

Emma Ione Darnell represents District Five which consists of portions of central Atlanta, Northwest Atlanta, Southwest Atlanta and unincorporated South Fulton County.

Her major areas of interest include human health and the environment, senior adult services, ethics and corrections.

Born in Atlanta and a graduate of the public schools of Tyler, Texas, commissioner Darnell was elected to the Board of Commissioners in a special election, May 1992. She was re-elected in 1994, 1998, 2002 and 2006. She was elected Vice Chair of the Board in 2000, 2001, 2005 and 2006.



In December 1998, she led the Board of commissioners in opening a \$5.5 million senior multi-purpose facility in Northwest Atlanta. Named by the Board of Commissioners and the Northwest community Senior Advisory Committee to honor the life and work of her mother, the Harriett G. Darnell Senior Multi-Purpose Facility provides a variety of social, educational, fitness, and nutritional activities and services designed for persons age years and older. The facility also houses the first government-operated adult day care program in Fulton County.

Previously, Commissioner Darnell was employed by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Atlanta Regional Office, Investigations and Conciliations Division. She also served in the government of the City of Atlanta as Special Assistant to the Mayor for Intergovernmental Affairs and Chair of the Grant Review Board.

In her capacity as Commissioner of Administrative Services for the City of Atlanta, she was responsible for the personnel, purchasing, general services, labor relations, EBO and EEO departments. She was an architect of Atlanta's "Minority Participation Plan for the Expansion of Hartsfield International Airport" featured in Henry Hampton's documentary, "Eyes on the Prize." A former college professor, Commissioner Darnell graduated from Fisk University where she was initiated in Alpha Beta Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. She earned the Master's degree from Columbia University, Teachers College where she was initiated in Pi Lambda Theta Honor Society. She earned the Juris Doctor degree from the Howard University School of Law.

Citing her work in government as a "public moralist", in June 2000, she was awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree, honoris causa by the Board of Trustees of the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), Atlanta, Georgia.

The recipient of over 200 awards from civic and business organizations for outstanding achievement in the area of government and human rights, Commissioner Darnell is serving a fifth term as a member of the Judicial Council of the CME Church.

She is the daughter of (the late) Dr. Milner L. Darnell, President/Dean, Phillips School of Theology, Atlanta, Georgia and (the late) Mrs. Harriett G. Darnell, Volunteer Director, Ours Senior Center, 73 Georgia Avenue. Commissioner Darnell is President of E.I. Darnell and Associates, P. C.