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### **The Sapelo Foundation Names New Executive Director**

The Sapelo Foundation Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the appointment of Joe Thomas to lead the Foundation as its Executive Director, effective May 25, 2023, as it celebrates its 74<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

Mr. Thomas was the director of development at Georgia Conservation Voters, and has spent more than a decade supporting environment- and justice-focused nonprofits in Georgia as a fundraising and communications staffer, executive director, board member, and consultant. His broad organizing experience, knowledge of environmental issues and passion for social justice well-match the work of the Foundation.

"We are thrilled to have Joe join us as our Executive Director. He brings a deep familiarity with Georgia and an appetite for our mission," said Nicole Bagley, President of the Sapelo Foundation.

"Joe is a sensitive leader whose grassroots understanding makes him a strong partner for our grantees and those with whom we collaborate in the philanthropic and business communities," added Bagley. "Together we expect to blaze new trails in increasing environmental protections and civic power for Georgians."

"I am honored to join the team at the Sapelo Foundation and to have the opportunity to work closely with its outstanding Trustees and staff," said Thomas. "I whole-heartedly embrace the Foundation's goals and look forward to being a part of furthering its positive impact on the lives of all Georgians."

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*The Sapelo Foundation is based in Savannah, Georgia, and works to pursue a more just Georgia through its various partnerships and solutions. Its goal is to increase environmental protection, social prosperity, and civic power throughout the state. The Foundation invests in a progressive agenda that seeks to enable all Georgians – especially marginalized communities, communities of color, and rural communities – to live in a healthy environment, to have access to the resources they need to thrive, and to engage in a prosperous democracy. For more information about The Sapelo Foundation go to <https://sapelofoundation.org/>*

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