



Sandon Knight Appointed to ABC Board Following Passing of Longtime Member Smokey Russell

Posted on October 3, 2025 by Carey Fauscett-Anderson

TRENTON, Ga. (October 3, 2025) — The Dade County Board of Commissioners has appointed Sandon Knight to serve on the Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) Board, filling the unexpired term of the late Smokey Russell, who passed away earlier this month after many years of faithful service to the county.

Chairman Don Townsend expressed his condolences to the Russell family and acknowledged Mr. Russell's long-standing commitment to Dade County. "Smokey faithfully served on the Alcohol Beverage Control Board for more than a decade, and his steady leadership was greatly valued by this board and by our community," Townsend said.

The ABC Board is responsible for reviewing and issuing licenses and permits related to the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages within the county. The board maintains representation from across Dade, including members from Sand Mountain, Lookout Mountain, North Dade, and South Dade.

Knight, who resides near Trenton, was first considered for a board position several years ago but no vacancy was available at that time. He will now fulfill the remainder of Russell's at-large term, which extends through December 31, 2027, as outlined in Resolution R-39-25.

Commissioners expressed appreciation for Knight's willingness to serve and noted that his appointment maintains balanced representation across the county.

Townsend added, "We are grateful to Mr. Knight for continuing the strong tradition of integrity and fairness that has defined this board for so many years."



Mr. Robert W. "Smokey" Russell