

CITY OF BROOKHAVEN, GEORGIA

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF Transparency and Open Government

a/k/a the "Sunshine Resolution"

WHEREAS, the City of Brookhaven was founded upon principles of transparent, open government in the interest of accountability and integrity;

WHEREAS, the City of Brookhaven continues to be committed to open and transparent government in order to maintain public trust;

WHEREAS, state and federal laws known as "Sunshine Laws" provide for broad and open access to information about how city governments operate;

WHEREAS, the Mayor has stated, "Diligent observance of Sunshine Laws allows for critical public oversight, an important foundation of participatory democracy;"

WHEREAS, access to open government records is a fundamental right of every citizen and the media;

WHEREAS, a clear and public policy on open records requests, clarifying the City's position on prompt and complete compliance with Sunshine Laws is critical to the future success of the City of Brookhaven and the public confidence and trust;

WHEREAS, the City of Brookhaven wishes to adopt and make public certain official policies and procedures regarding access to government records;

BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Brookhaven does hereby adopt the following policies and procedures regarding responses to open records requests:

- 1) Every effort will be made to produce all documents responsive to every open records request;
- 2) Legal exceptions to production, such as for privacy and confidentiality, will be narrowly construed so as to protect the public's interest in open records;
- 3) In instances in which documents are lawfully redacted, such redactions shall be plain, visible and obvious on the face of the document(s) produced; and
- 4) In instances in which documents are lawfully withheld from production, the City shall provide the requesting party with a Privilege Log, i.e., a list identifying the withheld documents and the legal basis upon which they are withheld.

STATE OF GEORGIA
DEKALB COUNTY
CITY OF BROOKHAVEN

RES 2015-06-03

RESOLVED THIS 16th DAY OF June, 2015.

APPROVED: Rebecca Chase Williams

REBECCA CHASE WILLIAMS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Susan Hiott

Susan Hiott, City Clerk

Thompson Kurrie, Jr.

Thompson Kurrie, Jr., City Attorney

