



Statewide Professional Organization
**Grant Cagle Named President & CEO
of Georgia Economic Developers Association**

(Atlanta, Georgia) The board of directors of the Georgia Economic Developers Association has named Grant Cagle as the professional organization’s next president and chief executive officer. The announcement was made by Benjy Thompson, chair of GEDA and chief executive officer of the Development Authority of Bulloch County in Statesboro, Georgia. Cagle’s first day at GEDA is set for Monday, November 28.

The Chason Group was retained by the GEDA board to lead the executive search.

“The search committee and board feel Grant has what it takes to move GEDA forward by building on the solid foundation that has been established since our incorporation as a 501(c)(6) organization in 1975,” Thompson said. “Speaking on behalf of the board, I can share with you our excitement to move forward on strategic goals that have been developed over the past few years. One of those is to become more actively engaged in state and federal legislative and policy issues affecting GEDA’s members and their communities by serving as a known go-to resource for economic development.”

Cagle is a native Georgian and started his career in the economic development arena in 2015 as marketing and communications assistant for the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. His responsibilities included creating and developing all social media platforms.

In January 2017, Cagle joined the Electric Cities of Georgia economic development team as a project manager. Two years later, he was promoted to a senior project manager level and in 2021 was selected to serve in his current position of manager, industrial development, economic development for ECG. Cagle is responsible for member engagement; assisting with strategic planning, marketing analyses, community marketing strategies, and business recruitment; and regularly meeting with political, regional, and local officials, partnering to bring jobs, investment, and load growth for member cities.

“The opportunity to work with economic development professionals across Georgia is exciting for me,” Cagle said. “GEDA is recognized as the resource for economic development. I look forward to becoming a part of the team that strengthens our message and involvement in both education and policy development”



New Contact Information

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Cagle earned a four-year student athlete golf scholarship to attend Georgia State University in Atlanta, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, Religious Studies degree. He has spent many hours volunteering for the Boys and Girls Club of Atlanta and First Tee Program helping to teach life skills through the game of golf.



GEDA's primary mission is to serve as the resource for networking, professional development, and public policy for Georgia's economic development community.

As background, the search committee developed a position description, weighting scale, and competitive compensation package to identify candidates. A position announcement was placed on various economic development job posting websites, LinkedIn, and distributed to economic developers nationwide.

In addition to Thompson, other members of the search committee included: Dorie Bacon, Georgia Department of Economic Development; Misti Martin, Cherokee Office of Economic Development; Chris Pumphrey, Elevate Douglas Economic Partnership; Andrea Schrujjer, Valdosta-Lowndes County Development Authority; Trip Tollison, Savannah Economic Development Authority; and Cal Wray, Augusta Economic Development Authority.

Cagle and his wife, Meghan, have three children and live in Marietta. The family is active in Passion City Church of Atlanta.

Kevin Shea, the previous president and chief executive officer of GEDA, retired in September after serving the group since July of 2014.

The Chason Group is a Georgia-based search firm specializing in senior level executive searches for economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, convention and visitors bureaus, and other nonprofit organizations.