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For Immediate Release

17-15

MEDIA ADVISORY **FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER TIM ECHOLS** **Echols to Host “Unholy Tour” March 10, 2015**

ATLANTA – March 5, 2015 - Public Service Commissioner Tim Echols will host a second “Unholy Tour” of the “Red Light District” of Atlanta on Tuesday March 10, 2015. The tour will depart from the Coverdell Legislative Office Building on Mitchell Street in Atlanta at 6:00 p.m., and will return at approximately 8:30 p.m. The bus is completely full with no seats remaining. A waiting list is available by emailing fhenning@psc.state.ga.us. Due to the generosity of a donor, Chick-fil-a will be served.

"As an Atlanta native, I am appalled that our city is one of the worst in the country for sex trafficking of young girls," said Echols. "We owe it to the next generation to lock up the perpetrators, both buyers and sellers, and send a message that Georgia is not buying it."

Kasey McClure from the 4Sarah organization will be the tour guide so the group can observe the sex trade in the metro Atlanta area from the safety of the charter bus. 4Sarah’s mission is to provide outreach to women who are still in “the life” and to coordinate with other organizations to provide support and counseling to those who have gotten out. Members of the law enforcement community, the General Assembly and the news media will join the tour.

In January, Commissioner Echols organized an Unholy Tour touring the Cheshire Bridge and Fulton Industrial area with guest host Kasey McClure discussing sex trafficking and observing the locations where it can begin. As a result of local news media coverage of the first Unholy Tour, two teenage girls were rescued from a trafficker through cooperation between 4Sarah and DeKalb County Special Victims Unit.

Commissioner Echols is in his fifth year on the Georgia Public Service Commission, having been elected statewide in November, 2010. His complete biography and photo are found on the Commission web site at <http://www.psc.state.ga.us/pscinfo/bios/echols.asp?tab=Tab2>.

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