



Jim Butterworth

Jim Butterworth was appointed Director of the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security (GEMA/HS) by Governor Nathan Deal in January 2015. In this position, he serves as the Homeland Security Advisor to the Governor and is responsible for coordinating the state's preparedness, response and recovery from natural disasters and acts of terrorism. These duties include leading Georgia's Emergency Operations Command and ensuring successful function of the State Operations Center.

Prior to his appointment as GEMA/HS Director, Mr. Butterworth served four years as the Adjutant General of Georgia overseeing the Georgia Department of Defense, which includes the Georgia Army National Guard, the Georgia Air National Guard and the Georgia State Defense Force. Previously, he served as a State Senator representing the 50th District in Northeast Georgia. While in the Senate, he served as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of several committees and was appointed Administration Floor Leader for Governor Deal. His public service began in 2004 when he was elected Chairman of the Habersham County Board of Commissioners.

In addition to an extensive public service record, Mr. Butterworth has flown as a pilot for Delta Air Lines and has accumulated more than 11,000 hours of flying time between his military, commercial and civilian flying careers. He was commissioned through the Air Force ROTC program at the University of Georgia and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in political science.

Mr. Butterworth's military service included assignments at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., as a T-38 pilot instructor; service at Dover AFB, Del., as a C-5 pilot; and service in Georgia's own 116th Bomb Wing as a B-1B aircraft commander and flight lead.

Born in Macon, Ga., and raised in Habersham County, Mr. Butterworth and his family attend church in Gainesville, Ga. He and his wife, Amy, have four children.