

**INVESTIGATIVE PANEL
PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

In re: Inquiry Concerning)	
)	PAQC 2025DSG000050
Solicitor General Michael Howard)	PAQC 2025DSG000051
)	PAQC 2025DSG000064

REPORT OF DISPOSITION

1.

This matter originated before the PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION (PAQC) Investigative Panel as the result of three complaints concerning Washington County Solicitor General Michael Howard (SG Howard). The first, 2025DSG000050, was submitted via the PAQCGA.gov website on June 24, 2025, and was submitted on behalf of SG Howard by SG Howard's attorney W. Matthew Wilson. This complaint stated that a sitting Judge and an attorney had publicly alleged wrongdoing by SG Howard and requested the PAQC to conduct an investigation in order to clear SG Howard of said wrongdoing. The second complaint, 2025DSG000051, was submitted via PAQCGA.gov website on June 25, 2025, by a separate complainant, and contained substantially the same allegations. The third complaint, 2025DSG000064, was submitted via PAQCGA.gov website on July 14, 2025,

2.

After the Complaints were initiated, the Director conducted a review of the allegations and determined that, if true, the allegations against SG Howard would constitute a basis for discipline.

3.

On July 15, 2025, SG Howard submitted his resignation as Solicitor General of Washington County, effective immediately, to Governor Brian Kemp. Exhibit A. Governor Kemp accepted said resignation that same day, July 15, 2025. Exhibit B. On July 16, 2025, SG Howard's attorney notified the PAQC of this resignation via email response to the PAQC email confirming the submission of 2025DSG000050.


4.

Given SG Howard's resignation during this investigation, the Investigative Panel and SG Howard have mutually agreed upon a satisfactory disposition of PAQC complaints No. 2025DSG000050, 2025DSG000051, and 2025DSG000064 pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-18-32(j)(1). SG Howard neither confirms nor denies the allegations, and he will not seek, request, or accept any position as district attorney or solicitor general in the future, as those offices are as defined by Chapter 18 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, all set forth in the attached Consent Agreement. Exhibit C.

5.

This Report of Disposition is submitted for filing in the public records of the Supreme Court of Georgia pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-18-32(j)(1), and same published on the PAQC public website.

Respectfully submitted this 18 day of Sept, 2025.



Ian Heap, Director
Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission
463 Johnny Mercer Blvd B-7, Box 318,
Savannah, GA 31410,
GA Bar 342180
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**Office of the Solicitor-General
Washington County State Court**

**Michael S. Howard
Solicitor-General**

**120 North Harris Street
P.O. Box 5746
Sandersville, GA 31082**

**Phone: (478) 552-2467
Fax: (478) 552-8030**

July 15, 2025

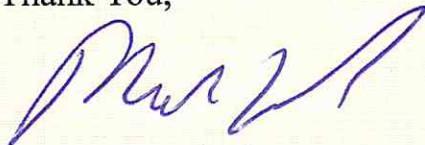
Honorable Brian P. Kemp
206 Washington Street
Suite 203, State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

RE: Resignation

Dear Governor Kemp,

Please accept this as my resignation from my position as Solicitor-General of Washington, County, effective immediately.

Thank You,



Michael Howard



STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0090

Brian P. Kemp
GOVERNOR

July 15, 2025

The Honorable Michael Howard
Solicitor-General
Washington County State Court
120 North Harris Street
P.O. Box 5746
Sandersville, Georgia 31082

Dear Mr. Howard:

I am in receipt of your letter regarding your resignation as Solicitor-General of the State Court of Washington County. Your resignation is hereby accepted, effective immediately.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B.P.K.", is written over the typed name.

Brian P. Kemp

BPK:rbw

cc: The Honorable Brad Raffensperger, Secretary of State
The Honorable Russell Sheppard, Judge, Probate Court of Washington County

Exhibit B

**INVESTIGATIVE PANEL
PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

)	
In re: Inquiry Concerning)	PAQC 2025DSG000050
Solicitor General Michael Howard)	PAQC 2025DSG000051
)	PAQC 2025DSG000064
)	

CONSENT AGREEMENT

This matter originated before the PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION (PAQC) Investigative Panel as the result of three complaints concerning Washington County Solicitor General Michael Howard (SG Howard).

The first, 2025DSG000050, was submitted via the PAQCGA.gov website on June 24, 2025, and was submitted on behalf of SG Howard by SG Howard's attorney W. Matthew Wilson. This complaint stated that a sitting Judge and an attorney had publicly alleged wrongdoing by SG Howard and requested the PAQC to conduct an investigation in order to clear SG Howard of said wrongdoing. The allegations were willful misconduct in office, willful and persistent failure to carry out the duties of a Solicitor General pursuant to Code Section 15-18-66, and conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice which brings the office into disrepute.

The second complaint, 2025DSG000051, was submitted via PAQCGA.gov website on June 25, 2025, by a separate complainant. The allegations were willful and persistent failure to carry out the duties of a Solicitor General pursuant to Code Section 15-18-66, and conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice which brings the office into disrepute.

The third complaint, 2025DSG000064, was submitted via PAQCGA.gov website on July 14, 2025, alleging willful misconduct in office and conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice which brings the office into disrepute.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-18-32(h)(2), (3), & (6), willful misconduct in office, willful and persistent failure to carry out the duties of a Solicitor General pursuant to Code Section 15-18-66, and conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice which brings the office into disrepute are each and all grounds for discipline of a solicitor-general or for his or her removal or involuntary retirement from office.

On July 15, 2025, SG Howard submitted his resignation as Solicitor General of Washington County, effective immediately, to Governor Brian Kemp. Governor Kemp accepted said resignation that same day, July 15, 2025. On July 16, 2025, SG Howard's attorney notified the PAQC of this resignation via email response to the PAQC email confirming the submission of 2025DSG000050.

All three of these complaints, 2025DSG000050, 2025DSG000051, and 2025DSG000064 contained factual allegations (in 2025DSG000050 it was SG Howard's report of others making these allegations, and there is substantial overlap with 2025DSG000051) which, if found to be true, would constitute grounds for discipline.

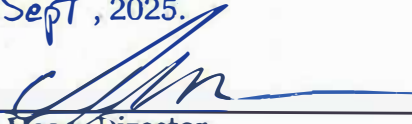
Pursuant to PAQC Rule 4.1(D)(1)(g) the PAQC Investigative Panel and SG Howard agree to resolve the above-referenced Complaint as set forth below:

1. SG Howard neither confirms nor denies the allegations
2. On July 15, 2025, SG Howard submitted his immediate resignation as Solicitor General of Washington County to Governor Brian Kemp notice of his resignation from his position as Solicitor General of Washington County to Governor Brian Kemp, which Governor Kemp accepted that same day.


3. SG Howard agrees that he will not seek, request, or accept office as district attorney or solicitor general in the future, as those offices are as defined by Chapter 18 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.
4. In light of SG Howard's resignation while under investigation by the PAQC Investigative Panel; his agreement not to seek request, or accept any elected or appointed district attorney or solicitor general position, or status in the future; and in lieu of further investigation by the Investigative Panel, the Panel has determined that pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-18-32(j)(1) resolution of these three Complaints by Consent Agreement is a satisfactory disposition.
5. This Consent Agreement is effective immediately and carries forward permanently.
6. SG Howard understands that should he violate this Consent Agreement, the Investigative Panel and Director may seek to enforce or rescind the Agreement, proceed with further investigation, or file formal charges related to the three above- referenced Complaints, if appropriate.
7. After the signing of this Consent Agreement the Director will file the Agreement with the Supreme Court of Georgia, along with a Report of Disposition pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-18-32(j)(1), and publish same on the PAQC public website.
8. After the signing and filing of this Consent Agreement the three above- referenced Complaints will be resolved and completed.

9. SG Howard understands that with the exception of this Consent Agreement and the Report of Disposition, information related to the investigation of the three above-referenced Complaints will remain confidential unless an exception pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-18-32(k) and PAQC Rule 3.7(E).

Respectfully submitted this 18 day of Sept, 2025.



Ian Heap, Director
Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission
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Savannah, GA 31410
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ian.heap@PAQCGA.gov (912)874-1634



Mr. Michael Howard
PO Box 5746
120 North Harris Street
Sandersville, GA 31082
michaelhowardlaw@gmail.com (478) 552-2467

Sworn and subscribed before me
This 15 day of September 2025



Notary Public
My Commission Expires
10/21/2028

