

Board of County Commissioners

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Office of the County Administrator

Press Release

Contact: Julie Swick
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
12 p.m. EDT, 12/15/2009

Census Participation Benefits Community

Woodbine, GA – December 15, 2009: The New Year is fast approaching and 2010 is shaping up to be a banner year for everyone. Every ten years, since 1790, the Census Bureau has conducted an official count of the United States population yet few people really understand the impact that the census has on our local community. Every one of us is touched in numerous ways by the results of that final census count.

First of all those numbers determine the number of seats each state is entitled to in the United States House of Representatives; men and women who are elected to speak for each of us, making our state and local needs known to the Federal Government. Federal funding of more than \$400 billion is allocated based on census numbers for disaster relief and emergency services for instances such as the flooding that affected many in our area this past year; research and disease control as in the H1N1 Flu outbreak that drove most of us to get that preventive vaccination during the last few months; job training centers, identification of skilled

“Leadership that Listens”

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Commissioner, District 2

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Commissioner, District 4

DAVID L. RAINER - Chair
Commissioner, District 5

workers, and retraining programs during this time of record unemployment in not only our community but across the entire United States is determined based on the census count; Schools, Senior Centers, Hospitals, Public Works Projects, the list goes on and on concerning the impact that the census has on funding and services available to our community. Assistance allocations and need statistics are based on your response which determines what our communities' fair share of the government pie is to be.

Camden County will host the 2010 Census Kick Off Meeting on January 7th, 5:30 pm at the 9th Grade Center athletic building for those interested in the local census process. The 2000 census had only 67% local response, Camden County has set a goal of 100% participation for the 2010 census. The mantra "Fill it out...mail it in...April 1st 2010" has been adopted as the local rallying cry and nationally, "We Can't Move Forward Until You Mail It Back" is an important reminder that every census response is essential to the eventual success of the 2010 count.

The 2010 census has been simplified, having only ten questions to be answered on the questionnaire that will be mailed to each household through the US Post Office. Though the census is not yet available electronically for the current count, a website www.census.gov has been created to provide information and answer any questions pertaining to the census; a sample of the official questionnaire is available for viewing and explanation on the site as well. Contact the Camden County Chamber of Commerce @ 912-729-5840 or info@camdenchamber.com for information on the local census planning and process.

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