

COMPLAINT FORM

Alleging a Violation of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Act

JURISDICTION: This office has jurisdiction ONLY in matters involving financial disclosure, campaign finance, and lobbyist disclosure. O.C.G.A. §45-1-6 covers state vendor disclosure law as outlined in the Campaign Finance Act in O.C.G.A. Title 21-5 et seq and O.C.G.A. §45-1-6 covering state vendor disclosure law. Please ensure that your complaint is within the Commission's jurisdiction.

Mail or hand delivery original signed/notarized form and attachments to above address.

I. PERSON BRINGING COMPLAINT = COMPLAINANT:

Name:	William Perry, Georgia Ethics Watchdogs				
Address:	1146 Dobbs Dr SE				
City:	Atlanta	State:	GA	County:	DeKalb
Zip:	30316				
Telephone:	678-358-6966	E-mail (optional):	watchdogwilliam@gmail.com		

II. PARTY AGAINST WHOM COMPLAINT IS BROUGHT = RESPONDENT:

Name:	Tricia Pridemore and Georgians for Pridemore				
Address:	Box 143, 2500 Dallas Highway, Suite 202				
City:	Marietta	State:	GA	County:	Cobb
Zip:	30064				
Telephone:	404-358-2051				
Title of office held or sought: <small>(if applicable)</small>	Public Service Commission, District 5				

III. STATEMENT OF FACTS:

State the actions of the Respondent upon which your complaint is based along with an ALLEGATION that such facts constitute one or more violations of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Act. See JURISDICTION above. Include relevant dates and the names and addresses of other persons who you believe have knowledge of the facts and attach any documentation/evidence that support the facts alleged in this complaint. Please see § 21-5-6.23 regarding attorneys' fees.

See attached

(If continued on other side or additional paper, please check here)

IV. VERIFICATION BY OATH OR AFFIRMATION - ORIGINAL NOTARY & SIGNATURES REQUIRED

STATE OF Georgia COUNTY OF Fulton

I, the undersigned Complainant, being duly sworn, depose (affirm) and say that the information in this Complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Notary Stamp/Crimp: Sworn to and subscribed before me on 16 October, 2021.

Nancy A. Sandberg
Signature of Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 16 Sept. 2021

SIGNATURE AND STATEMENT OF COMPLAINANT:
 I AM, I AM NOT, in filing this complaint acting as an agent, paid or otherwise, for any other person.

William Perry
DATE: 10/16/17

PENALTIES: False Swearing: A person to whom a lawful oath or affirmation has been administered or who executes a document knowing that it purports to be an acknowledgment of a lawful oath or affirmation commits the offense of false swearing when, in any matter or thing other than a judicial proceeding, he knowingly and willfully makes a false statement under Code Section 16-10-71. A person convicted of the offense of false swearing shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 or by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than five years, or both.



**Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission
Pridemore Complaint, 10/15/2018 – Statement of Facts
Submitted by William Perry, Georgia Ethics Watchdogs**

Part Three: Statement of Facts

I believe that current Public Service Commissioner and candidate for Public Service Commission Tricia Pridemore with her campaign committee Georgians for Pridemore violated the Ethics in Government Act and Rules of the Commission, and I ask the Commission to investigate the following:

In 2017 and 2018, a total of 80 violations representing \$68,375 in campaign contributions were not properly identified as being from regulated entities, as is required by law (see attached).

Specifically Georgia law (21-5-30.1.d) states:

(d) Nothing contained in this Code section shall be construed to prevent any person who may be employed by a regulated entity, including a person in whose name a license or lease is held, or who is an officer of a regulated entity from voluntarily making a campaign contribution from that person's personal funds to or on behalf of a person holding office as an elected executive officer regulating such entity or to or on behalf of a candidate for the office of an elected executive officer regulating such entity or to or on behalf of a campaign committee of any such candidate; provided, however, that: (1) The elected executive officer or candidate receiving one or more campaign contributions described in this subsection shall in his or her disclosure report under Code Section 21-5-34 separately identify each contribution and the total of contributions which he or she knows or should have reason to know are described in this subsection; [italicized for emphasis]

Further, Electric Membership Cooperatives meet the definition of a "regulated entity," see O.C.G.A. § 21-5-30.

Under the strictest possible interpretation of this Code--failure to identify contributions from individuals currently on the payroll or serving as directors of an electric utility, natural gas or telecommunications company regulated by the Public Service Commission--at least 64 violations totaling \$47,925 occurred. I have labeled those as Tier 1 violations in the attached document.

However, considering the full spirit of the Code expands the total violations and must be considered. In many instances, ex-executives of regulated entities are no longer employed by a regulated entity, but they are still viewed publicly as professional representatives of a regulated entity and receive compensation from said entities (i.e., retirement benefits, pensions, etc.). I have labeled those Tier 2 violations in the attached document, and there were at least 16 violations totaling \$24,550.

The campaign finance reports used to gather this information are the reports dated 2/7/18, 5/17/18 and 9/19/18.

Candidate	Contributor	Occupation/Employer	Date	Tier 1	Tier 2	Comments
Pridemore	Robinson, Pete	Attorney, Troutman Sanders	11/20/2017		\$ 3,000.00	Represents regulated entities before the Commission.
Pridemore	Dingle, Larry	Attorney, Wilson Brock and Irby LLC	12/6/2017	\$ 500.00		Represents Georgia Power
Pridemore	Gresham, Johnny	Real Estate, Gresham Real Estate Company	12/6/2017	\$ 500.00		Also serves on the Cobb EMC board
Pridemore	Hall Booth Smith PC	N/A	12/6/2017		\$ 1,000.00	Represents regulated entities before the Commission.
Pridemore	Hobbs, Terry	Consultant, Hobbs and Associates	12/6/2017	\$ 1,000.00		Registered lobbyist for regulated entities before the Commission
Pridemore	Smith, Julie	Director, Verizon	12/6/2017	\$ 1,000.00		
Pridemore	Troutman Sanders LLC	N/A	12/6/2017		\$ 6,600.00	Represents regulated entities before the Commission.
Pridemore	Highsmith, Robert	Attorney, Holland & Knight	12/31/2017	\$ 6,600.00		Represents regulated telecoms before the Commission.
Pridemore	Milner, Stephen Donald	General Manager, Plant Telephone Company	1/11/2018	\$ 1,000.00		
Pridemore	Harris, O. Ben	Executive, Georgia Power	1/18/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Labrato, Ronnie	Executive Vice President, Georgia Power	1/18/2018	\$ 200.00		
Pridemore	Ratcliffe, David	Retired	1/18/2018		\$ 1,000.00	Retired but ex-executive from Georgia Power/Southern Company.
Pridemore	Corbin, Arthur	President and CEO, Municipal Gas Authority	1/19/2018	\$ 500.00		
Pridemore	Dahlberg, AW	Executive, Georgia Power	1/19/2018		\$ 1,000.00	Now retired but was listed as a current Georgia Power executive according to the candidate.

Candidate	Contributor	Occupation/Employer	Date	Tier 1	Tier 2	Comments
Pridemore	Forsyth, Mary Lou	President, Darien Telephone Company	1/19/2018	\$ 1,000.00		
Pridemore	Henson, William R.	Executive Vice President, Georgia Power	1/19/2018	\$ 500.00		
Pridemore	Shlanta, Paul	Senior Vice President, Southern Gas Company	1/19/2018	\$ 500.00		
Pridemore	Ussery, Gene	Retired	1/20/2018		\$ 500.00	Retired but ex-executive from Georgia Power/Southern Company.
Pridemore	Chastain, Dennis	VP of Economic Development, Georgia EMC	1/22/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Hewitson, Steven J.	Attorney, Troutman Sanders	1/22/2018	\$ 500.00		Represents regulated entities before the Commission.
Pridemore	Pierce, Shannon	Vice President, Southern Company Gas	1/22/2018	\$ 500.00		
Pridemore	Strippelhoff, John	Chief Membership Officer, Municipal Gas Authority	1/22/2018	\$ 500.00		
Pridemore	Widner, Cofield	Manager, Georgia Power	1/22/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Hodges, Meredith	Vice President, Gas South	1/23/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Horne, William	Engineer, Southern Company Gas	1/23/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Scott, Louise	Management, Southern Company Gas	1/23/2018	\$ 500.00		
Pridemore	Weaver, David	Officer, Southern Company Gas	1/23/2018	\$ 2,500.00		
Pridemore	Boyd, Bryan	Sales, Pacesetter Graphics	1/24/2018	\$ 250.00		Actually on the board of Cobb EMC
Pridemore	Cardozo, Freddy	Vice President, Gas South	1/24/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Carter, Donald	Vice President, Southern Company Gas	1/24/2018	\$ 750.00		
Pridemore	Crowell, Edward B.	Director, Cobb EMC	1/24/2018	\$ 500.00		
Pridemore	Dowdy, Craig	Attorney, Morris, Manning, and Marting	1/24/2018	\$ 1,000.00		Represents Atlanta Gas and Light

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Pridemore	Duvall, Robert	VP, Southern Company Gas	1/24/2018	\$ 1,000.00		
Pridemore	Greiner, Kevin	President, Gas South	1/24/2018	\$ 500.00		
Pridemore	Linginfelter, Hank	Executive, Southern Company Gas	1/24/2018	\$ 1,000.00		
Pridemore	Lonn, Richard	Director, Southern Company Gas	1/24/2018	\$ 350.00		
Pridemore	Nelson III, W. T.	President, Cobb EMC	1/24/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Rawson, Charles	Vice President, Southern Company Gas	1/24/2018	\$ 500.00		
Pridemore	Reese, Elizabeth	Executive Vice President, Southern Company Gas	1/24/2018	\$ 800.00		
Pridemore	Simpson, Marisa	Director of Governmental Affairs, Atlanta Gas Light	1/24/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Barrs, Craig	Executive Vice President, Georgia Power	1/25/2018		\$ 250.00	Now retired but was listed as a current Georgia Power executive according to the candidate.
Pridemore	Batson, Bryan	Executive, Atlanta Gas and Light	1/25/2018	\$ 1,000.00		
Pridemore	Killings, Jesse	Operations, Atlanta Gas Light	1/25/2018	\$ 750.00		
Pridemore	Klaus, Richard	Director, SCANA	1/25/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Meiselman, David	Manager, Southern Company Gas	1/25/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Patrick, Marguertie	Attorney, Infinite Energy	1/25/2018	\$ 250.00		Gas company before the Commission
Pridemore	Scruggs, Richard	Executive, Georgia Power	1/25/2018	\$ 500.00		
Pridemore	Greene, Kevin	Attorney, Troutman Sanders	1/26/2018	\$ 1,000.00		Represents regulated entities before the Commission.
Pridemore	Palmer, Charles	Attorney, Troutman Sanders	1/26/2018	\$ 1,000.00		Represents telecom regulated entities before the Commission.
Pridemore	Marzo, Brandon	Attorney, Troutman Sanders	1/27/2018	\$ 500.00		
Pridemore	Caudill, Mark	Attorney, Southern Company Gas	1/28/2018	\$ 2,500.00		
Pridemore	Newsome, Brett	General Manager, SCANA Energy	1/28/2018	\$ 250.00		

Candidate	Contributor	Occupation/Employer	Date	Tier 1	Tier 2	Comments
Pridemore	Carver, Brad	Sr. Managing Director, Hall Booth Smith	1/29/2018	\$ 250.00		Represents SCANA as a lobbyist
Pridemore	Curtin, Kevin	Assistant Vice President, AT&T	1/29/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Hobbs, Terry	Consultant, Hobbs and Associates	1/29/2018	\$ 3,000.00		Registered lobbyist for regulated entities before the Commission
Pridemore	Mitchell, Michael	Government Relations, Comcast	1/29/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Edwards, Robert P.	Attorney, Troutman Sanders	1/30/2018		\$ 1,000.00	Represents regulated entities before the Commission.
Pridemore	Gage, Timory	Senior Vice President, Comcast	1/30/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Hobbs, Terry	Consultant, Hobbs and Associates	1/30/2018	\$ 2,600.00		Registered lobbyist for regulated entities before the Commission
Pridemore	Konuch, David	Executive, Comcast	1/30/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Sterling, Beverly	Vice President, Plant Telecommunications	1/30/2018	\$ 1,000.00		
Pridemore	Wall, Michael	VP Government Relations, Comcast	1/30/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Wingo, Pat	Regional Vice President, AT&T	1/30/2018	\$ 250.00		
Pridemore	Davis, Dwight	Farmer	1/31/2018		\$ 500.00	Ex Government Affairs with Georgia Power
Pridemore	McWhorter, Aaron	Farmer	1/31/2018	\$ 500.00		Actually serves on the board of Oglethorpe Power
Pridemore	Sutton, Jack	Vice President, Southern Company Gas	1/31/2018	\$ 1,000.00		
Pridemore	Troutman Sanders PAC	N/A	1/31/2018		\$ 2,500.00	Represents regulated entities before the Commission.
Pridemore	Towns, Hunter	Retired	2/20/2018		\$ 500.00	Represents Georgia Power as a lobbyist
Pridemore	Baxter, Mark	Attorney, Stone & Baxter	4/3/2018	\$ 250.00		Represents telecom interests before the Commission

Candidate	Contributor	Occupation/Employer	Date	Tier 1	Tier 2	Comments
Pridemore	Lyndall, Terri	Attorney, Galloway and Lyndall	4/24/2018	\$ 1,000.00		Represents telecom interests before the Commission
Pridemore	McGuire, Perry	Attorney, Smith Gambrell & Russell	4/24/2018		\$ 250.00	
Pridemore	Ratcliffe, David	Retired	4/24/2018		\$ 1,000.00	Retired but ex-executive from Georgia Power/Southern Company.
Pridemore	Smith Grambrell & Russell, LLP	N/A	4/24/2018		\$ 250.00	
Pridemore	Wortham, Mark	Attorney, Hall Booth Smith	4/24/2018	\$ 125.00		
Pridemore	Ratcliffe, David	Retired	8/17/2018		\$ 1,000.00	Retired but ex-executive from Georgia Power/Southern Company.
Pridemore	Haynes, Leonard	Retired	8/19/2018		\$ 100.00	Retired but ex-executive from Georgia Power/Southern Company.
Pridemore	Galloway, Newton	Attorney, Galloway and Lyndall	8/27/2018	\$ 1,000.00		Represents telecom interests before the Commission
Pridemore	Tuggle, Clyde	Retired	8/27/2018	\$ 500.00		Actually on the Georgia Power board
Pridemore	Underwood, Rudy	VP, American Chemistry Council	8/28/2018	\$ 250.00		Actually on the board of Cobb EMC
Pridemore	McWhorter, Aaron	Farmer	8/29/2018	\$ 250.00		Actually serves on the board of Oglethorpe Power
			Totals:	\$ 47,925.00	\$20,450.00	