

## **Brookhaven Police Chief visits Republic of Georgia**

**Brookhaven, GA May 27, 2015** – Brookhaven Police Chief Gary Yandura, Georgia Bureau of Investigations Director Vernon Keenan, Federal Bureau of Investigations representatives and other Atlanta area Police Chiefs have just returned from a trip to The Republic of Georgia. The purpose of the visit was to assess their police services, leadership, and management with the hopes of setting up an exchange program.

The trip was coordinated by the U.S. State Department through the U.S. Embassy of Georgia and paid for by the state. The United States established diplomatic relations with Georgia in 1992 following Georgia's 1991 independence from the Soviet Union. Since then, Georgia has made impressive progress fighting corruption, developing modern state institutions, and enhancing security. The U.S. – Georgia relations strengthened in 2009 with the U.S. – Georgia Strategic Partnership Commission. The commission comprises on four bilateral working groups on priority areas including defense and security.

Chief Yandura and the others toured their criminal justice facilities to include their dispatch center, K-9 facility, morgue, and crime lab. Their work sessions focused on sharing ideas of how Georgia can continue to improve their police services and management. The group met with several dignitaries of Georgia to include the Minister of Internal Affairs who is responsible for all aspects of the country's Criminal Justice system.



Pictured left to right:  
Brookhaven Police Chief Gary Yandura, Republic of Georgia's Minister of Internal Affairs, and US  
Embassy assigned interpreter