

# *Dr. Romona Jackson Jones*



Dr. Romona Jackson Jones is the first African American Commission Chairman in the history of Douglas County and the first African American Female to win a countywide race for County Commission Chairman in the State of Georgia on November 8, 2016. Dr. Jones won a second term on November 3, 2020, during the most unprecedented public health pandemic in modern history.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee on March 10, 1958, Dr. Jones is the second of three siblings and appreciates her value as a middle child. She is the daughter of Mattie Howell Jackson and the late Johnnie L. Jackson, Jr. Shortly after graduating from Hamilton High School in Memphis, Dr. Jones followed the footsteps of her father, a Korean War Paratrooper by joining the U. S. Army for three years. She married a U. S. Marine and is officially retired as a former spouse of 19 years. She earned a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University, a master's degree from Chapman University and a doctorate degree in Educational Leadership (Higher Education) from Argosy University.

Prior to being elected Douglas County Commission Chairman, Dr. Jones worked in the healthcare industry for 40 years of which 31 years involved Leadership, Master Facility Planning, Multi Million Dollar Budget Oversight, Operations Management, Personnel Management, Policy Development, Process Improvement and Strategic Planning. Dr. Jones has worked in federal, state, and local government, private, nonprofit and for-profit organizations through-out her professional career. She was among the first Civil Service employees in the nation to coordinate and direct a federally regulated environmental program for the U. S. Navy. Dr. Jones has led several multi-million-dollar master facilities planning and execution projects for healthcare organizations through-out the United States. Dr. Jones is listed in the Who's Who registry for Elite and Extraordinary Professionals in Washington, D. C.

Dr. Jones is a visionary game changing leader and business owners and colleagues alike have given her well earned respect. Dr. Jones ventures help secure \$3.3 billion

dollars in economic development investments, and she added to the pecuniary mix with the most significant capital investment in Georgia's history and welcomed a global technology company called Switch with-in her first year in office. Dr. Jones' call to action for the betterment of Douglas County focuses on Public Safety, Road Enhancements, Public Health, Mental Health, Economic Development, Workforce Development, Seniors/Youth, Transportation, Smart Growth, Beautification, Recreation, Diversity, Public Engagement and Transparency.

Under Dr. Jones leadership, Douglas County has a very strong financial position, low debt burden with a robust credit position and strong wealth and income profile. Under her leadership Douglas County's full tax base rose to 12.9 billion dollars which is notably larger than the U. S. median. The median household income increased substantially since she has taken office. Under her leadership the first ever intermodal transportation system was launched in Douglas County in 2018. In 2020, despite the challenges of COVID-19, Dr. Jones garnered a 100% count during the 2020 Census. During the onset of COVID-19 of March 2020, Dr. Jones lead crisis management with extreme confidence and poise while utilizing her healthcare skills in infection control, disinfection, and sterilization to educate and mitigate an unfamiliar global virus in Douglas County.

Dr. Jones serves on numerous local and national boards. She is the proud mother of Shannon Nicole Jones, a Douglas County School System Teacher. Dr. Jones is a God-fearing community servant who believes in serving the people and not the politics. Most importantly Dr. Romona Jackson Jones is a professional unbiase leader who stands for what is right, do what is right and stand up for ALL citizens in Douglas County.