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Judge B. Avant Edenfield to Speak at Georgia Southern University's Spring Commencement

APRIL 28, 2009



A Bulloch County native who went on to a distinguished judicial, political and civic career will be the guest speaker for Georgia Southern University's Spring Commencement.

The Honorable B. Avant Edenfield will keynote the 9 a.m. graduation ceremony at Paulson Stadium on May 9. More than 2,100 graduates will receive their degrees.

Edenfield practiced law in Statesboro and Bulloch County for 20 years and has served in both the U. S. Army and Georgia National Guard. He also served in the Georgia State Senate during his distinguished professional career and has been active in both political and civic affairs throughout his life.

At 44, he was appointed by then-President Jimmy Carter to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia. He later served as chief judge from 1990-97, and has served on the 11th Circuit Judicial Council. In addition, he has served on numerous committees relating to the improvement of the judiciary and judicial branch of government and been a supporter of higher education in Georgia. In 2006, he moved to senior judge status.

A native of Brooklet, Ga., and a graduate of Stilson High School, Edenfield holds a Bachelor of Business Administration and law degree from the University of Georgia. He was a charter member of the Statesboro Kiwanis Club, president of the Statesboro Jaycees, regional vice president of the Georgia Jaycees, a member of the Statesboro Rotary Club, chairman of the board of the Statesboro-Bulloch County Regional Library and a member of the State Advisory Committee on Vocational Education.

Edenfield's contributions to his community have spanned the decades. He was selected in 1963 as Bulloch County's Outstanding Young Man, and in 1978 he was selected by the Statesboro Rotary Club as Bulloch County's Man of the Year.

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University, offers 116 degree programs serving nearly 18,000 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelors, masters and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. The University, one of Georgia's largest, is a top choice of Georgia's HOPE scholars and is recognized for its student-centered approach to education. Visit: www.georgiasouthern.edu. – See more at: <http://news.georgiasouthern.edu/pressrelease.phpid=1802#sthash.HYHNY5Dx.dpuf>