



**ELECT**

**EARNESTINE D. PITTMAN**

**WARD C at- Large**

**VOICE FOR THE PEOPLE**

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**If there is ANYONE BUT PITTMAN, who told you this Stop reading; otherwise Keep reading.**

**Honorable Stacey Abrams, former Minority Leader of Georgia House of Representatives, and Leader of Fair Fight:**

I applaud you for the magnificent work that you have done and continue to do in fighting for our rights to participate in fair and free elections. You have proven that you are worthy to be called a Leader and Stateswoman and is **“committed to ensuring safer communities, championing progressive values, and safeguarding our rights to participate in fair and free elections.”** However, when you endorsed East Point’s Mayor Deana Holiday Ingraham assigning her with the same attributes you went too far.

As a lawyer, former Minority Leader in Georgia House of Representatives, and the head of Fair Fight, your words carry a great deal of weight, and people, especially in the Black community listen to you as one of their Spokesperson. This is why, I am so concerned about your endorsement of Mayor Holiday Ingraham in a nonpartisan race in a City that you do not live in and whom you have a lack of knowledge of her political endeavors and leadership style.

Because of whom you are your endorsement has the power to unduly influence our Mayoral Election based on unsubstantiated claims. For instance, **“ensuring safer communities”** does not allow Mayor Holiday Ingraham to pad the Mayor’s Office FY 21 Salary Budget by **\$61,885**; and by **\$63,649** in the FY 22 Budget with no accounting as to whom the money was paid. As a former Georgia State Legislator, you know that elected officials cannot spend taxpayer’s money to sponsor/support gratuitous events such as Wednesday Wind Down Parties that were planned and executed by elected officials at a cost of more than **\$700,000**. These Parties were free to the public, and the paid performers were provided with housing, luxury transportation, and Hollywood style VIP accommodations. The City collected less than **\$25,000** in permit and vendor fees. Mayor Holiday Ingraham was dubbed the Dancing Mayor. I do not believe that you would support or condone this type of conduct. I know that the residents of East Point do not.

I do not know what you can or is willing to do at this point to undo the effect that your endorsement may have on our Mayoral race. In the future, I hope that your endorsement of any East Point political Candidate will be based on merit and personal knowledge.

I am a former Council Member and Mayor of East Point. I have lived here for forty-eight years. I have never sought nor accepted any endorsements during any of my campaigns for public office. Neither have I ever written or given a formal endorsement beyond stating whom I would vote for in an election.