



36TH
STREET
STRATEGIES

Blake Tillery
Research Report
September 19, 2025

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TOP HITS

PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Tweets About Ex-Girlfriends

Tillery Still Has Several Tweets And Photos Up Of His Former Girlfriends Whom He Would Refer To As “Hottie” Or “Hot Blonde”

- As of September 2025, Tillery still has a photo of himself and his former girlfriend from 2014 on his X account. ([X](#), 2/16/14)
- In 2014, Tillery tweeted out a photo of his then girlfriend and wrote, “Check out this hottie with a paint brush.” ([X](#), 1/26/14)
- In 2013, Tillery tweeted about a different girlfriend, writing “My GF had a flat tire. 4 people stopped to help. #HardLifeOfAHotBlonde” ([X](#), 9/1/13)
- As of September 2024, Tillery still has several photos and himself and this former girlfriend from 2013 on his X account. ([X](#), 5/17/13; [X](#), 3/9/13)

2016 Accident and Wrongful Death Suit

In April 2016, While He Was Running For State Senate, Tillery Struck And Killed A 44-Year-Old Father Of Four Who Was Riding His Bike

- In April 2016, Tillery’s vehicle struck a cyclist in Vidalia, GA. (Crash C000393821-01, Georgia Department Of Public Safety, Filed 4/11/16; Received Via Open Records Request On 9/10/25)
- The victim was 44-year-old Bunji “Mark” Takaya, a father of four. (Obituary, [Ronald V. Hall Funeral Home](#), Accessed 9/16/25; Crash C000393821-01, Georgia Department Of Public Safety, Filed 4/11/16; Received Via Open Records Request On 9/10/25)

The Victim’s Family Filed A Wrongful Death Lawsuit Against Tillery And Requested His Cell Phone Records From The Day Of The Accident

- Days after the accident, the victim’s wife filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Tillery, alleging he operated his vehicle in a negligible manner. (Complaint, Case 16CV00241, [Toombs County Superior Court](#), Filed 4/14/16)
- The victim’s wife petitioned the court for Tillery’s phone records on the date of the wreck. (Request For Production Of Documents, Case 16CV00241, [Toombs County Superior Court](#), Filed 4/14/16)

In January 2017, A District Attorney Said Tillery Would Not Be Charged With A Felony In The Accident And The Victim’s Family Dropped The Lawsuit

- In January 2017, the Middle Judicial Circuit District Attorney said no felony charges would be filed against Tillery for the incident. (Staff, “Blake Tillery Will Not Face Felony Charges for Lethal Accident,” [WBYZ94](#), 1/5/17)
- In February 2017, the victim’s wife dropped her lawsuit against Tillery. (Dismissal, Case 16CV00241, [Toombs County Superior Court](#), Filed 2/3/17)

Tillery Did Not Address The Accident Or Death Himself And Went Back To Campaigning

- On the day of the accident, Tillery’s campaign manager posted on his Facebook page about the accident, however, Tillery himself did not address the incident on his social media. ([Facebook](#), 4/22/16; [Facebook](#), 4/11/16)
- 11 days later, Tillery went back to posting about campaigning. ([Facebook](#), 4/22/16)

- According to a supporter of Tillery’s political opponent, Tillery was spotted hours after the accident campaigning at the Wayne Dasher’s Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner. (Jessica Szilagyi, “COLUMN: How Much Is Political Office Worth?,” [All On Georgia](#), 4/15/16)
- **NOTE:** *No evidence could be found of Tillery having ever directly addressed the accident or the man’s death to the public.*

LAW FIRM

PPP Loan

In 2021, Tillery Received A \$32,650 PPP Loan, Which Was Forgiven

- In 2021, Tillery applied for a PPP loan for payroll. (Tracking PPP, [ProPublica](#), Accessed 9/19/25)
- Tillery received a PPP loan of \$32,653, which was eventually forgiven. (Tracking PPP, [ProPublica](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

Criticism

- Tillery’s law firm has one star on Yelp due to a negative review. ([Yelp](#), Accessed 9/19/25)
- In the one-star review, the reviewer said Tillery was a “school boy lawyer” who belittled his female employee during their meeting. ([Yelp](#), Accessed 9/19/25)
- The reviewer claimed that he drove 1.5 hour to meet with Tillery who then never called him back about taking his case. ([Yelp](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

NOTABLE CASES

Personal Injury Case For State Representative

In 2022, Tillery Represented State Representative Bill Werkheiser In A Suit Against The City Of Atlanta For More Than \$300,000 After He Was In An Accident With An Atlanta Police Officer

- In 2022, Tillery represented State Representative Bill Werkheiser in a personal injury case against the City of Atlanta. (Complaint, Case 22EV002264, [Fulton County State Court](#), Filed 4/15/22)
- In 2021, Werkheiser was rear-ended by an Atlanta police officer. (Complaint, Case 22EV002264, [Fulton County State Court](#), Filed 4/15/22)
- Tillery claimed Werkheiser incurred \$316,602 in medical expense and \$16,464 in vehicular damages due to the accident. (Complaint, Case 22EV002264, [Fulton County State Court](#), Filed 4/15/22)
- The case was settled outside of court. (Dismissal with Prejudice, Case 22EV002264, [Fulton County State Court](#), Filed 3/26/24)

Other Automobile Tort

- Tillery has represented several plaintiffs in automobile tort cases. (Case 2021CV356134, [Fulton County Superior Court](#), Filed 10/28/21; Case 14-CV-183, [Telfair Superior Court](#), Filed 10/8/14)

Oil Company Cases

- In 2022, Tillery represented Gay Oil Company when they were sued for breach of contract by Thompson-Kenny, a petroleum distributor. (Case 22-C-03114-S6, [Gwinnett County State Court](#), Filed 6/3/22)
- Tillery worked on the case with State Representative Matt Reeves who is also an attorney. (Case 22-C-03114-S6, [Gwinnett County State Court](#), Filed 6/3/22)
- The case was settled outside of court. (Mutual Dismissal, Case 22-C-03114-S6, [Gwinnett County State Court](#), Filed 12/8/23)

2022 Election Fraud Case

- In June 2022, activist Garland Favorito contested the primary election of Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger in all Georgia 159 counties. (Stephen Fowler, “Ignoring Reality, Some Primary Candidates Refuse To Admit Defeat,” [GPB](#), 7/5/22)
- Tillery represented Toombs County in the lawsuit. (Case 22V-0527, [Spalding County Superior Court](#), Filed 6/23/22)
- In their answer to the petition, Toombs County stated Favorito failed to state any claim against Toombs County and failed to state a claim for election contest. (Answer, Case 22V-0527, [Spalding County Superior Court](#), Filed 7/7/22)
- In August 2025, the court dismissed Favorito’s case. (Order Dismissing Petition For Election Contest, [Spalding County Superior Court](#), Filed 8/21/25)

RENTAL INCOME

Rents To Government-Funded Group Providing Healthcare To Migrant Farm Workers

Since At Least 2021, Tillery Has Received \$13,200 A Year In Rental Income From Magnolia Coastlands AHEC, A Government-Funded Organization Which Coordinates Health Services For Migrant Farmworkers In Southwest Georgia

- According to his personal financial disclosures, since at least 2021, Tillery has received \$13,200 a year in rental income from Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Center (AHEC). (2024 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 6/21/25; 2023 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/15/24; 2022 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/25/23; 2021 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/10/22; [Google](#), Accessed 9/15/25)
- Magnolia Coastlands AHEC is funded through federal, state, and small grants. (Jeneane Brown, “Magnolia Coastlands AHEC Provides Opportunities For Youth Interested In Healthcare Careers,” [Grice Connect](#), 6/22/24)
- According to their website, Magnolia Coastlands AHEC coordinates multiple migrant farm clinics in Georgia. (“Community Based Clinical Training,” [Magnolia Coastlands AHEC](#), Accessed 9/15/25)
- According to a 2012 study of the migrants who received services at these clinics, 60 percent were not “permanent residents” of the U.S. (Mobile Farm Clinic Outreach to Address Health Conditions Among Latino Migrant Farmworkers in Georgia, [Journal of Agromedicine](#), October 2012)
- According to the same study, migrants received free over-the-counter medications at the clinics. (Mobile Farm Clinic Outreach to Address Health Conditions Among Latino Migrant Farmworkers in Georgia, [Journal of Agromedicine](#), October 2012)

VOTING HISTORY AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Georgia Voting History

- In 2004, Tillery voted in the Democratic Presidential Preference Primary. (My Voter Page, [Georgia Secretary of State](#), Accessed 9/4/25)

Notable Political Contributions

- In 2024, Tillery contributed a total of \$2,000 to Mike Dugan’s Congressional primary campaign. ([Center For Responsive Politics](#), Accessed 9/5/25)
- In 2019 and 2020, Tillery contributed a total of \$1,500 to Greg Dolezal. ([Center For Responsive Politics](#), Accessed 9/5/25)
- In 2018, Tillery contributed \$1,000 to Brad Raffensperger. ([Center For Responsive Politics](#), Accessed 9/5/25)

CAREER POLITICIAN

Tillery Is A Career Politician, Having First Run For Office As A College Student In 2004

- In 2004, Tillery ran and lost a race for the Athens-Clarke County Commission as a student. (Jennifer Burie, "Student Runs For Commissioner," [The Red & Black](#), 2/16/04)
- From 2013 to 2016, Tillery was the chairman of the Toombs County Commission. ([The Tillery Firm](#), Accessed 9/19/25)
- Since 2017, Tillery has served in the Georgia State Senate. ([The Tillery Firm](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Budget Increases Under Tillery

- Since Tillery assumed the Appropriations Committee chairmanship, Georgia's budget has increased a total of 56 percent. ([GBPI](#), 6/30/25; [GBPI](#), 5/8/24; [Urban Institute](#), September 2025)
- **NOTE:** *For the sake of this report, Georgia's FY2022 budget is treated as Tillery's first budget under his Appropriations Committee chairmanship since Tillery did not become chairman until the end of the 2020 legislative season.*

2023 Budget Disagreements With Kemp

In 2023, Tillery Broke With Kemp And Introduced A Budget Cutting \$105 Million From Higher Education, Including Cutting A Health Benefits Program Kemp Introduced

- In 2023, Tillery's proposed budget cut \$105 million from the university system, including \$18 million for university health benefits, breaking from Kemp's recommendations. (Abraham Kenmore, "Georgia Senate Approves Budget With \$105 Million Cut To University System," [Athens Banner-Herald](#), 3/23/23)
- The budget cuts were blasted by University System of Georgia Chancellor Sonny Perdue. (Abraham Kenmore, "Georgia Senate Approves Budget With \$105 Million Cut To University System," [Athens Banner-Herald](#), 3/23/23)
- Tillery said cutting the \$18 million for university health benefits that Kemp introduced was "low hanging fruit" because the Senate was not consulted on it. (Abraham Kenmore, "Georgia Senate Approves Budget With \$105 Million Cut To University System," [Athens Banner-Herald](#), 3/23/23)

In 2023, After Kemp Recommended Increasing The Budget For Georgia Public Broadcasting, Tillery Engineered A Nine Percent Cut To The Network

- In 2023, Kemp recommended an increase in the budget for Georgia Public Broadcasting. (Rodney Ho, "Georgia Public Broadcasting Losing 9% Of Its State Funding," [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/30/23)
- However, Tillery engineered a reduction of nine percent for GPB's budget. (Rodney Ho, "Georgia Public Broadcasting Losing 9% Of Its State Funding," [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/30/23)

In 2023, Kemp Told The Senate There Were "Significant Holes" In The Budget Tillery Helped Craft

- In 2023, Kemp told the Senate there were "significant holes" in the budget Tillery helped craft. (Jill Nolin, "Governor Warns Of Budget 'Holes' After Georgia Lawmakers Sign Off On New Spending Plan," [Georgia Recorder](#), 3/30/23)
- Kemp: "As we have done in years past, our job is to make the tough decisions necessary to keep the financial health of this state on sound footing, and I believe that there remains work to be done after the session to conclude and achieve that goal." (Jill Nolin, "Governor Warns Of Budget 'Holes' After Georgia Lawmakers Sign Off On New Spending Plan," [Georgia Recorder](#), 3/30/23)

Ultimately, Kemp Cut \$236 Million From The General Assembly-Passed Budget And Also Vetoed \$6 Million For A Technical College In Tillery's District, Leading Tillery To Criticize The Lack Of Respect From Kemp's Office

- Kemp eventually cut \$236 million from the General Assembly’s budget. (James Salzer, “Kemp Takes Hard Line On General Assembly Priorities With Spending Cuts,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 5/14/23)
- Additionally, Kemp vetoed \$6 million for a technical college system building in Tillery’s district. (James Salzer, “Kemp Takes Hard Line On General Assembly Priorities With Spending Cuts,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 5/14/23)
- Tillery had pointed words for the Governor over the cuts to the budget, saying he “expected the Kemp administration to show as much respect for the role of the General Assembly as lawmakers do for the Governor and his authority.” (James Salzer, “Kemp Takes Hard Line On General Assembly Priorities With Spending Cuts,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 5/14/23)

POSSIBLE PAY-TO-PLAY

Support For Trial Lawyers

Tillery’s Number One Industry For Campaign Contributions Is Lawyers And Lobbyists And He Has Voted In Their Favor On Multiple Occasions

- According to FollowTheMoney, Tillery has received a total of \$243,925 from lawyers and lobbyists. ([FollowTheMoney](#), Accessed 9/19/25)
- In 2020, Tillery voted to table a bill to put a cap on jury awards in tort cases. (SB 415, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Tabled 3/12/20)
- In 2025, Tillery co-sponsored a bill to allows criminal defendants to recoup attorney's fees from the state in wrongful convictions or when a prosecuting attorney is disqualified for misconduct. (SB 244, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law on 5/14/25)
- In the 2025 budget, Tillery carved out big raises for top judges in Georgia. (James Salzer, “Georgia Senate Backs Plan For Top Judges To Get Big Raises,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/27/24)
- In 2024, Tillery sponsored a tort reform bill that he touted as a compromise between trial lawyers and the insurance industry. (“Georgia Senate Approves End To Direct-Action Suits Vs. Truck Insurers,” [Insurance Journal](#), 2/15/24)
 - According To FollowTheMoney, Tillery has also received a total of \$42,525 from the insurance industry. ([FollowTheMoney](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

Support For Telecom

- According To FollowTheMoney, Tillery has received a total of \$26,050 from the telecom industry. ([FollowTheMoney](#), Accessed 9/19/25)
- Tillery has included more money for broadband internet access as chairman of the Appropriations Committee. (Beau Evans, “Senate-Backed Budget Includes Funding For Public Health, Rural Internet,” [The Augusta Press](#), 2/11/21)

NOTABLE POSITIONS

Jobs

- Tillery has raised concerns about the renewal of the Georgia Agribusiness And Rural Jobs Act (GARJA). (James Salazar, “State Rural Lending Program Back For Another Try Despite Mixed Reviews,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/5/23)

Tax Breaks

- In 2020, Tillery said his “default position on special tax breaks is no.” (Drew Davis, “State-Budget Talk Highlights Eggs & Issues,” [The Press-Sentinel](#), 1/11/20)
- In 2024, Tillery opposed a bill doubling the standard homestead exemption, which would lower taxes for Georgians in one-third of Georgia counties (James Salzer, “’Tis The Season To Gut And Replace At The Georgia Capitol,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/12/24)

- In 2024, Tillery stated his hesitation to support a tax break for timber growers. (James Salzer, “This Time, Georgia Senate Says No To Special-Interest Last-Minute Tax Break,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 4/2/24)
- In 2018, Tillery voted against extending the suspension of the jet-fuel tax. (Staff, “Governor signs hurricane relief, tax break on jet fuel,” [The Press-Sentinel](#), 11/23/18)

Sports Betting

- In 2023, Tillery said he doesn’t support legalizing sports betting. (Drew Davis, “Lawmakers Address Varied Questions About ‘New Era,’” [The Press-Sentinel](#), 1/12/23)

Medicaid

- In 2019, Tillery introduced a bill to expand Medicaid in Georgia. (Dave Williams, “Gov. Kemp Unveils Medicaid Waiver Legislation,” [Atlanta Business Chronicle](#), 2/14/19)
 - **NOTE:** *The bill was an initiative of Governor Kemp’s.*

Family Leave

- In 2017, Tillery did not vote on a bill to extend family leave. (SB 201, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law On 5/8/17)
 - Tillery’s absence was excused. (SB 201, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law On 5/8/17)

Vouchers

- Tillery has voted in favor of school vouchers. (SB 233, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law On 4/23/24)

School Recess

- In 2019, Tillery voted against a bill that would require elementary schools to schedule recess. (HB 83, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Vetoed On 5/10/19)
- Tillery said the bill would “burden” school districts. (Ty Tagami, “Georgia Recess Bill Gains Final Passage, So School Kids May Get A Break,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/27/19)

Abortion

- In 2022, Tillery did not vote on a bill restricting abortion pills. (SB 456, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Senate Passed On 3/1/22)
 - Tillery’s absence was excused. (SB 456, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Senate Passed On 3/1/22)

Second Amendment

- In 2019, Georgia Gun Owners “pounded” Tillery and other lawmakers for supporting a Democrat-sponsored gun control measure that would restrict second amendment rights in cases of abuse. (Jim Galloway, “The Footnote That Could Revive An Effort To Strip Guns From Domestic Abusers,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 7/9/19)
- In 2020, Tillery told a crowd of his constituents, regarding gun control, “not to be concerned by inaccurate social-media reports from groups looking for contributions.” (Drew Davis, “State-Budget Talk Highlights Eggs & Issues,” [The Press-Sentinel](#), 1/11/20)

Election Fraud

- In 2024, Tillery said he was “reluctant to spend several million dollars for brand-new modifications” to the state’s voting machines. (Drew Davis, “Lawmakers Stress Need For Planning,” [The Press-Sentinel](#), 1/11/24)

Criminal Justice

- In 2023, Tillery’s appropriations committee declined to take up a bill to compensate those who were wrongly convicted and spent time in prison, with Tillery saying the committee “ran out of time.” (Maya T. Prabhu And Mark Niese, “Georgia Senate Blocks Payments To Men Who Wrongly Spent Decades In Prison,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 4/13/23)

Hate Crimes

- In 2020, Tillery did not vote on the “Hate Crimes” bill. (HB 426, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law on 6/26/20)
 - Tillery’s absence was excused. (HB 426, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law on 6/26/20)

Child Safety

- In 2023, Tillery voted against a bill to have the state develop a model aquatic safety plan for private swim instructors. (SB 107, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law On 5/3/23)

Census

- In 2021, Tillery advocated for counting prisoners in the census. (Maya T. Prabhu, “Inmate Population Tilts Political Representation In Rural Georgia,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 11/11/21)

Love From Geoff Duncan

- In 2019, then Lt. Governor Geoff Duncan campaigned for Tillery, saying “I have no better friend in the State Senate than Blake Tillery!” (John Eden, “Lt. Gov. Duncan Addresses Issues Facing Rural Ga. In Screven Meeting,” [The Press-Sentinel](#), 11/23/19)

PERSONAL BACKGROUND

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name: Michael Blake Tillery

DOB: October 9, 1983

Address: 402 Durden St, Vidalia, GA 30474

(Nexis, Accessed 9/4/25)

TIMELINE

2002: Tillery graduates from Vidalia High School. ([The Tillery Firm](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

August 2002 – May 2006: Tillery graduated from the University of Georgia with a bachelor's degree in International Affairs. (The University of Georgia Registrar's Office, Received via Open Records Request on 9/8/25)

2004: Tillery runs for Athens Clarke County Commission and loses. (Jennifer Burie, "Student Runs For Commissioner," [The Red & Black](#), 2/16/04)

August 2007 – May 2010: Tillery graduated from the University of Georgia with a Juris Doctorate in Law. (The University of Georgia Registrar's Office, Received via Open Records Request on 9/8/25)

2013 – 2016: Tillery is Chairman of the Tombs County Commission. ([The Tillery Firm](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

2016: Tillery is elected to the Georgia State Senate. ([The Tillery Firm](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

2020: Tillery takes over law practice from partner and renames it to The Tillery Firm. ([The Tillery Firm](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

EDUCATION

In May 2006, Tillery Graduated From The University Of Georgia With A Bachelor's Degree In International Affairs. (The University of Georgia Registrar's Office, Received via Open Records Request on 9/8/25)

In May 2010, Tillery Graduated From The University Of Georgia With A Juris Doctorate In Law. (The University of Georgia Registrar's Office, Received via Open Records Request on 9/8/25)

Degrees Awarded:

5/13/2006 Bachelor of Arts Major in: International Affairs

5/15/2010 Juris Doctor Major in: Law

Enrollment History		
Term	Term Dates	Time Status
Fall 2002	8/19/2002 to 12/17/2002	Undergraduate Full Time
Fall 2003	8/18/2003 to 12/16/2003	Undergraduate Full Time
Spring 2004	1/8/2004 to 5/7/2004	Undergraduate Half Time
Fall 2004	8/19/2004 to 12/17/2004	Undergraduate Full Time
Spring 2005	1/10/2005 to 5/10/2005	Undergraduate Full Time
Summer 2005	5/17/2005 to 8/5/2005	Undergraduate Full Time
Fall 2005	8/18/2005 to 12/16/2005	Undergraduate Full Time
Spring 2006	1/9/2006 to 5/9/2006	Undergraduate Full Time
Fall 2007	8/16/2007 to 12/14/2007	Law Full Time
Spring 2008	1/7/2008 to 5/6/2008	Law Full Time
Fall 2008	8/18/2008 to 12/17/2008	Law Full Time
Spring 2009	1/8/2009 to 5/8/2009	Law Full Time
Fall 2009	8/17/2009 to 12/16/2009	Law Full Time
Spring 2010	1/7/2010 to 5/7/2010	Law Full Time

Effective Fall 1998, the University of Georgia converted from quarters to semesters. Time status is not available for terms prior to Fall 1998.

(The University of Georgia Registrar's Office, Received via Open Records Request on 9/8/25)

FAMILY

Wife

Tillery Is Married To Ashlee Nicole Tillery, An OBGYN

Tillery Is Married To Ashlee Tillery. ("Meet Blake," [Tillery For Georgia](#), Accessed 9/16/25)

Ashlee Nicole Tillery Is An OBGYN At Memorial Health Meadows Hospital. ([Memorial Health](#), Accessed 9/16/25)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Type	URL
Facebook (Campaign)	https://www.facebook.com/BlakeTilleryGA/
Facebook (Law Firm)	https://www.facebook.com/TheTilleryFirmPC
X (Campaign)	https://x.com/BlakeTillery
Instagram (Campaign)	https://www.instagram.com/tilleryforgeorgia
Instagram (Personal)	https://www.instagram.com/blaketillery13/
Truth Social (Campaign)	https://truthsocial.com/@blaketilleryga
YouTube (Campaign)	https://www.youtube.com/@BlakeTillery-GA

Tweets About Ex-Girlfriends

Tillery Has Several Tweets And Photos Of His Former Girlfriends Who He Would Referred To As "Hottie" Or "Hot Blonde"

As Of September 2025, Tillery Still Has A Photo Of Himself And His Former Girlfriend From 2014 On His X Account. ([X](#), 2/16/14)



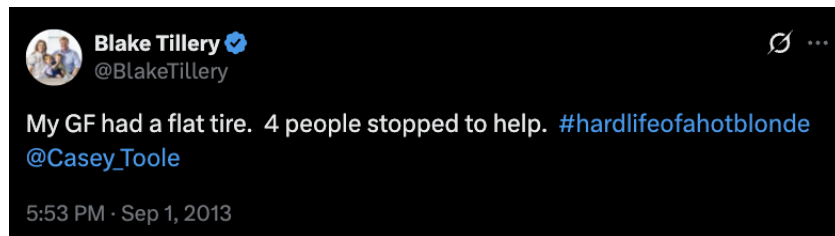
[\(X, 2/16/14\)](#)

In 2014, Tillery Tweeted Out A Photo Of His Then Girlfriend And Wrote, “Check Out This Hottie With A Paint Brush.” [\(X, 1/26/14\)](#)



[\(X, 1/26/14\)](#)

In 2013, Tillery Tweeted About A Different Girlfriend, Writing “My GF Had A Flat Tire. 4 People Stopped To Help. #HardLifeOfAHotBlonde” [\(X, 9/1/13\)](#)



[\(X, 9/1/13\)](#)

As Of September 2024, Tillery Still Has Several Photos And Himself And This Former Girlfriend From 2013 On His X Account. [\(X, 5/17/13;](#) [X, 3/9/13\)](#)


Blake Tillery 
@BlakeTillery

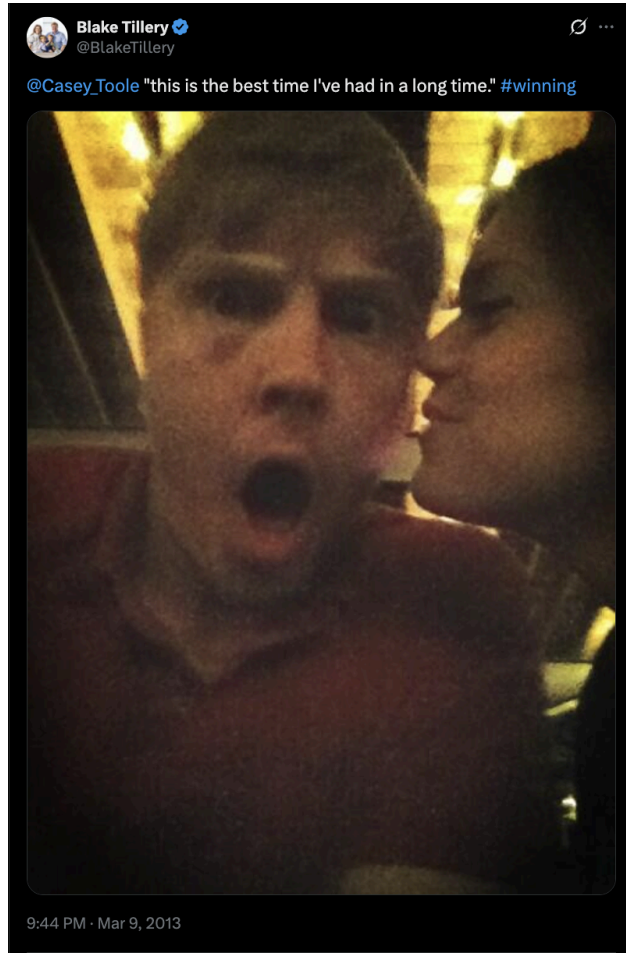
 ...

Fun night with @Casey_Toole



9:59 PM · May 17, 2013

 5/17/13



(X, 3/9/13)

PROPERTY

Personal Residence

As Of September 2025, Tillery Owns And Resides At The Home At 402 Durden Street, Vidalia, GA 30474. (2024 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 6/21/25)

Photo Of 402 Durden Street, Vidalia, GA 30474:



([Google Maps](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

As Of September 2025, Tillery Is Up-To-Date On The Property Taxes On His Personal Residence. (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

▼ Parcel Info

BILL NUMBER 15384
PARCEL V19017
ACCOUNT NUMBER 9506R24

OWNER TILLERY MICHAEL B
 ASHLEE NICOLE TILLERY

MAILING ADDRESS 402 DURDEN ST, VIDALIA, GA 30474
PROPERTY ADDRESS 402 DURDEN ST

LEGAL DESCRIPTION 0.34 AC-HOUSE-402 DURDEN ST
EXEMPT CODE F1
TAX DISTRICT VIDALIA

▼ Tax Information

TAXES WERE DUE ON 1/20/2025

BILL NUMBER	YEAR	TAX TYPE	TAXES	PENALTIES / INTEREST	SUBTOTAL	AMT PAID	BALANCE DUE
15384	2024	REAL	\$ 532.56	\$ 0.00	\$ 532.56	\$ 532.56	\$ 0.00

Total Due: \$ 0.00

LAST PAYMENT DATE 11/27/2024
 PAID BY THE TILLERY FIRM PC

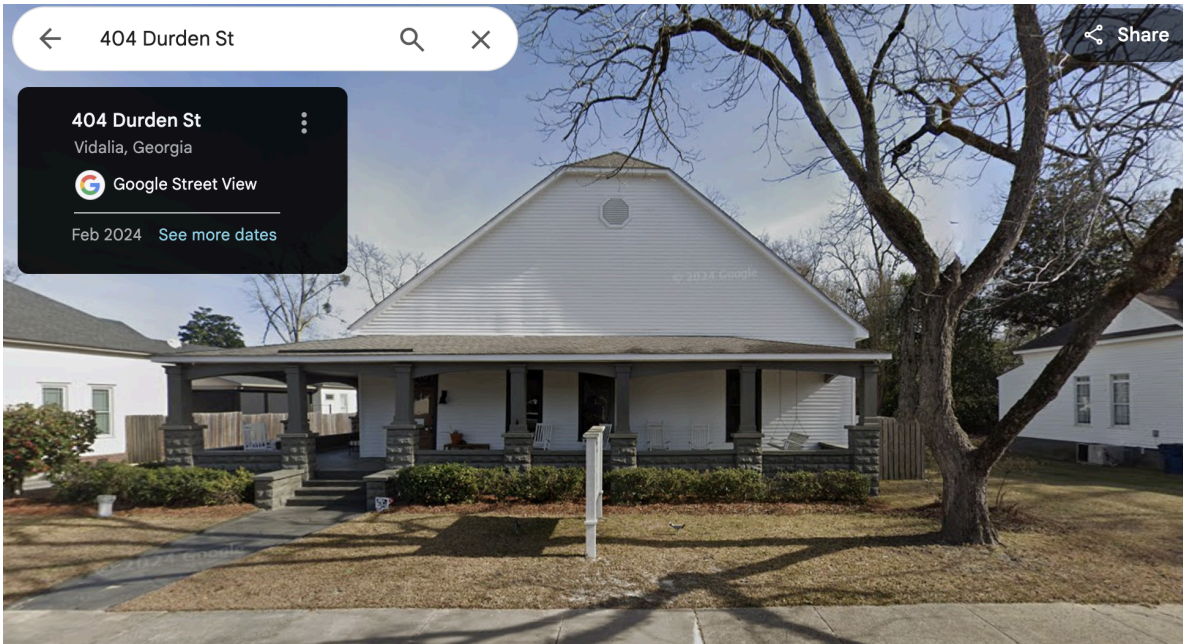
(Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

Law Firm Office

As Of September 2025, Tillery Owns His Law Office Space At 404 Durden Street, Vidalia, GA 30474. (2024 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 6/21/25)

Tillery’s Office Is Next Door To His Personal Home. ([Google Maps](#), Accessed 9/9/25; [Google Maps](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

Photo Of 404 Durden Street, Vidalia, GA 30474:



([Google Maps](#), Accessed 9/9/25)

As Of September 2025, Tillery Is Up-To-Date On The Property Taxes On His Office Property. (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

▼ Parcel Info

BILL NUMBER 15382
PARCEL V19018
ACCOUNT NUMBER 9489R24

OWNER TILLERY BLAKE
MAILING ADDRESS 404 DURDEN ST, VIDALIA, GA 30474
PROPERTY ADDRESS 404 DURDEN ST

LEGAL DESCRIPTION 0.42 AC-OFFICE-404 DURDEN ST
EXEMPT CODE
TAX DISTRICT VIDALIA

▼ Tax Information

TAXES WERE DUE ON 1/20/2025

BILL NUMBER	YEAR	TAX TYPE	TAXES	PENALTIES / INTEREST	SUBTOTAL	AMT PAID	BALANCE DUE
15382	2024	REAL	\$ 313.74	\$ 0.00	\$ 313.74	\$ 313.74	\$ 0.00
Total Due: \$ 0.00							

LAST PAYMENT DATE 11/27/2024
 PAID BY THE TILLERY FIRM PC

(Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

Other Property

Tillery Also Owns A Small Parcel Of Land With No Address Off Durden St And East Third Street In Vidalia. (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

As Of September 2025, Tillery Is Up-To-Date On The Property Taxes On This Property. (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

▼ Parcel Info

BILL NUMBER 15383
PARCEL V19032A
ACCOUNT NUMBER 17857R24

OWNER TILLERY MICHAEL B
MAILING ADDRESS 404 DURDEN ST, VIDALIA, GA 30474
PROPERTY ADDRESS THIRD ST E

LEGAL DESCRIPTION 0.22 AC-DURDEN ST (OFF)
EXEMPT CODE
TAX DISTRICT VIDALIA

▼ Tax Information

TAXES WERE DUE ON 1/20/2025

BILL NUMBER	YEAR	TAX TYPE	TAXES	PENALTIES / INTEREST	SUBTOTAL	AMT PAID	BALANCE DUE
15383	2024	REAL	\$ 29.48	\$ 0.00	\$ 29.48	\$ 29.48	\$ 0.00

Total Due: \$ 0.00

LAST PAYMENT DATE 11/27/2024
 PAID BY THE TILLERY FIRM PC

(Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

NOTE: Information on Tillery’s rental properties can be found [here](#).

LEGAL ISSUES

2016 Accident and Wrongful Death Suit

In April 2016, While He Was Running For State Senate, Tillery Struck And Killed A 44-Year-Old Father Of Four Who Was Riding His Bike

In April 2016, Tillery’s Vehicle Struck A Cyclist In Vidalia, GA. (Crash C000393821-01, Georgia Department Of Public Safety, Filed 4/11/16; Received Via Open Records Request On 9/10/25)



STATE OF GEORGIA TRAFFIC CRASH REPORT

Georgia State Patrol
Georgia Department of Public Safety
P.O. Box 1456
Atlanta, Georgia 30371-1456

Form containing crash details: Crash Number C000393821-01, Reporting Agency GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, Crash Date/Time 04/11/2016 07:43 AM, Location VIDALIA, GA 292, Roadway Description .1 WEST OF SEMCO DRIVE, Vehicle V01 (Lincoln MKZ) and Vehicle V02 (Fuji MS03 JSF670).

(Crash C000393821-01, Georgia Department Of Public Safety, Filed 4/11/16; Received Via Open Records Request On 9/10/25)

Crash Number C000393821-01		Reporting Agency GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY		Reporting Agency Case Number		Reporting Agency CAD Number GSPF16CAD015412	
Vehicle Removal TOWED DUE TO DISABLING DAMAGE		Vehicle Towed By COOPER'S TOWING		Wrecker Selection Method ROTATION			
Direction of Travel Before Crash WESTBOUND		Speed	Estimated	Posted	Roadway Type UNDIVIDED HIGHWAY	Total Lanes	Roadway Horizontal Alignment STRAIGHT
Trafficway Description TWO-WAY NOT DIVIDED		Traffic Control Device Type OTHER		Working Property YES		Roadway Grade UPHILL	
Roadway Description for Vehicle Travel GA 292		Vehicle Maneuver Action (by this vehicle) MOVEMENTS ESSENTIALLY STRAIGHT AHEAD		Hit & Run (by this vehicle) NO DID NOT LEAVE SCENE		Damage Extent (for this vehicle) DISABLING DAMAGE	
1st Sequence of Events Type (this vehicle) COLLISION NON-FIXED OBJECT		1st Sequence of Events Detail (this vehicle) MOTOR VEHICLE IN TRANSPORT		1st Sequence of Events Detail (this vehicle) MOTOR VEHICLE IN TRANSPORT			
Most Harmful Event Type (this vehicle) COLLISION NON-FIXED OBJECT		Most Harmful Event Detail (this vehicle) MOTOR VEHICLE IN TRANSPORT		Most Harmful Event Detail (this vehicle) MOTOR VEHICLE IN TRANSPORT			
Contributing Circumstances 1 (this vehicle) NONE		Contributing Circumstances 2 (this vehicle) NONE		Contributing Circumstances 2 (this vehicle) NONE			
Area of Initial Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Non Collision <input type="checkbox"/> Top <input type="checkbox"/> Undercarriage <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown				Most Damaged Area <input type="checkbox"/> Non Collision <input type="checkbox"/> Top <input type="checkbox"/> Undercarriage <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown			
Occupant Type DRIVER		Person Name (First Middle Last Suffix) BUNJI MARK TAKAYA		Injury Status FATAL INJURY (K)			
DRIVER V01							
Person Type DRIVER		NM#	Vehicle# V01	Person Type Detail			
First Name MICHAEL	Middle Name BLAKE	Last Name TILLERY		Suffix	Date of Birth /1983	Age 32	Sex M
Address 402 DURDEN STREET		Address Other		City VIDALIA	State GA	Zip Code 30474	
Phone Number	Phone Number (other)	Condition at Time of Crash APPARENTLY NORMAL					
Driver License Number 051369362	Class C	Expires 2018	State GA	Jurisdiction 02	Type NON-CDL DRIVER'S LICENSE	Status VALID LICENSE	
Drivers License Restrictions 1 NONE		Drivers License Restrictions 2 NONE		Drivers License Restrictions 3 NONE			
Driver Distracted By UNKNOWN		Driver Vision Obstructions VISION NOT OBSCURED					
Driver Actions at Time of Crash 1 (based on judgement of investigation officer) FOLLOWED TOO CLOSELY		Driver Actions at Time of Crash 2 (based on judgement of investigation officer) NO CONTRIBUTING ACTION		Driver Actions at Time of Crash 3 (based on judgement of investigation officer) NO CONTRIBUTING ACTION			
Driver Actions at Time of Crash 3 (based on judgement of investigation officer) NO CONTRIBUTING ACTION		Driver Actions at Time of Crash 4 (based on judgement of investigation officer) NO CONTRIBUTING ACTION					
Motor Vehicle Seating Position: Row FRONT	Motor Vehicle Seating Position: Seat LEFT	Motor Vehicle Seating Position: Other NOT APPLICABLE		<input type="checkbox"/> Seating Position Unknown			
Restraint Systems SHOULDER AND LAP BELT USED		Air Bag Deployed NOT DEPLOYED		Ejection NOT EJECTED			
Trapped/Extraction NOT TRAPPED		Injury Severity Level Type NO INJURY(O)		Injury Severity Level Detail		Primary or Most Obvious of Body Area Injured During Crash	
Law Enforcement Suspected Alcohol Use NO	Alcohol Test Type BLOOD	Alcohol Test Result TEST GIVEN		Alcohol Test Result PENDING		BAC	
Law Enforcement Suspected Drug Use NO	Drug Test Type BLOOD	Drug Test Result TEST GIVEN		Drug Test Result PENDING			
DRIVER V02							
Person Type DRIVER		NM#	Vehicle# V02	Person Type Detail			
First Name BUNJI	Middle Name MARK	Last Name TAKAYA		Suffix	Date of Birth /1971	Age 44	Sex M
Address 137 COLLINS STREET APT 2		Address Other		City LYONS	State GA	Zip Code 30436	
Phone Number	Phone Number (other)	Condition at Time of Crash UNKNOWN					
Driver License Number T200073712060	Class ID	Expires 2022	State FL	Jurisdiction 02	Type NON-CDL DRIVER'S LICENSE	Status UNKNOWN	
Drivers License Restrictions 1 NONE		Drivers License Restrictions 2 NONE		Drivers License Restrictions 3 NONE			
Driver Distracted By UNKNOWN		Driver Vision Obstructions VISION NOT OBSCURED					
Driver Actions at Time of Crash 1 (based on judgement of investigation officer) NO CONTRIBUTING ACTION		Driver Actions at Time of Crash 2 (based on judgement of investigation officer) NO CONTRIBUTING ACTION		Driver Actions at Time of Crash 3 (based on judgement of investigation officer) NO CONTRIBUTING ACTION			
Driver Actions at Time of Crash 3 (based on judgement of investigation officer) NO CONTRIBUTING ACTION		Driver Actions at Time of Crash 4 (based on judgement of investigation officer) NO CONTRIBUTING ACTION					
Motor Vehicle Seating Position: Row FRONT	Motor Vehicle Seating Position: Seat MIDDLE	Motor Vehicle Seating Position: Other NOT APPLICABLE		<input type="checkbox"/> Seating Position Unknown			
Restraint Systems NONE USED - MOTOR VEHICLE OCCUPANT		Air Bag Deployed NOT APPLICABLE		Ejection EJECTED TOTALLY			
Trapped/Extraction NOT TRAPPED		Injury Severity Level Type FATAL INJURY (K)		Injury Severity Level Detail		Primary or Most Obvious of Body Area Injured During Crash	
Source of Transport to Medical Facility EMS GROUND		EMS Agency Name or ID TOOMBS/MONT. EMS	EMS Run Number TCEMS16040178	Medical Facility Transported To MEADOWS REGIONAL MEDICAL			
Law Enforcement Suspected Alcohol Use NO	Alcohol Test Type BLOOD	Alcohol Test Result TEST GIVEN		Alcohol Test Result PENDING		BAC	

(Crash C000393821-01, Georgia Department Of Public Safety, Filed 4/11/16; Received Via Open Records Request On 9/10/25)

Crash Number C000393821-01	Reporting Agency GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	Reporting Agency Case Number	Reporting Agency CAD Number GSPF16CAD015412
Law Enforcement Suspected Drug Use NO	Drug Test Type BLOOD	Drug Tested TEST GIVEN	Drug Test Result PENDING
WITNESS			
Person Type ▶ WITNESS	NM#	Vehicle#	Person Type Detail
First Name BRANDI	Middle Name	Last Name KIRKLAND	Suffix
Date of Birth 38	Age	Sex F	
Address 8800 HWY 129 S		Address Other	City CLAXTON
State GA	Zip Code 30417	Condition at Time of Crash APPARENTLY NORMAL	
WITNESS			
Person Type ▶ WITNESS	NM#	Vehicle#	Person Type Detail
First Name STEPHEN	Middle Name	Last Name GORDON	Suffix
Date of Birth 47	Age	Sex M	
Address 8 WISTERIA LANE		Address Other	City CLAXTON
State GA	Zip Code 30417	Condition at Time of Crash APPARENTLY NORMAL	
WITNESS			
Person Type ▶ WITNESS	NM#	Vehicle#	Person Type Detail
First Name MATTHEW	Middle Name SCOTT	Last Name RUSSELL	Suffix
Date of Birth 31	Age	Sex M	
Address 5643 HWY 1 SOUTH		Address Other	City LYONS
State GA	Zip Code 30436	Condition at Time of Crash APPARENTLY NORMAL	

NARRATIVE: C000393821

Vehicle 1 was traveling westbound on GA 292. Vehicle 2, a bicycle, was traveling westbound on GA 292 ahead of vehicle 1. The front of vehicle 1 struck the rear tire of vehicle 2. Driver 2 was ejected from the bicycle. Vehicle 2 and driver 2 came to rest off of the north side of the roadway. Vehicle 1 was driven to a controlled rest partially off of the north side of the roadway.

Further investigation has been turned over to SCRTF, report number SCRTF-011-16

Photographs taken by SCRTF.
Investigation recorded on DVD 809-008-2016.

REPORTING OFFICER		APPROVING OFFICER (SUPERVISOR)	
Reporting Officer Name METTS, J.L.	Signature <i>[Signature]</i>	Approving Officer Name BLACK, CHRIS W.	Signature <i>[Signature]</i>
ID Number 0809	Rank CORPORAL	ID Number 0963	Rank SERGEANT
Org / Unit GSPFPOST		Org / Unit GSPFPOST	

(Crash C000393821-01, Georgia Department Of Public Safety, Filed 4/11/16; Received Via Open Records Request On 9/10/25)

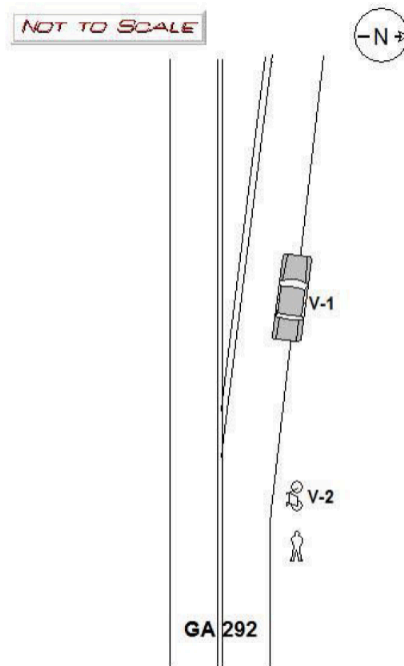


Diagram indicates area of final rest only.

(Crash C000393821-01, Georgia Department Of Public Safety, Filed 4/11/16; Received Via Open Records Request On 9/10/25)

The Victim Was 44-Year-Old Bunji “Mark” Takaya, A Father Of Four. (Obituary, [Ronald V. Hall Funeral Home](#), Accessed 9/16/25; Crash C000393821-01, Georgia Department Of Public Safety, Filed 4/11/16; Received Via Open Records Request On 9/10/25)

Photo Of Takaya:



(Obituary, [Ronald V. Hall Funeral Home](#), Accessed 9/16/25)

The Victim's Family Filed A Wrongful Death Lawsuit Against Tillery And Requested His Cell Phone Records From The Day Of The Accident

Days After The Accident, The Victim's Wife Filed A Wrongful Death Lawsuit Against Tillery, Alleging He Operated His Vehicle In A Negligible Manner. (Complaint, Case 16CV00241, [Toombs County Superior Court](#), Filed 4/14/16)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF TOOMBS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

APRIL ANN TAKAYA

Plaintiff,

vs.

MICHAEL BLAKE TILLERY,

Defendant.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

Civil Action File No.:

16 CV 241

2016 APR 14 PM 5:01
CLERK OF COURTS
TOOMBS COUNTY

PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR WRONGFUL DEATH

COMES NOW, the Plaintiff, **April Ann Takaya**, by and through her attorney in the above-styled action, and shows this Honorable Court the following:

Plaintiff files this Complaint and shows the following:

1.

Defendant is a resident of Toombs County, Georgia, and is subject to the jurisdiction of this Court.

2.

On Monday, April 11th, 2016, while driving west on Highway 292 in Toombs County, Georgia, defendant negligently operated his motor vehicle causing it to collide with Bunji Mark Takaya, who was then riding his bicycle west on Highway 292 in Toombs County, Georgia.

3.

As a result Bunji Mark Takaya was grievously injured and died on the day of Collision.

4.

Bunji Mark Takaya was the lawful spouse of plaintiff. Plaintiff is entitled to bring this action.

(Complaint, Case 16CV00241, [Toombs County Superior Court](#), Filed 4/14/16)

The Victim's Wife Petitioned The Court For Tillery's Phone Records On The Date Of The Wreck.

(Request For Production Of Documents, Case 16CV00241, [Toombs County Superior Court](#), Filed 4/14/16)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF TOOMBS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

APRIL ANN TAKAYA

Plaintiff,

vs.

MICHAEL BLAKE TILLERY,

Defendant.

*
*
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*
*
*
*
*

Civil Action File No.:

16CV241

FILED BY TOOMBS COUNTY
CLERK OF COURTS
2016 APR 14 PM 5:00

REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

TO: Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
180 Washington Valley Road
Bedminster, NJ 07921

COMES NOW the plaintiff in the above-captioned case, and serves upon Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless Request for Production pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 9-11-34(c).

You are hereby requested and required to produce copies of the items designated below, which are in your possession, custody, or control. You may do so by mailing copies of said items to the undersigned at the following address: Hamilton & Maddox, LLC at P.O. Box 1343, Vidalia, GA 30475 within thirty (30) days after receipt of this request, said firm to bear all reasonable expenses for such copying.

The requested items are as follows:

- (1) containing relevant and material evidence in this action, specifically: a certified log of each incoming and outgoing phone call and/or text message, certified copies of the information contained in each ingoing and outgoing text message, a certified log of data usage, and a certified log of phone application usage for the cell phone belonging to your client Michael Blake Tillery with the phone number (912) 245-9915 for the period beginning at 6:00 a.m. April 11th, 2016 and ending at 6:00 p.m. April 11th, 2016.

This 14th day of April, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,



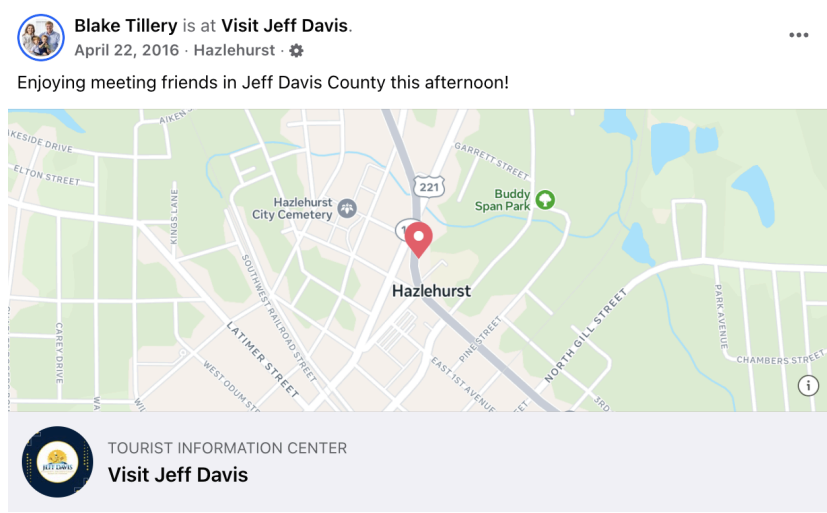
Tina E. Maddox
Attorney for Plaintiff
State Bar No. 465511
P.O. Box 1343
Vidalia, GA 30475
(912)537-3025

(Request For Production Of Documents, Case 16CV00241, [Toombs County Superior Court](#), Filed 4/14/16)

In January 2017, A District Attorney Said Tillery Would Not Be Charged With A Felony In The Accident And The Victim’s Family Dropped The Lawsuit

In January 2017, The Middle Judicial Circuit District Attorney Said No Felony Charges Would Be Filed Against Tillery For The Incident. “According to the Middle Judicial Circuit District Attorney, no felony charges are being filed against State Senator elect Blake Tillery for fatally crashing his car into a cyclist. The case is now being turned over to state court to determine whether any traffic or misdemeanor charges will be filed.” (Staff, “Blake Tillery Will Not Face Felony Charges for Lethal Accident,” [WBYZ94](#), 1/5/17)

In February 2017, The Victim’s Wife Dropped Her Lawsuit Against Tillery. (Dismissal, Case 16CV00241, [Toombs County Superior Court](#), Filed 2/3/17)



([Facebook](#), 4/22/16)

According To A Supporter Of Tillery’s Political Opponent, Tillery Was Spotted Hours After The Accident Campaigning At The Wayne Dasher’s Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner. “According to Georgia State Patrol, charges are pending against Tillery, ones that could be as serious as vehicular homicide to manslaughter. Even more horrifying: a wrongful death suit was filed against Tillery on Thursday and rumors have it that the family couldn’t even afford a proper burial, but Tillery was at Wayne Dasher’s Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner Thursday evening...campaigning. His campaign has shown no signs of slowing down or dropping out – even though a man is dead.” (Jessica Szilagyi, “COLUMN: How Much Is Political Office Worth?,” [All On Georgia](#), 4/15/16)

NOTE: *No evidence could be found of Tillery directly addressing the accident or the man’s death.*

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

THE TILLERY FIRM

Tillery Owns The Tillery Firm Where He Practices Law In Vidalia, GA. ("History," [The Tillery Firm](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

The Tillery Firm Practices In The Areas Of Real Estate, Probate, Corporate, Social Security Disability, Workers Compensation, And Personal Injury Law. ("Practice Areas," [The Tillery Firm](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

License

As Of September 2025, Tillery Is An Active Member Of The Georgia Bar In Good Standing. ("Member Directory," [State Bar of Georgia](#), Accessed 9/5/25)

Mr. Michael Blake Tillery

The Tillery Firm PC
404 Durden Street
Vidalia, GA 30474

Email: blake@tilleryfirm.com

Phone: (912) 537-3030

DOWNLOAD VCARD

Status **Active Member in Good Standing** ⓘ

Public Discipline **None on Record**

Admit Date 11/04/2010

Law School University of Georgia

Sections
General Practice & Trial Law
Workers' Compensation Law

("Member Directory," [State Bar of Georgia](#), Accessed 9/5/25)

As Of September 2025, Tillery Has No Public Disciplinary Record. ("Member Directory," [State Bar Of Georgia](#), Accessed 9/5/25)

PPP Loan

In 2021, Tillery Received A \$32,650 PPP Loan, Which Was Forgiven

In 2021, Tillery Applied For A PPP Loan For Payroll. (Tracking PPP, [ProPublica](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

Tillery Received A PPP Loan Of \$32,653, Which Was Eventually Forgiven. (Tracking PPP, [ProPublica](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

Criticism

Tillery's Law Firm Has One Star On Yelp Due To A Negative Review. ([Yelp](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

The Tillery Firm, P.C.

★☆☆☆☆ 1.0 (1 review)

Unclaimed ⓘ • Workers Compensation Law, Personal Injury Law, Real Estate Law

Closed 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM [See hours](#)

([Yelp](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

In The One-Star Review, The Former Client Said Tillery Was A “School Boy Lawyer” Who Belittled His Employee In Their Meeting. ([Yelp](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

The Reviewer Claimed That He Drove 1.5 Hour To Meet With Tillery Who Then Never Called Him Back About Taking His Case. ([Yelp](#), Accessed 9/19/25)



Craig C. F.

Ellabell, GA

📍 0 📅 2 🗨️ 0

★☆☆☆☆ Jan 25, 2018

🕒 First to Review

I spoke with a nice lady that obviously had more experience than both of these schoolboy lawyers. I initially spoke to her about the firm representing me for a SSDI claim. We spoke over an hour with me giving her my entire history and the lady and myself felt like I had a strong case and history so she set an appoint which btw was 1.5 hrs from my home. I arrived and the lady quickly greeted me and she, my sister(a nurse) and mysslf waited in the conference room for Attorney Tillery (maybe 26 yrs old redhead man) When he came in the lady started going through the details and correcting him very politly and respectfully everyother sentence when he would interject about the process of SSDI and he belittled her to the point it was embarrassing. He then proceeded to tell me that because i was under 50 yrs old and white it would go to a hearing which the lady had already explained but because it wasnt quick money fior him he blew a bunch of BS and promised a call with a dissision the next day if he would take the case. Its been 12 months now and I found a great lawyer in Savannah and have yet to hear from the firm. Dont waste your time with these school kids. My name is Craig Fortner and will gladly refer you to a SSDI lawyer that knows what the hell they are doing. You can email me at fortner.craig@yahoo.com

([Yelp](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

NOTABLE CASES

Personal Injury Case For State Representative

In 2022, Tillery Represented State Representative Bill Werkheiser In A Suit Against The City Of Atlanta For More Than \$300,000 After He Was In An Accident With An Atlanta Police Officer

In 2022, Tillery Represented State Representative Bill Werkheiser In A Personal Injury Case Against The City Of Atlanta. (Complaint, Case 22EV002264, [Fulton County State Court](#), Filed 4/15/22)

In 2021, Werkheiser Was Rear-Ended By An Atlanta Police Officer. (Complaint, Case 22EV002264, [Fulton County State Court](#), Filed 4/15/22)

Tillery Claimed Werkheiser Incurred \$316,602 In Medical Expense And \$16,464 In Vehicular Damages Due To The Accident. (Complaint, Case 22EV002264, [Fulton County State Court](#), Filed 4/15/22)

The Case Was Settled Outside Of Court. (Dismissal with Prejudice, Case 22EV002264, [Fulton County State Court](#), Filed 3/26/24)

Other Automobile Tort

Tillery Has Represented Several Plaintiffs In Automobile Tort Cases. (Case 2021CV356134, [Fulton County Superior Court](#), Filed 10/28/21; Case 14-CV-183, [Telfair Superior Court](#), Filed 10/8/14)

Oil Company Cases

In 2022, Tillery Represented Gay Oil Company When They Were Sued For Breach Of Contract By Thompson-Kenny, A Petroleum Distributor. (Case 22-C-03114-S6, [Gwinnett County State Court](#), Filed 6/3/22)

- **Tillery Worked On The Case With State Representative Matt Reeves Who Is Also An Attorney.** (Case 22-C-03114-S6, [Gwinnett County State Court](#), Filed 6/3/22)

- **The Case Was Settled Outside Of Court.** (Mutual Dismissal, Case 22-C-03114-S6, [Gwinnett County State Court](#), Filed 12/8/23)

2022 Election Fraud Case

In June 2022, Activist Garland Favorito Contested The Primary Election Of Secretary Of State Brad Raffensperger In All Georgia 159 Counties. “Perpetual election denier Garland Favorito and his VoterGA organization filed a lawsuit challenging Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger's victory in all 159 counties, but missed also missed the deadline for an election contest and is missing actual evidence of wrongdoing.” (Stephen Fowler, “Ignoring Reality, Some Primary Candidates Refuse To Admit Defeat,” [GPB](#), 7/5/22)

Tillery Represented Toombs County In The Lawsuit. (Case 22V-0527, [Spalding County Superior Court](#), Filed 6/23/22)

In Their Answer To The Petition, Toombs County Stated Favorito Failed To State Any Claim Against Toombs County And Failed To State A Claim For Election Contest. (Answer, Case 22V-0527, [Spalding County Superior Court](#), Filed 7/7/22)

E-filed for Record
7/7/2022 11:53 AM
Superior/State Court, Spalding County

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF SPALDING COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

Garland Favorito)	
)	
Contestant,)	CIVIL ACTION
)	
v.)	FILE NO. 22V-0527
)	
Diane Hallman, Carol G. Durrance, Joseph)	
A. Boatright, Angela Hedricks, et. al.)	
)	
Defendants.)	
)	

**ANSWER OF DEFENDANT TOOMBS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND
REGISTRATION TO CONTESTANT'S PETITION**

COMES NOW, Defendant Toombs County Board of Elections and Registration, (improperly named the Toombs County Board of Registrations and Elections) (hereinafter "TCBOER") by special appearance, and responds to Contestant's Petition as follows:

First Defense

Contestant's Petition fails to state any claim against TCBOER.

Second Defense

Contestant's Petition fails to state a claim for election contests under OCGA § 21-2-524.

Third Defense

Contestant's Petition fails to name the elections superintendent.

Fourth Defense

Contestant's Petition fails to add an indispensable party.

Fifth Defense

This Court lacks jurisdiction over this matter. Contestant's Petitions is neither verified, properly certified, nor timely filed.

(Answer, Case 22V-0527, [Spalding County Superior Court](#), Filed 7/7/22)

In August 2025, The Court Dismissed Favorito's Case. (Order Dismissing Petition For Election Contest, [Spalding County Superior Court](#), Filed 8/21/25)

RENTAL PROPERTIES

7th Street Rentals

As Of 2024, Tillery Has Ownership Interest In 7th Street Rentals And The Company Is Registered To His Office Address. (2024 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 6/21/25)

As Of 2024, Tillery's 7th Street Rentals Owns 201 Ninth Street W, Vidalia, GA 30474 And As Of September 2025, Is Up-To-Date On Its Property Taxes

As Of 2024, Tillery's 7th Street Rentals Owns 201 Ninth Street W, Vidalia, GA 30474. (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

Photo Of 201 Ninth Street W, Vidalia, GA 30474:



([Google Maps](#), Accessed 9/9/25)

As Of September 2025, 7th Street Rentals Is Up-To-Date On The Property Taxes On This Property. (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

▼ Parcel Info

BILL NUMBER 17350
PARCEL V12021
ACCOUNT NUMBER 8222R24

OWNER 7TH STREET RENTALS LLC
MAILING ADDRESS 2536 HWY 130 WEST, VIDALIA, GA 30474
PROPERTY ADDRESS 201 NINTH ST W

LEGAL DESCRIPTION 0.29 AC-HOUSE-201 W NINTH ST
EXEMPT CODE
TAX DISTRICT VIDALIA

▼ Tax Information

TAXES WERE DUE ON 1/20/2025

BILL NUMBER	YEAR	TAX TYPE	TAXES	PENALTIES / INTEREST	SUBTOTAL	AMT PAID	BALANCE DUE
17350	2024	REAL	\$ 598.96	\$ 0.00	\$ 598.96	\$ 598.96	\$ 0.00
Total Due: \$ 0.00							

LAST PAYMENT DATE 11/27/2024
PAID BY 7TH STREET RENTALS LLC

(Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

As Of 2024, Tillery’s 7th Street Rentals Owns 207 Ninth Street W, Vidalia, GA 30474 And As Of September 2025, Is Up-To-Date On Its Property Taxes

As Of 2024, Tillery’s 7th Street Rentals Owns 207 Ninth Street W, Vidalia, GA 30474.
(Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

Photo Of 207 Ninth Street W, Vidalia, GA 30474:



([Google Maps](#), Accessed 9/9/25)

As Of September 2025, 7th Street Rentals Is Up-To-Date On The Property Taxes On This Property. (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

▼ Parcel Info

BILL NUMBER 17351
 PARCEL V12019
 ACCOUNT NUMBER 8223R24

OWNER 7TH STREET RENTALS LLC
 MAILING ADDRESS 2536 HWY 130 WEST, VIDALIA, GA 30474
 PROPERTY ADDRESS 207 NINTH ST W

LEGAL DESCRIPTION 0.26 AC-HOUSE-207 W NINTH ST
 EXEMPT CODE
 TAX DISTRICT VIDALIA

▼ Tax Information

TAXES WERE DUE ON 1/20/2025

BILL NUMBER	YEAR	TAX TYPE	TAXES	PENALTIES / INTEREST	SUBTOTAL	AMT PAID	BALANCE DUE
17351	2024	REAL	\$ 324.64	\$ 0.00	\$ 324.64	\$ 324.64	\$ 0.00
Total Due: \$ 0.00							

LAST PAYMENT DATE 11/27/2024
 PAID BY 7TH STREET RENTALS LLC

(Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

As Of 2024, Tillery’s 7th Street Rentals Owns 602 Durden Street, Vidalia, GA 30474 And As Of September 2025, Is Up-To-Date On Its Property Taxes

As Of 2024, Tillery’s 7th Street Rentals Owns 602 Durden Street, Vidalia, GA 30474.
 (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

Photo Of 602 Durden Street, Vidalia, GA 30474:



([Google Maps](#), Accessed 9/9/25)

As Of September 2025, 7th Street Rentals Is Up-To-Date On The Property Taxes On This Property. (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

▼ Parcel Info

BILL NUMBER 17349
 PARCEL V12140
 ACCOUNT NUMBER 8812R24

OWNER 7TH ST RENTALS
 MAILING ADDRESS 2536 HWY 130 WEST, VIDALIA, GA 30474
 PROPERTY ADDRESS 602 DURDEN ST

LEGAL DESCRIPTION 0.51 AC- HOUSE-602 DURDEN ST
 EXEMPT CODE
 TAX DISTRICT VIDALIA

▼ Tax Information

TAXES WERE DUE ON 1/20/2025

BILL NUMBER	YEAR	TAX TYPE	TAXES	PENALTIES / INTEREST	SUBTOTAL	AMT PAID	BALANCE DUE
17349	2024	REAL	\$ 333.03	\$ 0.00	\$ 333.03	\$ 333.03	\$ 0.00
Total Due: \$ 0.00							

LAST PAYMENT DATE 11/27/2024
 PAID BY 7TH STREET RENTALS LLC

(Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

As Of 2024, Tillery’s 7th Street Rentals Owns 606 Durden Street, Vidalia, GA 30474 And As Of September 2025, Is Up-To-Date On Its Property Taxes

As Of 2024, Tillery’s 7th Street Rentals Owns 606 Durden Street, Vidalia, GA 30474.
 (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

Photo Of 606 Durden Street, Vidalia, GA 30474:



([Google Maps](#), Accessed 9/9/25)

As Of September 2025, 7th Street Rentals Is Up-To-Date On The Property Taxes On This Property. (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

▼ Parcel Info

BILL NUMBER 17352
PARCEL V12141
ACCOUNT NUMBER 8813R24
OWNER 7TH STREET RENTALS LLC
MAILING ADDRESS 2536 HWY 130 WEST, VIDALIA, GA 30474
PROPERTY ADDRESS 606 DURDEN ST
LEGAL DESCRIPTION 0.51 AC-HOUSE-606 DURDEN ST
EXEMPT CODE
TAX DISTRICT VIDALIA

▼ Tax Information

TAXES WERE DUE ON 1/20/2025

Table with 8 columns: BILL NUMBER, YEAR, TAX TYPE, TAXES, PENALTIES / INTEREST, SUBTOTAL, AMT PAID, BALANCE DUE. Row 1: 17352, 2024, REAL, \$ 237.25, \$ 0.00, \$ 237.25, \$ 237.25, \$ 0.00

Total Due: \$ 0.00

LAST PAYMENT DATE 11/27/2024
PAID BY 7TH STREET RENTALS LLC

(Property Details, Toombs County Tax Commissioner, Accessed 9/8/25)

ELE Properties

Tillery Co-Owns A Rental Cabin In Cherry Log, GA That Is Currently For Sale For \$1,375,000

As Of 2024, Tillery Has Ownership Interest In ELE Properties And The Company Is Registered To His Office Address. (2024 Financial Disclosure Statement, Georgia Ethics Commission, Filed 6/21/25)

Table with 3 columns: Office Held, Duties, Ownership Interests. Row 1: member, Ownership interest is more than 5% and has a net fair market value of more than \$5,000.00.

(2024 Financial Disclosure Statement, Georgia Ethics Commission, Filed 6/21/25)

According To Tax Records, ELE Properties Owns A Property In Fannin County, GA. (qPublic.net Fannin County, Accessed 9/15/25)

While The Tax Records Don't List An Address, The Property Details Match Those Of 200 Mountain Trace, Cherry Log, GA 30522. (qPublic.net Fannin County, Accessed 9/15/25; Zillow, Accessed 9/15/25)

Photo Of 200 Mountain Trace, Cherry Log, GA 30522:



([Zillow](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

The Cabin Is Currently For Sale In Cherry Log, GA For \$1,375,000. ([qPublic.net Fannin County](#), Accessed 9/15/25; [Zillow](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

The Cabin Is Also Currently Listed For Short-Term Rentals On VRBO. ([VRBO](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

Chic 4BR Designer Cabin | Hot Tub • Views • Fire

9.6 Exceptional

Price is lower than typical

The nightly price before taxes is lower than our estimated range for similar properties on our site (in this destination and others). [More details](#)

\$309

\$354 — \$531

([VRBO](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

As Of September 2025, ELE Properties Is Up-To-Date On The Property Taxes For The Cabin. ([Fannin County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

2024 Property Tax Statement

Fannin County Tax Commissioner
400 W Main St, Suite 103
Blue Ridge, GA 30513-8593
(706) 632-2645

ELE PROPERTIES LLC
1101 RIVERWALK ROAD
BISHOP, GA 30621

Bill No.	Due Date	Current Due	Prior Payment	Back Taxes	*Total Due*
2024-009270	12/20/2024	\$0.00	\$3,961.47	\$0.00	Paid 12/13/2024

Printed: 09/09/2025

[View Tax Assessment](#)

Map: 0036 011 D10

Location: MOUNTAIN TRACE

([Fannin County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

Cobb County Rental

As Of 2024, Tillery Owns The Property At 370 Maple Avenue, Marietta, GA 30064. (2024 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 6/21/25)

Photo Of 370 Maple Avenue:



([Zillow](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

According To Zillow, The Property Has Been Listed For Rent Since Tillery Has Owned It. ([Zillow](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

As Of September 2025, Tillery Is Up-To-Date On The Property Taxes On This Property. (Property Details, [Toombs County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/8/25)

Owner Information TILLERY MICHAEL B & ASHLEE NICOLE 370 MAPLE AVE NW MARIETTA, GA 30064	Payment Information Status ✘ Unpaid Last Payment Date Amount Paid	<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Add To Cart </div> <p style="font-size: small; color: red;">Having trouble making a payment? If you are experiencing any issues with completing your online payment, please contact us immediately at 770-528-8603 or tax@cobbtax.org.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> Search for Additional Records </div>
Property Information Parcel Number 16115600420 Acres 0 Assessed Value \$183,640 Fair Market Value \$459,100 Tax District 4 - City of Marietta Homestead Exemption NONE	Bill Information Record Type Parcel Bill Type Original Tax Year 2025 Due Date 10/15/2025	Taxes Base Taxes \$1,553.59 Penalty \$0.00 Interest \$0.00 Fees \$0.00 Good Through 10/15/2025 Balance Due \$1,553.59
Property Address 370 MAPLE AVE		

([Cobb County Tax Commissioner](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

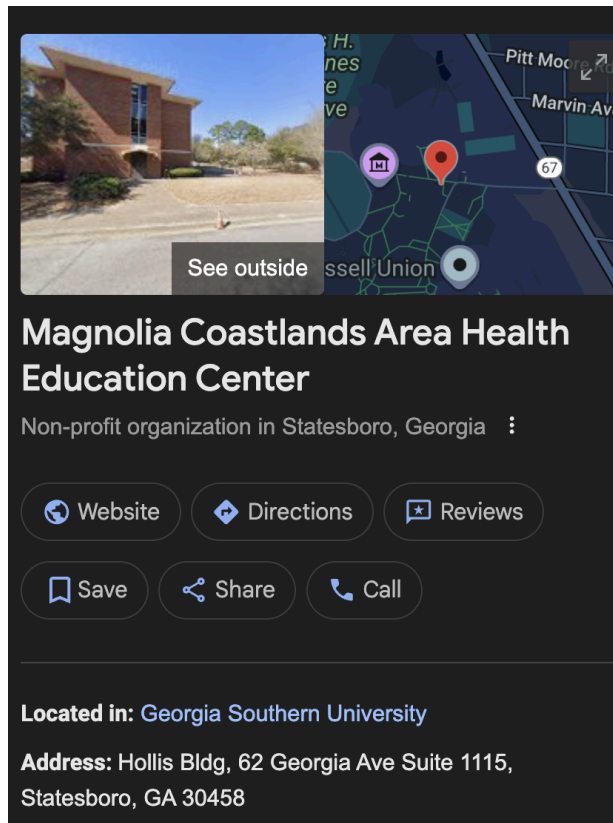
Rents To AHEC

Since At Least 2021, Tillery Has Received \$13,200 A Year In Rental Income From Magnolia Coastlands AHEC, A Government-Funded Organization Which Coordinates Health Services For Migrant Farmworkers In Southwest Georgia

According To His Personal Financial Disclosures, Since At Least 2021, Tillery Has Received \$13,200 A Year In Rental Income From Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Center (AHEC). (2024 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 6/21/25; 2023 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/15/24; 2022 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/25/23; 2021 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/10/22; [Google](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

SECTION IX ANNUAL PAYMENTS RECEIVED FROM THE STATE OF GEORGIA (This section to be completed by Public Officers only)			
Identify all annual payments in excess of \$10,000.00 received by the public officer, or by any business entity identified in Section III above, from the State or any agency, department, commission or authority created by the State, and authorized and exempted from disclosure under O.C.G.A. § 45-10-25.			
Name of State Entity Making Payment	Address	General Nature of the Consideration for the Payment	Amount of Annual Payment
AHEC	62 Georgia Avenue, Statesboro, GA 30460	rent	\$13,200.00

(2024 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 6/21/25; 2023 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/15/24; 2022 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/25/23; 2021 Financial Disclosure Statement, [Georgia Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/10/22)



([Google](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

Magnolia Coastlands AHEC Is Funded Through Federal, State, And Small Grants. “Dr. Jane Nester is the executive director of Magnolia Coastlands AHEC, whose main office is housed on Georgia Southern's Statesboro Campus. The nonprofit is funded through the Department of Community Health in Georgia, HRSA, and through smaller grants.” (Jeneane Brown, “Magnolia Coastlands AHEC Provides Opportunities For Youth Interested In Healthcare Careers,” [Grice Connect](#), 6/22/24)

According To Their Website, Magnolia Coastlands AHEC Coordinates Multiple Migrant Farm Clinics In Georgia. “Providing service-learning opportunities for students in health care professions may be one way to help alleviate the problem of a shortage of healthcare professionals in rural areas. More importantly, these opportunities would also provide critically needed services to the underserved populations in rural Georgia, such as the migrant and seasonal farm workers. These men and women face significant challenges to accessing health care due to the difficult nature of their work, their poverty and mobility, and their challenging living arrangements. In order to provide clinical services to these farm workers with the help of various health professions students, MCAHEC coordinates numerous farm clinics in Candler, Tattnall and Toombs counties in southeast Georgia during the spring and summer. These clinics are implemented in partnership with East Georgia Healthcare Center’s Farmworker Health Program and Southeast Georgia Communities Project, both non-profit organizations.” (“Community Based Clinical Training,” [Magnolia Coastlands AHEC](#), Accessed 9/15/25)

According To A 2012 Study Of The Migrants Who Received Services At These Clinics, 60 Percent Were Not Permanent Residents Of The U.S. (Mobile Farm Clinic Outreach to Address Health Conditions Among Latino Migrant Farmworkers in Georgia, [Journal of Agromedicine](#), October 2012)

According To The Same Study, Migrants Received Free Over-The-Counter Medications At The Clinics. “Since the clinics are conducted at the temporary worker farmworker housing, most of the farm workers are willing to wait in line to seek health care and receive free over-the-counter medications and personal hygiene incentives.” (Mobile Farm Clinic Outreach to Address Health Conditions Among Latino Migrant Farmworkers in Georgia, [Journal of Agromedicine](#), October 2012)

VOTER REGISTRATION AND VOTING HISTORY

Georgia Voter Registration

As Of September 2025, Tillery Is Registered To Vote In Georgia. (My Voter Page, [Georgia Secretary of State](#), Accessed 9/4/25)

Personal Information

Name MICHAEL BLAKE TILLERY	Gender MALE	Race OTHER	Voter Registration Number 05413986
Registration Date 08/18/2006	Status ✔ ACTIVE	Last Election Date Voted 06/17/2025	

Address

Residence Address ● 402 DURDEN ST VIDALIA GA 30474	Mailing Address 402 DURDEN ST VIDALIA GA 30474 4603
-----------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------

(My Voter Page, [Georgia Secretary of State](#), Accessed 9/4/25)

Georgia Voting History

In 2004, Tillery Voted In The Democratic Presidential Preference Primary. (My Voter Page, [Georgia Secretary of State](#), Accessed 9/4/25)

Election Name	Date Voted	Election Type	Ballot Type	Party
June 17, 2025 – Special Primary Public Service Commission (Psc) / Special Election	6/13/25	Special Primary	Early In-Person	Republican
November 5, 2024 - General Election	10/22/24	General	Early In-Person	
May 21, 2024 - General Primary / Nonpartisan Election	5/3/24	General Primary	Early In-Person	Republican
March 12, 2024 - Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) / Special Election	3/1/24	General Primary	Early In-Person	Republican
November 7, 2023 - Municipal Elections	11/2/23	General	Early In-Person	
12/06/2022 General/Special Election Runoff	11/30/22	General Election Runoff	Early In-Person	
11/08/2022 General/Special Election	10/31/22	General	Early In-Person	
05/24/2022 General Primary/Special Election	5/7/22	General Primary	Early In-Person	Republican
November 2, 2021 General/Special Election	10/29/21	General	Early In-Person	

July 13, 2021 Special Election Runoff	6/30/21	Special Election Runoff	Early In-Person	
June 15, 2021 Special Election	6/9/21	Special Election	Early In-Person	
March 16, 2021 Special Election	3/5/21	Special Election	Early In-Person	
January 5, 2021 Federal Runoff Election	12/22/20	General Election Runoff	Early In-Person	
November 3, 2020 General/Special Election	10/27/20	General	Early In-Person	
June 9, 2020 Gen. Pri./Gen. Np/Spec. Election	5/13/20	General Primary	Absentee By Mail	Republican
March 24, 2020 PPP/Special Election	3/14/20	PPP	Early In-Person	Republican
November 5, 2019 General/Special Election	11/5/19	General	Regular	
March 19, 2019 Special Election	3/14/19	Special Election	Early In-Person	
December 4, 2018 State And Local Election Runoff	11/28/18	General Election Runoff	Early In-Person	
November 6, 2018 General/Special Election	10/31/18	General	Early In-Person	
July 24, 2018 Gen. Pri. Ro/Gen. Np Ro/Spec. Ro El	7/11/18	General Primary Runoff	Early In-Person	Republican
May 22, 2018 Gen. Pri./Gen. Np/Spec. Election	5/12/18	General Primary	Early In-Person	Republican
November 7, 2017 General/Special Election	11/7/17	General	Regular	
November 8, 2016 General/Special Election	10/20/16	General	Early In-Person	
May 24, 2016 Gen. Pri./Gen. Np/Spec. Election	5/13/16	General Primary	Early In-Person	Republican
March 1, 2016 PPP/Special Election	2/19/16	PPP	Early In-Person	Republican
11/3/2015 General Election/Special Election	11/3/15	General	Regular	

Gen. Spec. Election	10/29/14	General	Early In-Person	
Gen. Pri. Runoff Gen. Np Runoff Spec Runoff Elec.	7/22/14	General Primary Runoff	Regular	Republican
Gen. Pri. Gen. Np Spec Election	5/20/14	General Primary	Regular	Republican
General	11/6/12	General	Regular	
Special	8/21/12	Special Election	Regular	Republican
Special	7/31/12	Special Election	Regular	Republican
Presidential Primary	3/6/12	PPP	Regular	Republican
General Run-Off	11/30/10	General Election Runoff	Regular	
General	11/2/10	General	Regular	
General Primary Run-Off	8/10/10	General Primary Runoff	Regular	Republican
General Primary	7/20/10	General Primary	Regular	Republican
General Primary Run-Off	8/5/08	General Primary Runoff	Regular	Non-Partisan
General Primary	7/15/08	General Primary	Regular	Republican
General Run-Off	12/5/06	General Election Runoff	Regular	
General	11/7/06	General	Regular	
General Primary	7/18/06	General Primary	Regular	Republican
General Run-Off	11/23/04	General Election Runoff	Regular	
General	11/2/04	General	Regular	
General Primary	7/20/04	General Primary	Regular	Republican
Presidential Primary	3/2/04	PPP	Regular	Democrat
General	11/5/02	General	Regular	
General Primary	8/20/02	General Primary	Regular	Republican

(My Voter Page, [Georgia Secretary of State](#), Accessed 9/4/25)

POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Notable Political Contributions

In 2024, Tillery Contributed A Total Of \$2,000 To Mike Dugan’s Congressional Primary Campaign. ([Center For Responsive Politics](#), Accessed 9/5/25)

In 2019 And 2020, Tillery Contributed A Total Of \$1,500 To Greg Dolezal. ([Center For Responsive Politics](#), Accessed 9/5/25)

In 2018, Tillery Contributed \$1,000 To Brad Raffensperger. ([Center For Responsive Politics](#), Accessed 9/5/25)

Date	Contributor	Amount	Recipient	Recipient Jurisdiction
6/11/24	Tillery, Michael	\$1,000	Michael Dugan (R)	Federal
4/12/24	Tillery, Michael	\$1,000	Michael Dugan (R)	Federal
10/11/22	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Thompson, Bruce A (R)	GA
10/1/22	Tillery, Michael Blake	\$1	Tillery, Blake (R)	GA
9/27/22	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$7,600	Kemp, Brian Porter (R)	GA
9/12/22	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$7,600	Jones, William Burton (Burt) (R)	GA
9/6/22	Tillery, Michael Blake	\$1,000	Hausmann, Liz (R)	GA
8/23/22	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Anavitarte, Jason (R)	GA
8/22/22	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Wade, Will (R)	GA
8/15/22	Tillery, Michael Blake	\$1,000	Hickman, Billy (R)	GA
8/3/22	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Hagan, Leesa (R)	GA
8/3/22	Tillery, Michael Blake	\$1,000	Hatchett, Bo (R)	GA
7/6/22	Tillery, Michael Blake	\$1,000	Pirkle, Clay (R)	GA
4/28/22	Tillery, Michael Blake	\$1,000	Hickman, Billy (R)	GA
4/27/22	Friends Of Blake Tillery For Senate	\$2,000	Strickland, Robert Brian (R)	GA
4/26/22	Tillery, Michael Blake	\$1,000	Dixon, Clint (R)	GA
4/16/22	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Anavitarte, Jason (R)	GA
4/15/22	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Burns, Max (R)	GA
4/14/22	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$2,000	Kirkpatrick Haltom, Kay (R)	GA
4/13/22	Tillery, Michael Blake	\$1,000	Goodman, Russ (R)	GA
2/25/22	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Jeffares, Rick (R)	GA
6/14/21	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$7,500	Georgia Republican Senatorial Cmte (R)	GA
5/12/21	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Thompson, Bruce A (R)	GA
10/8/20	Friends Of Blake Tillery Senate	\$500	Mcdonald Jr, Lauren (Bubba) (R)	GA
10/7/20	Friends Of Blake Tillery For Senate	\$1,000	Tippins, Lindsey (R)	GA

9/30/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Brass, Matt (R)	GA
8/18/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Dolezal, Gregory R (R)	GA
8/14/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Watson, B L (Ben) (R)	GA
8/8/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Albers, John (R)	GA
8/3/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Walker, Larry (R)	GA
8/1/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Dugan, Michael B (Mike) (R)	GA
7/29/20	Friends Of Blake Tillery Senate	\$1,000	Summers, Carden H (R)	GA
7/28/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Reeves, Matt (R)	GA
7/25/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Kirkpatrick Haltom, Kay (R)	GA
7/25/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Martin Iv, P K (R)	GA
7/24/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Burns, Max (R)	GA
7/22/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Albers, John (R)	GA
7/22/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Strickland, Robert Brian (R)	GA
7/17/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Cowsert, William S (Bill) (R)	GA
7/17/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Ginn, Franklin Joseph (Frank) (R)	GA
7/17/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Thompson, Bruce A (R)	GA
7/17/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Tippins, Lindsey (R)	GA
7/10/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$500	Hickman, Billy (R)	GA
4/29/20	Tillery, Blake	\$500	Steverson, Chris (R)	GA
4/3/20	Friends Of Blake Tillery- Senate	\$1,000	Bethel, Charles J (Charlie) (N)	GA
3/31/20	Friends Of Blake Tillery-Senate	\$500	John Wilkinson (R)	Federal
3/26/20	Friends Of Blake Tillery-Senate	\$500	Renee Unterman (R)	Federal
3/6/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Burns, Max (R)	GA
3/3/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$400	Georgia Republican Party (R)	GA
2/28/20	Tillery, Blake	\$1,000	Hall, Stacy (R)	GA
2/23/20	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Anavitarte, Jason (R)	GA
11/7/19	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$500	Hatchett, James Matthew (Matt) (R)	GA
11/7/19	Tillery, Blake	\$500	Werkheiser, William A (Bill) (R)	GA
9/28/19	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$500	Hill, Jack (R)	GA
9/27/19	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$500	Dolezal, Gregory R (R)	GA
10/22/18	Friends Of Blake Tillery-Senate	\$500	Richard W Allen (R)	Federal
10/10/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Raffensperger, Bradford Jay (R)	GA
9/25/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$500	Pridemore, Tricia Robinson (R)	GA
9/10/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$6,600	Kemp, Brian Porter (R)	GA
9/5/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$500	Reeves, Robert Matthew (R)	GA

9/4/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$6,600	Duncan, Geoffrey L (R)	GA
6/4/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$250	Hufstetler, Charles E (Chuck) (R)	GA
5/24/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Cowsert, William S (Bill) (R)	GA
5/1/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$250	Tippins, Lindsey (R)	GA
4/23/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Watson, B L (Ben) (R)	GA
4/23/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$500	Kirkpatrick Haltom, Kay (R)	GA
4/20/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Strickland, Robert Brian (R)	GA
4/20/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$500	Martin Iv, P K (R)	GA
4/20/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$500	Harbin Jr, Maurice H (Marty) (R)	GA
4/19/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Millar, Francis (R)	GA
4/18/18	Tillery, Blake	\$2,600	Werkheiser, William A (Bill) (R)	GA
4/13/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$500	Ginn, Franklin Joseph (Frank) (R)	GA
4/8/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$250	Hitchens Jr, William W (Bill) (R)	GA
3/27/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Hodges, Ken (N)	GA
3/6/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$400	Georgia Republican Party (R)	GA
1/2/18	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$4,100	Jeffares Jr, Richard M (R)	GA
12/8/17	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$250	Lahood, John (R)	GA
11/30/17	Tillery, Blake	\$250	Werkheiser, William A (Bill) (R)	GA
11/20/17	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Morris, Greg (R)	GA
10/5/17	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Hill, Jack (R)	GA
6/20/17	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$3,000	Ellington, John J (N)	GA
6/12/17	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$2,500	Jeffares Jr, Richard M (R)	GA
6/7/17	Tillery, Blake Mr	\$1,000	Paul Ryan (R)	Federal
5/11/17	Tillery, Blake	\$1,000	Kirkpatrick Haltom, Kay (R)	GA
3/23/17	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Boggs, Michael P (N)	GA
11/18/16	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$1,000	Payne, Chuck (R)	GA
10/10/16	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$500	Hill, Hunter (R)	GA
3/7/16	Tillery, Blake	\$400	Georgia Republican Party (R)	GA
3/7/16	Tillery, Blake	\$400	Tillery, Blake (R)	GA
11/5/13	Blake Tillery Campaign Cmte	\$125	Hill, Jack (R)	GA

(Center For Responsive Politics, Accessed 9/5/25)

TIME IN POLITICS

CAREER POLITICIAN

Tillery Is A Career Politician, Having First Run For Office As A College Student In 2004

In 2004, Tillery Ran And Lost A Race For The Athens-Clarke County Commission As A Student. (Jennifer Burie, "Student Runs For Commissioner," [The Red & Black](#), 2/16/04)

From 2013 To 2016, Tillery Was The Chairman Of The Toombs County Commission. ([The Tillery Firm](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

Since 2017, Tillery Has Served In The Georgia State Senate. ([The Tillery Firm](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Budget Increases Under Tillery

In April 2020, Tillery Became Chair Of The Appropriations Committee After Then Chairman Jack Hill Passed Away. (Staff, "Georgia Senate Spending Plan For 2021 Sets Billions In Cuts," [Fox5](#), 6/17/20)

Since Tillery Assumed The Appropriations Committee Chairmanship, Georgia's Budget Has Increased A Total Of 56 Percent. ([GBPI](#), 6/30/25; [GBPI](#), 5/8/24; [Urban Institute](#), September 2025)

Year	Budget Total (State Funds)	Percent Increase Over Prior Year
FY2026	\$37.8 billion	4.7%
FY2025	\$36.1 billion	-0.3%
FY2024	\$36.2 billion	23.5%
FY2023	\$29.3 billion	5.8%
FY2022	\$27.7 billion	14.5%
FY2021	\$24.2 billion	
TOTAL CHANGE 2021 – 2026		56.2%

([GBPI](#), 6/30/25; [GBPI](#), 5/8/24; [Urban Institute](#), September 2025)

NOTE: For the sake of this report, the FY2022 budget is treated as Tillery's first budget under his Appropriations Committee chairmanship since Tillery did not become chairman until the end of the 2020 legislative season.

2023 Budget Disagreements With Kemp

In 2023, Kemp Told The Senate There Were "Significant Holes" In The Passed Budget

In 2023, Kemp Told The Senate There Were "Significant Holes" In The Budget Tillery Helped Craft. "Lawmakers signed off on a \$32.4 billion spending plan for next year as the clock expired on the 2023 legislative session, although Gov. Brian Kemp warned of 'significant holes' in the budget. 'I think it's important for me to say tonight that the recent news from the Federal Reserve and others suggest there may be storm clouds on our nation's economic horizon,' Kemp told members of the Senate on the final day of the session. 'Additionally, there are significant holes in this year's final budget that my office will need to work closely with you all, the House and the Office of Planning and Budget to address in the coming months.'" (Jill Nolin, "Governor Warns Of Budget 'Holes' After Georgia Lawmakers Sign Off On New Spending Plan," [Georgia Recorder](#), 3/30/23)

Kemp: “As We Have Done In Years Past, Our Job Is To Make The Tough Decisions Necessary To Keep The Financial Health Of This State On Sound Footing, And I Believe That There Remains Work To Be Done After The Session To Conclude And Achieve That Goal.” (Jill Nolin, “Governor Warns Of Budget ‘Holes’ After Georgia Lawmakers Sign Off On New Spending Plan,” [Georgia Recorder](#), 3/30/23)

In 2023, Tillery Broke With Kemp And Introduced A Budget Cutting \$105 Million From Higher Education Compared To Kemp’s Proposal, Including Cutting A Health Benefits Program Kemp Introduced

In 2023, Tillery’s Proposed Budget Cut \$105 Million From The University System, Breaking From Kemp’s Recommendations. “The Senate Appropriations Committee passed a version of the state budget, HB 19, that cut \$18 million for the employer share of health benefits that was introduced by Gov. Brian Kemp and approved by the state House. It also includes an \$87 million cut to the teaching budget — a block of funding for student instruction, as opposed to research or other agencies under USG — to be replaced with unspent funds carried forward from the past year. The total cut is about \$105 million when compared to the Gov. Brian Kemp's initial budget proposal. But USG puts the cut at \$113 million after including reductions to other budget lines. In contrast, the House passed a budget with less than \$10,000 difference from the governor's proposal overall for the USG teaching budget.” (Abraham Kenmore, “Georgia Senate Approves Budget With \$105 Million Cut To University System,” [Athens Banner-Herald](#), 3/23/23)

The Budget Cuts Were Blasted By University System Of Georgia Chancellor Sonny Perdue. “The \$113 million decrease would significantly impact all 26 USG public colleges and universities, many of which are already experiencing a negative budget impact due to declining enrollment,” USG Chancellor Sonny Perdue was quoted as saying in a statement. “These additional funding reductions would impact teaching budgets, staff and students. We are confident these things will resolve themselves by the end of the session.” (Abraham Kenmore, “Georgia Senate Approves Budget With \$105 Million Cut To University System,” [Athens Banner-Herald](#), 3/23/23)

Tillery Said Cutting The \$18 Million For University Health Benefits That Kemp Introduced Was “Low Hanging Fruit” Because The Senate Was Not Consulted On It. “The Senate Appropriations Committee passed a version of the state budget, HB 19, that cut \$18 million for the employer share of health benefits that was introduced by Gov. Brian Kemp and approved by the state House... State Sen. Blake Tillery, chair of the appropriations committee, said the Senate was not consulted on the addition of the \$18 million for health benefits, which made it ‘low hanging fruit’ to cut.” (Abraham Kenmore, “Georgia Senate Approves Budget With \$105 Million Cut To University System,” [Athens Banner-Herald](#), 3/23/23)

In 2023, After Kemp Recommended Increasing The Budget For Georgia Public Broadcasting, Tillery Engineered A Nine Percent Cut To The Network

In 2023, Kemp Recommended An Increase In The Budget For Georgia Public Broadcasting. “The number was reduced to \$14,164,216 for the current fiscal year. Gov. Brian Kemp originally recommended a slight increase in GPB’s funding to \$14,408,321 for fiscal year 2024 so the final number is 10% less than his proposal.” (Rodney Ho, “Georgia Public Broadcasting Losing 9% Of Its State Funding,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/30/23)

However, Tillery Engineered A Reduction Of Nine Percent For GPB’s Budget. “Georgia Public Broadcasting is receiving 9% less from the state next fiscal year, a drop of about \$1.17 million, or 3% of its entire budget... State Sen. Blake Tillery (R-Vidalia), Senate Appropriations chairman, engineered the cuts. He said during a recent hearing that he supported the change because he had heard complaints from unspecified rivals of GPB.” (Rodney Ho, “Georgia Public Broadcasting Losing 9% Of Its State Funding,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/30/23)

Ultimately, Kemp Cut \$236 Million From The General Assembly-Passed Budget And Also Vetoed \$6 Million For A Technical College In Tillery’s District, Leading Tillery To Criticize The Lack Of Respect From Kemp’s Office

Kemp Eventually Cut \$236 Million From The General Assembly’s Budget. “Farr said the governor approved 99.3% of the budget the General Assembly passed. That included pay raises for more than 200,000 teachers, state and university employees, record spending on education and more money for dozens of agencies. But lawmakers noticed what was in that .7%. Members of both chambers added it up and counted \$236 million in cuts or ‘disregards.’ There are 236 members of the House and Senate, so that works out to \$1 million per lawmaker.” (James Salzer, “Kemp Takes Hard Line On General Assembly Priorities With Spending Cuts,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 5/14/23)

Additionally, Kemp Vetoed A \$6 Million For A Technical College System Building In Tillery’s District. “Unlike the ‘disregards,’ where the money remains — at least temporarily — in an agency’s budget, the \$30 million Kemp vetoed is gone. His vetoes included \$6 million in borrowing for a technical college system building in Tillery’s district and \$6 million for a dental school building at Georgia Southern University, which is partly represented by House Speaker Jon Burns, R-Newington.” (James Salzer, “Kemp Takes Hard Line On General Assembly Priorities With Spending Cuts,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 5/14/23)

Tillery Had Pointed Words For The Governor Over The Cuts To The Budget, Saying He “Expected The Kemp Administration To Show As Much Respect For The Role Of The General Assembly As Lawmakers Do For The Governor And His Authority.” “Senate Appropriations Chairman Blake Tillery, R-Vidalia, was a little more opaque, saying that he expected the Kemp administration to show as much respect for the role of the General Assembly as lawmakers do for the governor and his authority.” (James Salzer, “Kemp Takes Hard Line On General Assembly Priorities With Spending Cuts,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 5/14/23)

POSSIBLE PAY-TO-PLAY

Support For Trial Lawyers

Tillery’s Number One Industry For Campaign Contributions Is Lawyers And Lobbyists And He Has Voted In Their Favor On Multiple Occasions

According To FollowTheMoney, Tillery Has Received A Total Of \$243,925 From Lawyers And Lobbyists. ([FollowTheMoney](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

In 2020, Tillery Voted To Table A Bill To Put A Cap On Jury Awards In Tort Cases. (SB 415, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Tabled 3/12/20)

In 2025, Tillery Co-Sponsored A Bill To Allow Criminal Defendants To Recoup Attorney’s Fees From The State In Wrongful Convictions Or When A Prosecuting Attorney Is Disqualified For Misconduct. (SB 244, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law on 5/14/25)

In The 2025 Budget, Tillery Carved Out Big Raises For Top Judges In Georgia. “Under the version approved by the Senate budget committee last week and drawn up by Senate Appropriations Chairman Blake Tillery, R-Vidalia, 2025 pay for state Supreme Court justices could go from \$186,000 to \$243,000, Court of Appeals judges from \$184,990 to \$241,000, and superior court judges from about \$142,000 in state pay to about \$219,000.” (James Salzer, “Georgia Senate Backs Plan For Top Judges To Get Big Raises,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/27/24)

In 2024, Tillery Sponsored A Tort Reform Bill That He Touted As A Compromise Between Trial Lawyers And The Insurance Industry. “Georgia senators are moving to limit the ability of people to sue insurance companies directly in lawsuits over trucking accidents... Sen. Blake Tillery, a Vidalia Republican sponsoring the measure, characterized it as a compromise between business groups and lawyers, saying it would “advance the ball and stabilize rates.” Tillery said there are elements that he might personally not favor as a lawyer who represents plaintiffs.” (“Georgia Senate Approves End To Direct-Action Suits Vs. Truck Insurers,” [Insurance Journal](#), 2/15/24)

- **According To FollowTheMoney, Tillery Has Also Received A Total Of \$42,525 From The Insurance Industry.** ([FollowTheMoney](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

Support For Telecom

According To FollowTheMoney, Tillery Has Received A Total Of \$26,050 From The Telecom Industry. ([FollowTheMoney](#), Accessed 9/19/25)

Tillery Has Included More Money For Broadband Internet Access As Chairman Of The Appropriations Committee. “The Georgia Senate unanimously passed a \$26.5 billion mid-year budget Tuesday to fund state-run public health, police and schools through June 30, adding more money for initiatives to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and boost broadband internet in rural areas.” (Beau Evans, “Senate-Backed Budget Includes Funding For Public Health, Rural Internet,” [The Augusta Press](#), 2/11/21)

NOTABLE POSITIONS

ECONOMIC ISSUES

Jobs

Tillery Has Raised Questions About The Renewal Of The Georgia Agribusiness And Rural Jobs Act (GARJA). “The Georgia Agribusiness and Rural Jobs Act, has been around in one form or another at the Capitol for more than a decade, but it took a while to become law. Finally adopted in 2017, it is designed to use tax dollars and private capital to spur business investment in struggling areas of the state... The Senate has been a tougher nut to crack for backers. Senate Finance Chairman Chuck Hufstetler, R-Rome, has called it a ‘bad investment scheme’ that makes money for a few national capital companies. Senate Appropriations Chairman Blake Tillery, R-Vidalia, has also raised questions about whether the program is a good investment for the state.” (James Salazar, “State Rural Lending Program Back For Another Try Despite Mixed Reviews,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/5/23)

Tax Breaks

In 2020, Tillery Said His “Default Position On Special Tax Breaks Is No.” “In regard to tax policy, Tillery said he favors lower top rates to targeted tax breaks. Though he acknowledged that some exemptions may be necessary to keep Georgia competitive with other states in attracting industries, he said, ‘My default position on special tax breaks is no.’ ‘When the money was there, we’ve probably pushed the envelope too much on too many tax credits,’ Werkheiser said. Regarding the film tax credit in particular, Tillery said that some adjustments may be needed.” (Drew Davis, “State-Budget Talk Highlights Eggs & Issues,” [The Press-Sentinel](#), 1/11/20)

In 2024, Tillery Opposed A Bill Doubling The Standard Homestead Exemption, Which Would Lower Taxes For Georgians In One-Third Of Georgia Counties. “Georgia House Speaker Jon Burns’ proposal to double the state homestead exemption on property taxes would do nothing for most of the state and save little for those who could use it, Senate leaders said Monday... Meanwhile, Burns’ proposal to double the standard state homestead exemption on property from \$2,000 to \$4,000 a year got a Senate committee hearing Monday. But it didn’t go so well. By lowering the taxable value of a homeowner’s property, such exemptions cut his or her tax bill. ‘Increasing the state minimum is good for homeowners statewide,’ said Rep. Matt Reeves, R-Duluth, the sponsor of House Bill 1019. But Reeves said the change would only affect taxpayers in a third of Georgia counties because most already have homestead exemptions that are higher than the standard state exemption. Senate Finance Chairman Chuck Hufstetler, R-Rome, said in his county homeowners would save \$24 a year on property taxes. ‘I think we need to do more than this,’ he said. ‘Basically, (people in) two-thirds of counties don’t get a dollar of tax relief.’ Senate Appropriations Chairman Blake Tillery, R-Vidalia, said of House Bill 1019, ‘I am concerned if we pass this, that this becomes the bill that everybody says, ‘Hey, we did something.’” (James Salzer, “‘Tis The Season To Gut And Replace At The Georgia Capitol,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/12/24)

In 2024, Tillery Stated His Hesitation To Support A Tax Break For Timber Growers. “After a heated debate, a rare bipartisan coalition of senators stalled a proposed constitutional amendment — Senate Resolution 82 — that would have given timber growers a tax break and forced state taxpayers to foot the bill for revenue that local governments would lose because of it... Senate Appropriations Chairman Blake Tillery, R-Vidalia, represents a rural district and initially tried to help make Summers’ legislation more palatable by reducing the size of the tax break. But he worried about the idea of passing a constitutional amendment that would force the state to pick up the bill for local taxes. ‘I don’t know that it’s the right precedent for states to reimburse local governments for taxes that were originally owed to local governments,’ he said. ‘The way the amendment is structured, no county loses, the state pays back the county.’” (James Salzer, “This Time, Georgia Senate Says No To Special-Interest Last-Minute Tax Break,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 4/2/24)

In 2018, Tillery Voted Against Extending The Suspension Of The Jet-Fuel Tax. “The third bill passed by the state legislature ratified the governor’s suspension of the jet-fuel tax. The exemption will expire June 30 of next year. That measure passed the House 141-18 and the Senate 43-9. Wayne County’s two state representatives, Bill Werkheiser and Chad Nimmer, voted for the tax break; Wayne’s state senator, Blake Tillery, voted against it.” (Staff, “Governor signs hurricane relief, tax break on jet fuel,” *The Press-Sentinel*, 11/23/18)

Sports Betting

In 2023, Tillery Said He Doesn’t Support Legalizing Sports Betting. “On the broader issue of legalized gambling, Tillery said that legislation involving casinos is probably ‘dead,’ that horse racing is ‘sort of in the middle,’ and that sports betting is the most likely. Both Tillery and Meeks said they wouldn't support it, though, because they don't see where their districts support it.” (Drew Davis, “Lawmakers Address Varied Questions About 'New Era',” *The Press-Sentinel*, 1/12/23)

HEALTHCARE

Medicaid

In 2019, Tillery Introduced A Bill To Expand Medicaid In Georgia. “Gov. Brian Kemp revealed his version of Medicaid expansion Wednesday, legislation introduced into the state Senate on his behalf by Sen. Blake Tillery, R-Vidalia, one of Kemp's floor leaders in the upper chamber. Dubbed the Patients First Act, the measure would stop short of expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, as demanded by legislative Democrats, which would cover Georgians with incomes up to 138 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). Instead, the bill would authorize Kemp to seek a waiver from the federal government that would cap income eligibility at 100 percent of the FPL.” (Dave Williams, “Gov. Kemp Unveils Medicaid Waiver Legislation,” [Atlanta Business Chronicle](#), 2/14/19)

NOTE: *The bill was an initiative of Governor Kemp’s.*

Family Leave

In 2017, Tillery Did Not Vote On A Bill To Extend Family Leave. (SB 201, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law On 5/8/17)

Tillery’s Absence Was Excused.

EDUCATION

Vouchers

Tillery Has Voted In Favor Of School Vouchers. (SB 233, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law On 4/23/24)

School Recess

In 2019, Tillery Voted Against A Bill That Would Require Elementary Schools To Schedule Recess. (HB 83, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Vetoed On 5/10/19)

Tillery Said The Bill Would “Burden” School Districts. “Opponents worried about tying the hands of schools that are pressed for time to meet academic goals. State Sen. Blake Tillery, R-Vidalia, said he was voting against it out of concern for ‘burdening’ school districts, ‘although I do hope that everyone does get their time for recess.’” (Ty Tagami, “Georgia Recess Bill Gains Final Passage, So School Kids May Get A Break,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 3/27/19)

ABORTION

In 2022, Tillery Did Not Vote On A Bill Restricting Abortion Pills. (SB 456, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Senate Passed On 3/1/22)

Tillery's Absence Was Excused. (SB 456, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Senate Passed On 3/1/22)

SECOND AMENDMENT

In 2019, Georgia Gun Owners “Pounded” Tillery And Other Lawmakers For Supporting A Democrat-Sponsored Gun Control Measure That Would Restrict Second Amendment Rights In Cases Of Abuse. “First, the background: Senate Bill 150 was introduced this year by state Sen. Jen Jordan, D-Atlanta. It would prohibit those convicted of misdemeanor crimes of family violence from possessing a gun. (Felons already are prohibited from owning firearms.) The bill would also strengthen the hand of judges who attempt to step between an abuser and the abused... The Senate Judiciary Committee, which includes some of the most conservative members of the chamber, gave unanimous approval to Jordan’s measure. Strickland was among them, as was Blake Tillery of Vidalia, another of the governor’s floor leaders. Then came the deluge. Georgia Gun Owners, a group that bills itself as a less compromising version of the National Rifle Association, says it pounded state lawmakers with almost 10,000 emails. Strickland and Tillery were primary targets, and SB 150 was stopped in its tracks. It remains frozen in place.” (Jim Galloway, “The Footnote That Could Revive An Effort To Strip Guns From Domestic Abusers,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 7/9/19)

In 2020, Tillery Told A Crowd Of His Constituents, Regarding Gun Control, “Not To Be Concerned By Inaccurate Social-Media Reports From Groups Looking For Contributions.” “Tillery did say that he did expect more committee votes on gun control this year. He warned people not to be concerned by inaccurate social-media reports from groups looking for contributions. ‘Talk to your legislators,’ he said in regard to gun control bills.” (Drew Davis, “State-Budget Talk Highlights Eggs & Issues,” [The Press-Sentinel](#), 1/11/20)

ELECTION FRAUD

In 2024, Tillery Said He Was “Reluctant To Spend Several Million Dollars For Brand-New Modifications” To The State’s Voting Machines. “Regarding the related issue of elections, De-Loach said, “We've done an awful lot to try to [build] confidence in our elections.” He added that state officials have yet to find a single instance in which the QR code on a state ballot has recorded a name different from the name on that ballot. He also said, though, that he welcomes public concerns if they prompt people to take an interest in the election process. Along those same lines, Meeks encouraged people to learn about the voting system. Tillery, who chairs the Senate Appropriations Committee, pointed out that, with relatively new voting machines throughout Georgia, he is reluctant to spend several million dollars for brand-new modifications.” (Drew Davis, “Lawmakers Stress Need For Planning,” [The Press-Sentinel](#), 1/11/24)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

In 2023, Tillery’s Appropriations Committee Declined To Take Up A Bill To Compensate Those Who Were Wrongly Convicted And Spent Time In Prison, With Tillery Saying The Committee “Ran Out Of Time”. “HB 364 would create a panel of appointees, all subject matter experts in wrongful convictions or criminal justice, to vet compensation claims while laying out clear guidelines for who does and does not qualify. It was amended in a Senate panel to also require that those who have been exonerated are compensated at a figure between \$60,000 and \$120,000 per year of wrongful imprisonment... The Senate Appropriations Committee ran out of time to advance HB 364 before the end of the session, committee Chairman Blake Tillery said.” (Maya T. Prabhu And Mark Niese, “Georgia Senate Blocks Payments To Men Who Wrongly Spent Decades In Prison,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 4/13/23)

HATE CRIMES

In 2020, Tillery Did Not Vote On The “Hate Crimes” Bill. (HB 426, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law on 6/26/20)

Tillery’s Absence Was Excused. (HB 426, [Georgia General Assembly](#), Signed Into Law on 6/26/20)

OTHER ISSUES

Love From Geoff Duncan

In 2019, Then Lt. Governor Geoff Duncan Campaigned For Tillery, Saying “I Have No Better Friend In The State Senate Than Blake Tillery!” “Duncan, who serves as president of the Georgia Senate, also was the special guest at a campaign event for Tillery in Jesup Tuesday evening. ‘I’m proud to work alongside Blake,’ Duncan said. ‘I have no better friend in the State Senate than Blake Tillery!’ He said it had been a ‘big year for Georgia,’ including teacher pay raises and other improvements in education. ‘Blake has been a big part of that story,’ he said. ‘He’s helped me a lot.’” (John Eden, “Lt. Gov. Duncan Addresses Issues Facing Rural Ga. In Screven Meeting,” *The Press-Sentinel*, 11/23/19)

Child Safety

In 2023, Tillery Voted Against A Bill To Have The State Develop A Model Aquatic Safety Plan For Private Swim Instructors. (SB 107, [Georgia General Assembly](#). Signed Into Law On 5/3/23)

Census

In 2021, Tillery Advocated For Counting Prisoners In The Census. “State Sen. Blake Tillery, a Vidalia Republican whose district includes Wheeler County, said while counting those who are incarcerated in the district where they’re being held may not always accurately reflect a community, it’s better than not counting them at all. Nearly 31% of Wheeler County’s 7,471 residents were being held in the Wheeler Correctional Facility. ‘If a census is being mailed to their old address, and we know it’s not getting to them, we do need to make sure that they’re counted,’ Tillery said. ‘They’re people. They’re citizens. We have to make sure they’re counted.’” (Maya T. Prabhu, “Inmate Population Tilts Political Representation In Rural Georgia,” [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 11/11/21)