

# **GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

## **Press Statement**

For Immediate Release:

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### **Statement Regarding Application for Adopt A Highway Program Participation**

The Georgia Department of Transportation, after consultation with Governor Nathan Deal and the State Transportation Board Chair, today denied the application of the International Keystone Knights of the Ku Klux Klan to participate in the Department's Adopt A Highway program in Union County, GA.

The Adopt A Highway Program is designed to allow civic-minded organizations in good standing to provide the valuable public service of removing litter from designated roadways. Participation in the program should not detract from its worthwhile purpose.

Maintaining the safety of our roadways is this Department's foremost mission. Encountering signage and members of the KKK along a roadway would create a definite distraction to motorists. Also, the section of roadway requested is ineligible for adoption due to its posted speed limit exceeding the program maximum of 55 mph.

Further, promoting an organization with a history of inciting civil disturbance and social unrest would present a grave concern to the Department.

Finally, issuing this permit would have the potential to negatively impact the quality of life, commerce and economic development of Union County and all of Georgia.

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