



CITY OF ATLANTA

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ETHICS OFFICE

Jabu M. Sengova, Ethics Officer
ethicsofficer@atlantaga.gov

May 1, 2024

Via Hand Delivery

Keisha Sean Waites
Post Office Box 162972
Atlanta, GA 30321

RE: Cease and Desist from Using City Property for Campaign: Second Notice

Dear Ms. Waites:

It has come to our attention that your campaign is using city property to promote your candidacy for Fulton County Clerk. Please be advised that this letter serves as our **second notice** to you and your campaign. We sent notice to you by electronic and regular mail on March 18, 2024, which is included for your reference.

The City's Code of Ethics section 2-811 prohibits the use of city property for private advantage. This prohibition means that city property, vehicles, equipment, labor, or services may not be used for the private benefit of the official or any other person or private entity. The Ethics Office has interpreted this provision as permitting city officials and employees to use city facilities and property without charge when they are acting in an official capacity and performing official duties on behalf of the city, but not when an event is done solely for the personal benefit of an individual official or employee, such as a political campaign activity.

We have received complaints that a campaign video was created using the City Council chambers, your city office, and other parts of City Hall that are not available for public use before you resigned from your position. The video also includes an image of the city seal. We also recently received a campaign mailer with images of the Mayor, Councilmembers and the city seal which was sent out to Fulton County residents.

The Atlanta City Code expressly prohibits the use of city property and resources by a candidate for office in a local, state or any other election. **The official city of Atlanta seal is city property and may only be used for official city business.** Therefore, we would request that you **cease and desist immediately from using any city property, including the city seal, for your campaign.**

Further, I would direct your attention to the **Ethics Advisory on Use of City Property during Political Campaigns**. I have attached both for your convenience.

Please give me a call if you have any questions or need further clarification.

Sincerely,

Jabu M. Sengova
Ethics Officer

cc. Committee to Elect Keisha Waites