practice group in Washington, D.C. She received her bachelor's degree in Social Science from Washington State University and did an immersion program in International Relations at Peking University in Beijing, China. Samantha graduated the Executive Education program at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. She has lived in more than 10 states and served in more than 30 countries. She is a facilitator and speaker on Adaptive Leadership and is certified in moral and ethical leadership coaching.

## **Roy Bibb**, *President, MidSouth Community Federal Credit Union*



Roy Bibb has served as President / CEO of MidSouth Community Federal Credit Union since December 2012. He has worked in the credit union industry since he began his career as a teller in 1988. Mr. Bibb has worked and resided in Middle Georgia for 20 years and has served in many different leadership positions through the Credit Union League and Corporate Credit Unions in Georgia. Mr. Bibb holds a Bachelors of Arts in Business Management from North Carolina State University and Masters in Business Management from University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

## **Speaker Jon Burns**, *Georgia's 75th Speaker, House of Representatives*



Speaker Jon Burns (R-Newington) was elected as Georgia's 75th Speaker of the House of Representatives in January 2023. He represents the 159th legislative district of Georgia that includes Screven County and portions of Effingham and Bulloch Counties. He was first elected to the House in 2004. As Speaker, he serves as the House's chief administrative officer. Speaker Burns also presides over House floor sessions, assigns bills to committees, and calls matters before the House for debate. As a legislator, Speaker Burns has worked to bring sound environmentally balanced economic development, world class healthcare, quality education, and improved transportation to Georgia. Speaker Burns served as House Majority Leader from 2015 until his nomination as Speaker. He previously served as Chairman of the House Game, Fish & Parks Committee and as Chairman of the House Special Rules Committee. No stranger to public service, Speaker Burns was the 12th Congressional District member on the Georgia Department of Transportation (DOT) Board prior to serving in the State House. Speaker Burns was born and raised in Effingham County.

## **Ian Caraway**, *Director of Policy, Office of Governor Brian P. Kemp*



Ian Caraway is the Director of Policy in the Office of Governor Brian P. Kemp. He previously served as the Deputy Director of Policy, Senate Liaison and Senior Policy Advisor, and Local Government Liaison for the Governor's Office. He has also served in multiple capacities on campaigns across the state, including as Deputy Campaign Manager for Kemp for Governor.

## **Bo Fears**, *Senior Deputy Commissioner, Georgia Department of Banking and Finance*



Oscar "Bo" Fears joined the Department of Banking and Finance on February 1, 2013, as the Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs. As the Department's general counsel, he provides legal advice and support to the Department on most significant matters impacting the Department. As part of his duties, he serves on various committees and working groups for the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, including the Regulatory Committee which monitors federal regulatory proposals and submits comments on the potential impact on the financial and state regulatory system. Prior to joining the Department, he worked at the Georgia Attorney General's office from September of 1997 through January of 2013. His last position with the Georgia Attorney General's office was the group leader for the Business and Finance

Section of the Commercial Transactions and Litigation Division.

## **Bobbi Grady**, *Foundation Director, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates*



Bobbi brings over fifteen years of nonprofit experience to her role at LSCU and the Southeastern Credit Union Foundation. Since 2019, she has been serving first as the fundraising coordinator and then as the Director of the Foundation. Prior to joining LSCU, Bobbi held positions at organizations such as the Heart Association, The ALS Association, and Alzheimer's Association, where she developed a diverse skill set in non-profit programs, management, and fundraising.

## **Kevin Hagler, Commissioner, Georgia Department of Banking and Finance**



Kevin Hagler was appointed Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance effective July 1, 2013. As Commissioner, Kevin has regulatory oversight of 123 banks, 48 credit unions, and over 21,000 mortgage and money service business entities. Prior to his appointment as Commissioner, Kevin served as Deputy Commissioner for Supervision since August 1, 2008, where he was directly responsible for supervision of depository financial institutions (state-chartered banks and trust companies; state-chartered credit unions; and, bank holding companies and foreign banking organizations conducting business in Georgia).

## **Tharon Johnson, Democratic Strategist and Founder & CEO of Paramount Consulting**



Tharon Johnson is recognized as a national leader in political strategy and commentary. During his career, Johnson has served at senior levels of federal, state, and local campaigns and advised members of Congress, leaders in state government, the mayor of one of the largest cities in the nation, and a presidential campaign. His political career took off when he successfully ran a statewide campaign for Georgia Labor Commissioner Michael Thurmond in 1998. After a stint in his office and at Atlanta City Hall, he returned to campaigning to elect Congressman John Barrow in Georgia's 12th District, a competitive seat then held by a Republican incumbent who won by 11 points in the previous election. He served as Barrow's deputy chief of staff for two years before moving on to serve as Congressman John Lewis' district director from 2007 to 2009 and campaign manager for his successful 2008 reelection campaign.

## **Justin Kirnon, Vice President of Government Relations, Capital City Public Affairs**



Justin Kirnon is known for his public affairs prowess and experience in policy analysis, government and crisis communication strategy implementation. Justin is eager to draw from his extensive experience and passion for public affairs over the last decade as a lobbyist as he joins the dynamic Capital City Public Affairs team. Throughout his career, Mr. Kirnon developed numerous policies and obtained substantial knowledge in various industries, including public safety, transportation, technology, and local government. In 2022, Mr. Kirnon added to his municipal and legislative expertise by serving as the Statewide Political Director for One Georgia and the Stacey Abrams campaign.

## **Patrick La Pine, CEO, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates**



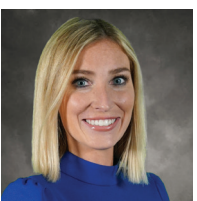
Patrick La Pine serves CEO of the League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates which represents the interests of 277 credit unions in Alabama and Florida and their 6.8 million credit union members. Before joining the LSCU & Affiliates in 2009 as its first president and CEO, Patrick worked for the Michigan Credit Union League for more than 10 years, rising to the level of EVP of Association Services. Prior to that, he worked for both the Michigan House of Representatives and the United States Senate. Patrick holds a master's degree from the University of Michigan in Public Administration, and a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University in Political Science.

## **Joshua Mackey, Founder & Partner, Capital City Public Affairs**



Joshua Mackey is a Partner and Founder for Capital City Public Affairs with over 18 years of experience in government relations and politics in the State of Georgia. Mr. Mackey previously served as the Vice President of Government Relations for FrogueClark and managed the operations of the firm's Atlanta office, as well as Vice President of Government Affairs at Brock Clay, where he was the lead government relations consultant for major companies and statewide associations. Mr. Mackey currently serves on the Board of Visitors of the University of Georgia's School of Public & International Affairs (SPIA), and previously served as a founding board member and Chairman of the Alumni Board for SPIA.

## **Grace Newcombe, Vice President of Federal Advocacy and Communications, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates**



Grace Newcombe joined the League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates in 2021 and has since been promoted to Vice President of Federal Advocacy and Communications, where she serves credit unions in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. In this role, Grace represents credit unions and their members in Washington, D.C. and ensures credit unions remain top of mind for consumers and policymakers.

Grace came to the League after serving as the Director of Communications and Governmental Relations for the Alabama Secretary of State's Office. She graduated with a degree in Political Science and English from the University of South Alabama, where she also served as President of the Student Body.

# Speakers (cont.)

## **Laura D. Pfister**, *Senior Assistant Attorney General, CIPP/US, Office of the Attorney General Chris Carr, Public Integrity & White Collar Crime*



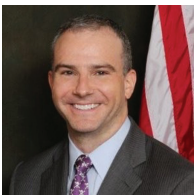
Laura is the Senior Assistant Attorney General, CIPP/US, for the Office of Attorney General Chris Carr, Public Integrity & White Collar Crime. The Public Integrity and White Collar Crime Section investigates and prosecutes public corruption of elected officials and agencies, fraud involving the State of Georgia's departments and agencies, cyber-enabled theft, criminal violations of the Fair Business Practices Act, identity fraud, residential mortgage fraud, securities fraud, and a variety of other criminal offenses. Prior, she was a federal prosecutor in the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia, investigating and prosecuting a variety of cyber-enabled crimes, including ransomware attacks, corporate sabotage, and computer hacking, as well as cyber fraud schemes, such as business email compromises.

## **Natalie Riner**, *Deputy Director of Political Strategy, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates*



Natalie runs the fundraising efforts for LSCU's three State PACs and the Federal PAC. Originally from the metro Atlanta area, Natalie graduated Summa Cum Laude from Kennesaw State University with a degree in Political Science in 2021. Prior to joining LSCU, she served as Georgia Governor Brian P. Kemp's scheduler on his re-election campaign and then continued onto his Inaugural Committee once he was re-elected.

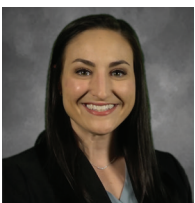
## **Brian Robinson**, *Republican Strategist and President of Robinson Republic*



Brian Robinson owns Robinson Republic, a communications consulting firm that specializes in public affairs messaging throughout the state of Georgia. His clients include corporations, issue advocacy groups, chambers of commerce, public officials and political campaigns. Robinson Republic assists clients with message development, issue advocacy, media training, media relations and crisis management. He is a regular political commentator in metro Atlanta media's leading outlets and national cable news channels, including weekly appearances on WABE's Political Breakfast. Throughout the 2020 election cycle he appeared weekly as a paid contributor on Fox 5.

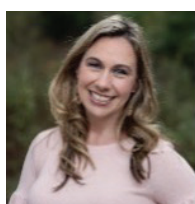
Prior to opening his own business, Robinson worked as deputy chief of staff for communications for Gov. Nathan Deal. In this capacity, he managed the governor's communications staff and served as a senior adviser to the governor. Robinson also ran the communications efforts for the Deal for Governor campaigns in 2010 and 2014.

## **Sydney Seral**, *Vice President of Advocacy, League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates*



Sydney Seral serves the League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates (LSCU) as the Vice President of Advocacy after starting her career with the LSCU as Senior Director of Governmental Affairs for Georgia's state and federal advocacy initiatives in June of 2020. Prior to joining the League, Sydney worked for the American Chemistry Council in various capacities, most recently as the Director of Political Mobilization, ACC's grassroots advocacy department. She represented the chemical and plastics industries across the 13-state Southern Region on both state and federal advocacy initiatives. Before working for the American Chemistry Council, Sydney worked at the Georgia State Senate in various capacities and ran a successful campaign for current Senate President Pro Tempore John F. Kennedy, a then first-time candidate from Macon, GA, as well as other Georgia statewide and State Senate campaigns.

## **Melissa Sneed**, *Deputy Commissioner for Supervision, Georgia Department of Banking and Finance*



Melissa Sneed is the Deputy Commissioner for Supervision for the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance (Department). As the Deputy Commissioner for Supervision, she is responsible for oversight responsibility for all Georgia state-chartered financial institutions including banks, credit unions, holding companies, and non-depository trust companies. Melissa is also Certified Examination Manager. Melissa joined the Department in 1999 as an Assistant Financial Examiner and was promoted to District Director of the Northwest District in 2008. In 2016, she was appointed Deputy Commissioner for Supervision. Melissa is a graduate of the University of Georgia with bachelor's degrees in Finance and Risk Management & Insurance.



## **Senator Carden Summers, *Senate District 13***



Senator Carden Summers, a Republican from Cordele, was elected to the State Senate in 2019 to represent the 13th Senatorial District, which includes Ben Hill, Berrien, Crisp, Irwin, Lee, Tift, Turner, and Worth County, as well as part of Coffee County. Sen. Summers serves as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions and the Vice Chairman for the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities. He is also a member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Affairs and Economic Development and Tourism. Sen. Summers was born and raised in Crisp County. He and his wife, Janice, started a real estate company and outdoor advertising company in the late 80s that they still own and operate now.

## **Kash Trivedi, *Partner, Capital City Public Affairs***



Kash Trivedi is a Partner at Capital City Public Affairs. Prior to joining Capital City Public Affairs, Mr. Trivedi was co-founder and partner at Terminus South, a leading government relations firm in Atlanta. Mr. Trivedi began his government affairs career working for the Georgia House Appropriations Committee, building relationships with key committee and staff members, and learning the state's budgetary processes. Mr. Trivedi also worked in government affairs at the Georgia Department of Labor (DOL) for current Commissioner Mark Butler, and in this role, Trivedi was heavily involved in the appropriations process, including securing funding for the fifty-three (53) DOL career centers around Georgia.

## **Brad Vaughan, *Legislative Director and Counsel, Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones***



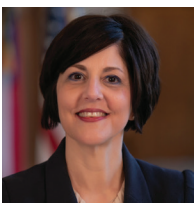
A native Tennessean, Brad Vaughan joins the Lieutenant Governor's Office after over a decade in private law practice, public policy advocacy, and government service. A former member of the Georgia Senate policy staff, Brad most recently served as a staff attorney for Justice Charlie Bethel on the Supreme Court of Georgia. Vaughan earned a bachelor's degree in Economics and Political Science, a master's degree in Business Administration, and a law degree from the University of Tennessee. Brad is an avid sports fan and golfer and resides in Woodstock with his wife and child.

## **Representative Noel Williams, Jr., *House District 148***



Representative Noel Williams Jr. represents the citizens of House District 148, which includes Crisp, Pulaski and Wilcox counties and portions of Houston County. He serves as the Vice Chairman of the House Insurance Committee and as a member of the Natural Resources & Environment, Retirement, Ways & Means, Game Fish & Parks, Small Business Development and State Planning & Community Affairs committees. Rep. Williams has served on the House Majority Caucus Whip Team since 2021. He graduated in 1994 with a political science degree from the University of Georgia.

## **Noula Zaharis, *Assistant Commissioner of Securities and Director of the Georgia Secretary of State's Securities and Charities Division, Office of Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger***



Noula Zaharis is the Assistant Commissioner of Securities and the Director of the Georgia Secretary of State's Securities & Charities Division. Her experience includes serving as a regulatory compliance analyst at Ekonomou, Atkisson & Lambros Law Firm, which served as the Investigative Agent for the Georgia Securities Division. She also served as Director of Compliance at Investment Law Group of Davis, Gillett, Mottern & Sims, LLP, managing the registrations and compliance support for state and federal registered investment advisers and private investment funds. She also held the position of Vice-President of Compliance at a publicly traded oil and gas company located in Texas. Ms. Zaharis is a former English and Latin teacher with Atlanta Public Schools and was an associate professor of English at Georgia State University. She is on the Board of Trustees for the Investor Protection Trust (IPT), a nonprofit organization devoted to investor education, and serves as Secretary on the Board of Directors of the National Association on State Charities Officials (NASCO).



# Attendees

Brian Akin	President/CEO	North Georgia Credit Union
Brian Albrecht	President/CEO	Credit Union of Georgia
Anthony Bake	SVP, Chief Risk Officer and General Counsel	LGE Community Credit Union
Roy Bibb	President	MidSouth Community FCU
Brandee Bickle	VP, Governmental Affairs & Executive Projects	Georgia's Own Credit Union
Stacie Branch	President/CEO	Interstate Credit Union
Matt Brockelman	VP of Government Affairs	VyStar Credit Union
Jeff Burney	COO	Go Energy Financial Credit Union
Bob Clampett	President/CEO	CORE Credit Union
Debra Collins	President/CEO	Credit Union of Atlanta
Cindy Connelly	SVP Governmental Affairs and Outreach	Georgia United Credit Union
Matthew Cook	VP, Consumer Lending	Pinnacle Credit Union
Stephanie Cooper	Branch Manager Cville West	Family Savings Credit Union
Jonathan Curtis	Executive Vice President	Faith Connection FCU
Heath Dawson	President & CEO	Southern Pine Credit Union
Kathy Day	EVP/Chief Operating Officer	Credit Union of Georgia
Chad Evans	EVP of Lending	Associated Credit Union
Robert Glore	President/CEO	Combined Employees Credit Union
Blake Graham	President/CEO	Atlanta Postal Credit Union
Stephanie Graves	VP of Marketing	Coosa Valley Credit Union
Thomas Hayden	President/CEO	Excel FCU
Don Hill	VP Business Development Savannah Market	CORE Credit Union
Tiffany Howerton	Assistant Manager	Rome Kraft Employees Credit Union
Mary Jenrette	President/CEO	Marshland Credit Union
Janis Johnson	General Counsel	Georgia United Credit Union
Saunders Jones III	Chief Lending Officer	Coosa Valley Credit Union
Ashley Kelley	Chief Risk Officer	Atlanta Postal Credit Union
Carl Kogan	Executive Director	Credit Union Financial Services
Kabir Laiwalla	CEO	Platinum FCU
Pam Leggett	Senior Vice President	Interstate Unlimited FCU
Anna Lowe	Community Engagement Coordinator	Coosa Valley Credit Union
Bob Manning	SVP & General Counsel	Delta Community Credit Union
Nicole Maragh	Learning & Development Manager	Associated Credit Union
Caric Martin	Director, Statewide Engagement	Georgia's Own Credit Union
Diane McCoy	President/CEO	Rome Kraft Employees Credit Union
Patrick McNichol	Manager, Government Relations And Public Policy	Navy FCU
Ashley Minsheu	AVP of Mortgage	Robins Financial Credit Union
Mark Nofi	CEO	Go Energy Financial Credit Union
James Peluso	Government Affairs Manager	VyStar Credit Union
Annia Pereira	AVP of Learning & Development	Associated Credit Union
Derrick Ragland	President	APCO Employees Credit Union
Robin Ralls	Deputy General Counsel	Delta Community Credit Union
Millie Ray	CFO	Marshland Credit Union
Shane Reagan	AVP of Consumer Lending	Robins Financial Credit Union
Steven Reynolds	VP of Business Services	First Commerce Credit Union
Ryan Robinson	Branch Manager Rockmart	Family Savings Credit Union
Stephen Smith	President/CEO	Family First Credit Union
Debbie Smith	CEO	Georgia United Credit Union
Blake Westbrook	SVP of Growth & Expansion	Atlanta Postal Credit Union
Stacy Wester	Branch Manager Rome Instore	Family Savings Credit Union

# Reception Only Attendees

Hank Halter  
Murali Krishnan  
Chris LaCount  
Kevin Schlangen

President/CEO  
Chief Informaiton Officer  
Guest  
Area Sales Manager

Delta Community Credit Union  
LGE Community Credit Union  
The Wright Credit Union  
Catalyst Corporate FCU

## Sponsors

Jessica Cummo  
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Andrea Rodgers  
Paxton Sakha  
Mary Slottke  
Rocky Stewart  
Alonzo Swann  
Tish Turner  
Derek Watkins  
Kevin Wyckoff

Member Advisor  
Credit Union Engagement Director  
Business Development Consultant  
President/Sr. Telecom Consultant  
Sales Executive  
Regional Sales Manager  
Business Development Executive  
President  
Credit Union Strategist  
Account Executive  
Area Manager  
Vice President / GA, AL, NC, SC

Corporate America Credit Union  
Member First Mortgage LLC  
LEVERAGE  
Delta Consulting Group  
TruStage  
Econocheck  
Corporate Central Credit Union  
Print Resources Inc.  
Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta  
TruStage  
Preferred Rate  
Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta

## YPG Attendees

Mandy Eidson

Director, Business Development & Community Engagement

Self-Help Credit Union

Alaina LaCount

CEO/President

The Wright Credit Union

Drake Osterhage

Salesforce Platform Manager

Delta Community Credit Union



Download the LSCU Events App to access more information on the Georgia Advocacy Conference.



SAVE THE DATE



**GAC 2024**

MARCH 3 - 7, 2024  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
CONFERENCE

**LSCU**  
League of Southeastern  
Credit Unions & Affiliates



**SCUCE**  
SOUTHEAST CREDIT UNION CONFERENCE & EXPO

ENGAGE FOR  
IMPACT

JUNE 12-14, 2024  
ORLANDO, FL



**VISION**  
CONFERENCE OF IDEAS AND INNOVATION

AUGUST 7-9, 2024  
MIRAMAR BEACH, FL



**LSCU**  
LEARNING  
JOURNEY

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2024  
WASHINGTON STATE



SEPTEMBER 23-26, 2024



WASHINGTON, D.C.



**C-SUITE  
SUMMIT**

OCTOBER 9-11, 2024  
SAVANNAH, GA

**INSPIRE  
CONFERENCE**

Powered by **LSCU**  
& AL, FL & GA Sister Societies of  
Global Women's  
Leadership Network

11/13/24 - 11/15/24  
TAMPA, FL

**12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
QUAIL HUNT  
BENEFITTING  
FEDPAC**

LSCU Federal Political Action Committee

11/18/24 - 11/19/24  
SOUTHERN WOODS PLANTATION  
SYLVESTER, GA





**GEORGIA BUILDING AUTHORITY  
STATE GOVERNMENT COMPLEX**

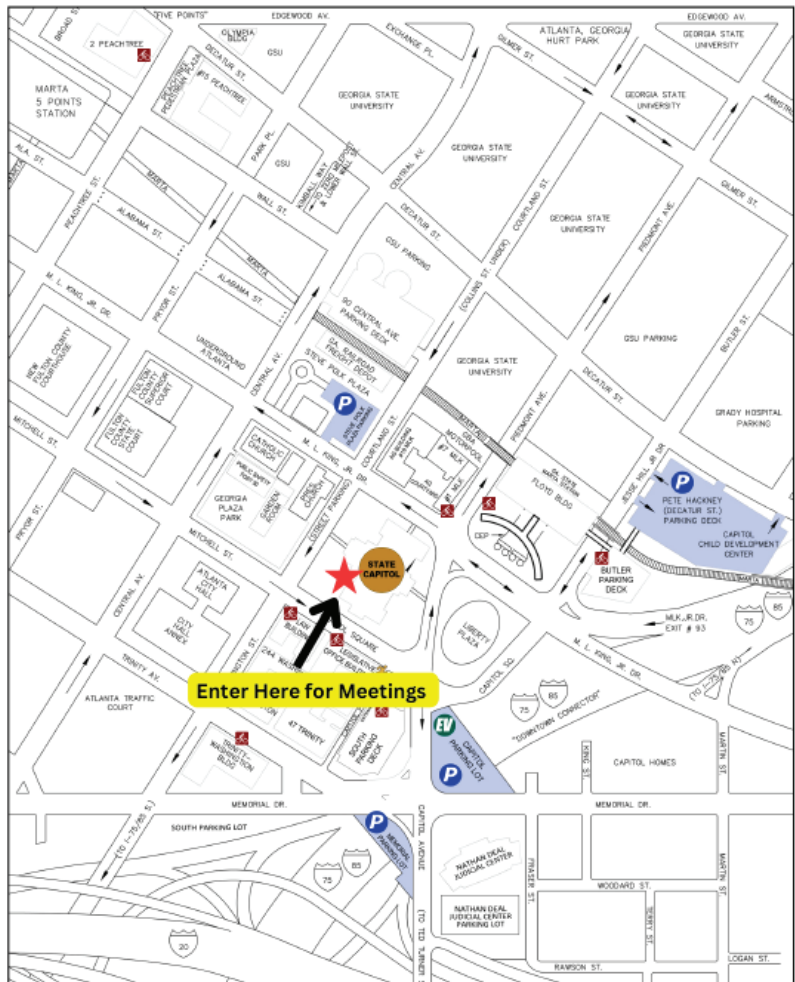
# CAPITOL HILL Public Parking Map

- P Public Parking**  
Capitol Parking Lot (Capitol Ave/Memorial Drive)  
Memorial Parking Lot (Capitol Ave/Memorial Drive)  
Pete Hackney Parking Deck (Jesse Hill Jr Drive)  
Steve Polk Plaza Parking Lot (MLK Jr Drive)

- ♿ Accessible Loading/Unloading Zone**  
Located between the Legislative Office Building and 2 Capitol Square

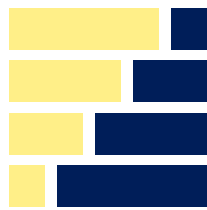
- EV Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**  
Capitol Parking Lot

- 🚲 Bicycle Racks**  
1 MLK (Piedmont Ave)  
2 Peachtree Building (Inside-Main Level)  
Butler Deck (Inside-Level 1)  
Coverdell Legislative Office Bldg/CLOB (Capitol Sq)  
Floyd Building/Twin Towers (Piedmont Ave)  
Law Building (Capitol Sq)  
South Deck (Inside-Level 2)  
TW Building (Trinity Ave)



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## Downtown Atlanta Self-Parking

### AmericasMart 2 230 Ted Turner Dr.

1 hour: \$4  
2 hours: \$8  
3 hours: \$12  
9 hours: \$16  
9+ hours: \$25

### SP+ Parking 218 Peachtree St. NW (next to Pitty Pat's Porch)

#### Weekday Rates

0-30 min: \$6  
31 min-60 min: \$10  
61 min-90 min: \$15  
91 min-16 hours: \$25  
16-24 hours: \$35  
Evening specials (M-TH): \$10  
Early bird: \$8

#### Weekend Rates

0-3 hours: \$15  
3-16 hours: \$25  
16-24 hours: \$35

### THE WESTIN PEACHTREE PLAZA

### Legacy Parking

#### 150 Carnegie Way NW

30 minutes: \$6  
30-60 minutes: \$12  
60-90 minutes: \$18  
90-180 minutes: \$22  
Daily max: \$28

JOHN PORTMAN BLVD

ANDREW YOUNG INTL BLVD

PEACHTREE ST.

PEACHTREE CENTER AVE.

ELLIS ST. NE

TED TURNER DR. NW

CONE ST. NW

CARNEGIE WAY NW

\*Pricing is subject to change at individual Parking Garages



## Lawmaker of the Year - Senator Jason Esteves (D-Atlanta)



Senator Jason Esteves's current Senate District 6 represents the Corporate Offices of several member CUs. Since his election to office in November 2022, Sen. Esteves has gone out of his way to become educated on credit union issues. Upon the introduction of interchange legislation, Sen. Esteves actively reached out to navigate and learn the issue, concerned about the impact to credit unions.

Senator Esteves always makes himself available to discuss credit union issues and serve as a voice under the Gold Dome. LSCU & Affiliates is proud to recognize him as the 2023 State Lawmaker of the Year. Georgia's credit unions will be honoring Senator Esteves on January 30th at the Georgia Credit Union Association Legislative Reception.

### LSCU Contact Information

**Sydney Seral**, VP of Advocacy  
sydney.seral@lscu.coop | 678.637.4411

**Samantha Beeler**, President  
samantha.beeler@lscu.coop | 334.465.9403

**Grace Newcombe**, VP of Federal Advocacy & Communications  
grace.newcombe@lscu.coop | 256.604.3770

**Natalie Riner**, Deputy Director of Political Strategy  
natalie.riner@lscu.coop | 770.241.3984

**Hayley Trammell**, Director, Education & Training  
hayley.trammell@lscu.coop | 205.437.2125

### Upcoming Advocacy Events

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## Georgia Credit Union Association Legislative Reception

January 30, 2024 | 5:00 - 7:00 PM

The Blue Room at the Georgia Railroad Freight Depot  
65 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30312