



COBB COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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NEIL WARREN
SHERIFF

LYNDA COKER
CHIEF DEPUTY

June 4, 2010

Director Vernon Keenan
Georgia Bureau of Investigation
3121 Panthersville Road
Decatur, Georgia 30034

Dear Director Keenan:

I am in receipt of a complaint from a Cobb County citizen alleging that the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia has violated O.C.G.A. 50-36-1 regarding the provision of postsecondary educational benefits to aliens who are ineligible for such benefits. The complaint is predicated upon public statements allegedly made by representatives of the Board of Regents to the effect that "ineligible aliens are not only admitted, but are welcomed into the Georgia university system and are presently attending classes". O.C.G.A. 50-36-1(c)(7) requires compliance with 8 U.S.C. 1621 which provides that aliens not legally in the United States are ineligible for certain State or local benefits, including postsecondary education, unless the State has enacted a State law after August 22, 1996 to affirmatively provide such eligibility.

I would appreciate your agency reviewing this complaint to determine whether any violation of Georgia law has occurred. The University Board of Regents is an entity of State government and any investigation of their actions would be more appropriately within your jurisdiction. Additionally, the underlying incident which has brought this issue to light occurred in Cobb County and the involvement of the Cobb County Sheriff's Office in such an investigation could be perceived as a conflict of interest.

Copies of the documentation provided to me regarding this issue are attached for your information.

Respectfully,

Neil Warren
Sheriff

cc: Honorable Sonny Perdue, Governor
Georgia Attorney General Thurbert Baker