



Rep. Arlene P. Beckles
District 96

Biography

Originally from the beautiful island of Barbados, Dr. Arlene Beckles relocated to Norcross, Georgia, in 2003 after spending 18 years in New York. Her impressive career spans several industries, including finance, banking, media entertainment and healthcare. Known for her humor, she describes her "claim to fame" as "trying to stay out of trouble." Dr. Beckles is a Lead Cybersecurity/Information Security Project Manager.

Dr. Beckles' educational background is equally diverse, covering Marketing and Sales, Management and Computer Information Systems and Project Management. The pinnacle of her academic achievements is her Doctorate in Organizational Leadership, specializing in Emotional Intelligence and Leader Effectiveness. Her research, *"The Relationship Between Emotional Intelligence, Leadership Style and Leader Effectiveness: A Quantitative Correlation Study,"* was published in May 2018 and has since been cited eight times by future doctoral students.

She recently completed a postgraduate program in cybersecurity at the Texas McCombs School of Business and is the author of *Mitigating Data Breaches & Enhancing Cybersecurity*, the first in a series of books focused on information security and privacy. Dr. Beckles completed her Master of Jurisprudence in Cybersecurity, Privacy and Technology Risk Management at Florida State University College of Law, with an expected graduation date of May 2025.

Beyond academics and her professional roles, Dr. Beckles is deeply involved in community and organizational leadership. She is a founding member of the Transformational Emotional Intelligence Foundation (Corpus Christi, Texas) and serves as a board member for the CyberMinds Research Institute (Miami, Florida). Additionally, she contributed to the State of Georgia's Cybersecurity Planning Committee, collaborating on the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program.

Dr. Beckles was the first Barbadian immigrant to serve on the Norcross City Council (2021–2024). She is now the first Barbadian to go to the Georgia General Assembly. She is also the proud mother of one daughter, Nyasia, a recent graduate of Tougaloo College in Jackson, Mississippi. Nyasia is pursuing her MBA with a concentration in Data Analytics at Mercer University's Stetson-Hatcher School of Business.