

# Washington County Georgia EMA

\*\*\*\*PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT\*\*\*\*

As of today, July 1, 2025, I have retired as your EMA Director after 25 years of serving Washington County in this role. With all of your participation, cooperation, input, and valuable knowledge and experience in your area of expertise, we have been able to accomplish many goals that have contributed to helping keep our Citizens of Washington County safe from the hazards and risks that we are confronted with.

Please join me in welcoming Katie Moncus as our new EMA Director for Washington County! Katie has been recommended to and has been approved by the Washington County Board of Commissioners to serve in this part time position. Katie's full-time role as our Chamber of Commerce President will not change as the Chamber Board approved and welcomed the additional duties that she will have. Nathan Riner will remain as the Deputy EMA Director and with his experience in all Public Safety disciplines he will be a valuable asset to her in meeting goals to become a State Certified EMA Director through required trainings and meetings.

The EOC/Office at 115 Jones St. Suite 3, will remain as the official EMA office and will be used as the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) when activated. For our partners who use the County Wide Radio system, I will remain as the part time "Radio System Administrator" for the system which will continue to be managed by EMA.

I have enjoyed working alongside you all and thank you for allowing me to serve in this role for the last 25 years.

Thank You and God Bless!

Russell L Riner

Director, Washington County EMA (Retired 7/1/25)

These are huge shoes to fill! But I am humbled and honored to have the opportunity to serve after someone like Russell. He is truly a gem, and we are all better off because of his dedication and service to this county.

I realized early in my career at the Chamber how vital it is to identify and lean on your resources—and Russell was definitely one I relied on. I've had the opportunity to watch him over the years in various areas, showcasing the importance of the EMA role. Most recently, I was privileged to serve in a small capacity alongside Russell and the entire team during Helene. Countless people, skilled and knowledgeable in their respective roles, served this county tirelessly for days on end. We are so fortunate to have incredible individuals who dedicate their careers to serving our community.

I look forward to working alongside this amazing team already in place, and to serving the hometown I love so much!

I'm also incredibly grateful to work within the walls of a small-town Chamber. Our commitment to the community has given me the opportunity to take on this role and I think that speaks volumes.

So Russell, here's to you — a true example of dedication. If I can achieve even half of what you've accomplished, I'll be satisfied. 😊

- Katie Clark Moncus