

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

General Session

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Wyndham Vinings Hotel

9:00 a.m.

Overlook A & B



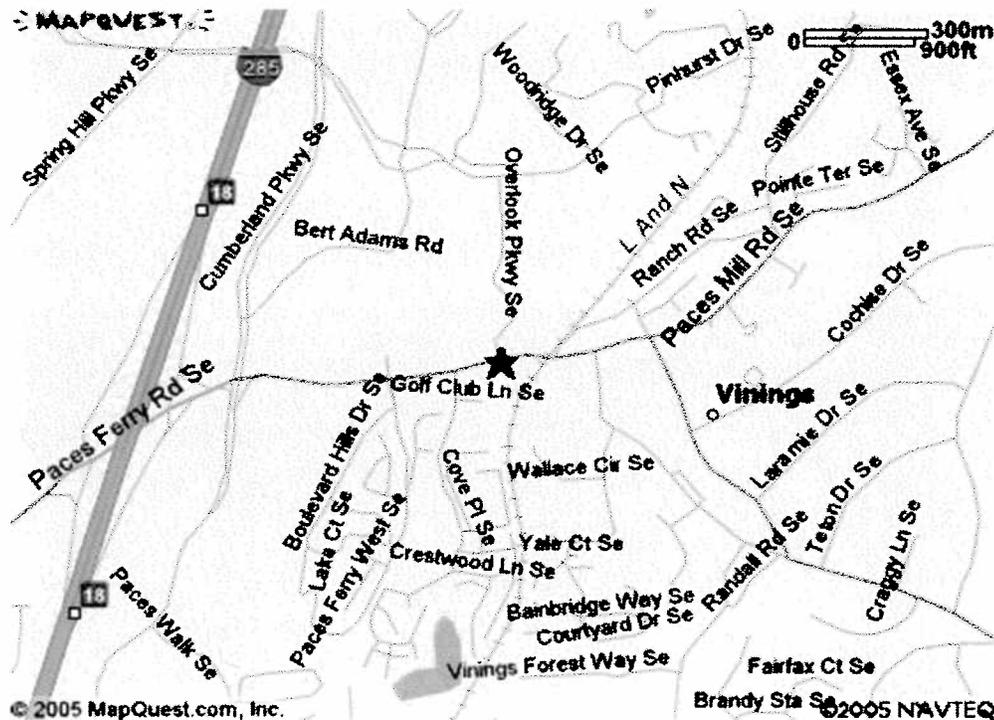
Luncheon

12 Noon

Fireplace Lounge

*2857 Paces Ferry Road
Atlanta, GA 30339*

Driving Directions to the Wyndham Vinings Hotel
2857 Paces Ferry Road
Atlanta, GA 30339
770-432-5555



Traveling South on I-75

Take I-285 Westbound (Birmingham) and travel 1.5 miles to Paces Ferry Road (Exit 18). Turn left onto Paces Ferry Road and travel ½ mile; hotel is on the left.

Traveling South on I-85

Take I-285 Westbound and continue past the I-75 interchange. Exit at Paces Ferry Road (Exit 18). Turn left onto Paces Ferry Road and travel ½ mile; hotel is on the left.

Traveling North on I-75

Travel toward Atlanta and take I-285 Westbound, then continue on I-285 Northbound pass the I-20 interchange proceeding to Paces Ferry Road (Exit 18). The exit ramp will have 3 or 4 different turn lanes. Turn right onto Paces Ferry Road East, crossing Cumberland Parkway then crossing Boulevard Hills, hotel is on the left.

Traveling North on I-85

Take I-285 North, pass the I-20 interchange and proceed to Paces Ferry Road (Exit 18). The exit ramp will have 3 or 4 different turn lanes. Turn right onto Paces Ferry Road East, crossing Cumberland Parkway then crossing Boulevard Hills, hotel is on the left.

Whether traveling I-20 Eastbound OR traveling I-20 Westbound

Take Exit 51B (285 North) and proceed to Paces Ferry Road (Exit 18). The exit ramp will have 3 or 4 different turn lanes. Turn right onto Paces Ferry Road East, crossing Cumberland Parkway then crossing Boulevard Hills, hotel is on the left.

Judicial Council of Georgia
Wyndham Vinings Hotel
2857 Paces Ferry Road
Atlanta, GA 30339

Tuesday, December 11, 2007
9:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast will be served beginning at 8:00 a.m.

1. **Introductions and Preliminary Remarks**
(Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears, Est. Time — 5 Min.)
2. **Approval of August 28, 2007 Minutes** Tab 1
(Chief Justice Sears, Est. Time — 3 Min.)
3. **Approval of ICJE Curricula for Calendar Year 2008** Tab 2
(Mr. Reeves, Est. Time — 10 Min.)
 - A. Magistrate Courts Training Council
 - B. Municipal Courts Training Council
4. **Reports:**
 - A. **County and Municipal Probation Advisory Council** Tab 3
Written report for informational purposes only
No action required by the Council
 - B. **Georgia Courts Automation Commission** Tab 4
Written report for informational purposes only
No action required by the Council
 - C. **Nominating Committee** Tab 5
(Judge Ott, Est. Time — 10 Min.)
 - D. **Committee on Reporting Matters** Tab 6
(Judge Boyett &/or Aquaria Smith, Est. Time — 10 Min.)
 - E. **Judicial Council Court Emergency Management Committee**
(Justice Melton &/or Bob Bray, Est. Time — 10 Min.)
 - F. **Justice for Children Committee Report** Tab 7
Written report for informational purposes only
No action required by the Council

G. **Standing Committee on Policy**
(Justice Hunstein &/or Debra Nesbit, Est. Time — 10 Min.)

H. **Standing Committee on Drug Courts** Tab 8
(Jane Martin, Est. Time — 10 Min.)

5. **Legislative Update/Website**
(Ms. Nesbit, Est. Time — 10 Min.)

6. **Report from AOC Director** Tab 9
(Mr. Ratley, Est. Time — 10 Min.)

* * * * * **15 Minute Break** * * * * *

7. **Budget Matters** Tab 10
(Justice Hines, Est. Time — 10 Min.)
FY 2008 Judicial Branch Supplemental Request
FY 2009 Judicial Branch General Appropriations Request

8. **Reports from Appellate Courts and Trial Court Councils**

A) Supreme Court
(Chief Justice Sears, Est. Time — 5 Min.)

B) Court of Appeals
(Chief Judge Barnes, Est. Time — 5 Min.)

C) Council of Superior Court Judges
(Judge McGarity, Est. Time — 5 Min.)

D) Council of State Court Judges
(Judge Cole, Est. Time — 5 Min.)

E) Council of Juvenile Court Judges
(Judge Tilley, Est. Time — 5 Min.)

F) Council of Probate Court Judges Tab 11
(Judge Clarke, Est. Time — 5 Min.)

G) Council of Magistrate Court Judges
(Judge Warden, Est. Time — 5 Min.)

H) Council of Municipal Court Judges Tab 12
(Judge Clifton, Est. Time — 5 Min.)

9. **Old/New Business**
(Chief Justice Sears, Est. Time — 15 Min.)

A. **Justice Served, Inc.**
(Judge Pope, Est. Time — 10 Min.)

B. Date and Place of Next Regular Council Meeting
Date: Tuesday, June 3, 2008
Place: Hilton Savannah DeSoto Hotel

10. **Concluding Remarks and Adjournment**
(Chief Justice Sears, Est. Time — 5 Min.)

12 Noon — Lunch Served in the Fireplace Lounge

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears
Chairperson
Supreme Court of Georgia
507 State Judicial Building
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-656-3474/FAX 657-6997

Presiding Justice Carol W. Hunstein
Vice Chairperson
Supreme Court of Georgia
501 State Judicial Building
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-656-3475/FAX 657-9586

Judge A. Quillian Baldwin, Jr.
Superior Courts
Coweta Judicial Circuit
100 Ridley Avenue
P. O. Box 1364
LaGrange, GA 30241
706-883-1633/FAX 298-3706

Chief Judge Anne Elizabeth Barnes
Court of Appeals of Georgia
47 Trinity Avenue, Suite 501
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-656-3454/FAX 463-8303

Judge David E. Barrett
Superior Courts
Enotah Judicial Circuit
114 Courthouse Street, Box 2
Blairsville, GA 30512
706-431-6100/F 431-6099

Judge Lillis J. Brown
Probate Court of Rockdale County
Rockdale County Courthouse
922 Court Street, Room 107
Conyers, GA 30012
770-929-4057/FAX 918-6502

Judge John C. Carbo, III
State Court of Clayton County
Harold R. Banke Justice Center
9151 Tara Boulevard, Room 3JC202
Jonesboro, GA 30236
770-477-4500/FAX 477-4595

Judge Walter J. Clarke, II
Probate Court of Gwinnett County
Gwinnett Justice &
Administration Center
75 Langley Drive
Lawrenceville, GA 30045-6900
770-822-8250/FAX 822-8267

Judge Brenda H. Cole
State Court of Fulton County
T3905 Justice Center Tower
185 Central Avenue, S. W.
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-730-4311/FAX 730-8182

Judge Doris L. Downs
Superior Court
Atlanta Judicial Circuit
T-7955 Justice Center Tower
185 Central Avenue, S. W.
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-730-4991/FAX 335-2828

Judge Stephen S. Goss
Superior Court
Dougherty Judicial Circuit
P. O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702-1827
229-434-2683/FAX 431-2174

Judge Connie J. Holt
Magistrate Court of Morgan County
P. O. Box 589
Madison, GA 30650
706-342-3088/FAX 343-6364

Judge Shepherd Lee Howell
Superior Courts
Cherokee Judicial Circuit
135 W. Cherokee Avenue, Suite 322
Cartersville, GA 30120
770-387-5124/FAX 606-2397

Judge Ronnie Joe Lane
Superior Courts
Pataula Judicial Circuit
P. O. Box 636
Donalsonville, GA 39845-0636
229-524-2149/FAX 524-8817

Judge Arch W. McGarity
Superior Court
Flint Judicial Circuit
Henry County Courthouse
One Courthouse Square
McDonough, GA 30253-3293
770-288-7907/FAX 288-7920

Judge M. Yvette Miller
Court of Appeals of Georgia
47 Trinity Avenue, Suite 501
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-463-3032/FAX 656-4717

Judge John M. Ott
Superior Courts
Alcovy Judicial Circuit
Walton County Government Building
303 South Hammond Drive, Suite 221
Monroe, GA 30655
770-266-1635/FAX 266-1630

Judge F. Gates Peed
Superior Courts
Ogeechee Judicial Circuit
P. O. Box 967
Statesboro, GA 30459
912-764-6095/FAX 489-3148

Judge J. Stanley Smith
Superior Courts
Dublin Judicial Circuit
P. O. Box 2069
Dublin, GA 31040-2069
478-272-4131\FAX 272-1639

Judge R. Rucker Smith
Superior Court
Southwestern Judicial Circuit
P. O. Box 784
Americus, GA 31709-0784
229-928-4555/FAX 928-4552

Judge Steve Teske
Juvenile Court of Clayton County
Clayton Judicial Circuit
Clayton County Courthouse, Annex 3
121 S. McDonough Street, 3rd Floor
Jonesboro, GA 30236
770-477-3260/FAX 473-5967

Judge Velma Tilley
Juvenile Court of Bartow County
Cherokee Judicial Circuit
135 W. Cherokee Avenue, Suite 333
Cartersville, GA 30120-3181
770-387-5039/FAX 387-5044

Judge Kimberly Warden
Magistrate Court of Fulton County
160 Pryor Street, S. W., Suite G-47
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-730-5396/FAX 893-6853

Judge Anne Workman
Superior Court
Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit
5230 DeKalb County Courthouse
556 N. McDonough Street
Decatur, GA 30030
404-371-2338

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER:

Judge Bill Clifton
President
Council of Municipal Court Judges
577 Mulberry Street, Suite 710
Macon, GA 31201
478-750-8600/FAX 750-8686

Judicial Council of Georgia

August 28, 2007

Atlanta Marriott Gwinnett Place

Atlanta, Georgia

Members Present:

Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears
Presiding Justice Carol Hunstein
Chief Judge Anne Elizabeth Barnes
Judge David Barrett
Judge Quillian Baldwin
Judge Lillis Brown
Judge John Carbo
Judge Jim Clarke
Judge Bill Clifton (ex-officio)
Judge Brenda Cole
Judge Doris Downs
Judge Stephen Goss
Judge Connie Holt
Judge Shepherd Howell
Judge Ronnie Joe Lane
Judge Arch McGarity
Judge John Ott
Judge Gates Peed
Judge Rucker Smith
Judge Stan Smith
Judge Steve Teske
Judge Velma Tilley
Judge Kim Warden
Judge Anne Workman

Members Absent:

Judge Yvette Miller

Staff Present:

Mr. David Ratley
Dr. Greg Arnold
Ms. Billie Bolton
Mr. Bob Bray
Ms. Terry Cobb
Ms. Cynthia Clanton
Mr. Vince Harris

Ms. Jane Martin
Ms. Kelly Moody
Ms. Debra Nesbit
Mr. Chris Patterson
Ms. Tiffaney Pete
Ms. Tabitha Press
Mr. Mark Seymour
Ms. Ashley Stollar
Mr. Kevin Tolmich

Guests Present:

Ms. Dena Adams, Superior Court Clerk, White County
Ms. Tee Barnes, Clerk, Supreme Court of Georgia
Judge Billy Boyett, Conasauga Judicial Circuit
Judge Michael Cielinski, Municipal Court of Columbus
Mr. John Cowart, Second District Court Administrator
Judge Linda Cowen, State Court of Clayton County
Judge Jason Deal, Northeastern Judicial Circuit
Mr. Danny DeLoach, First District Court Administrator
Ms. Marsha Elzey, Council of Superior Court Judges
Judge David Emerson, Douglas Judicial Circuit
Mr. Steve Ferrell, Ninth District Court Administrator
Mr. Tripp Fitzner, Eighth District Court Administrator
Mr. Reggie Forrester, Court Administrator
Judge Andy Fuller, Northeastern Judicial Circuit
Mr. Tom Gunnels, Tenth District Court Administrator
Ms. Jane Hansen, PIO, Supreme Court of Georgia
Ms. Chandler Hayden, Council of Magistrate Court Judges
Justice Harris Hines, Supreme Court of Georgia
Mr. Eric John, Council of Juvenile Court Judges
Mr. Greg Jones, Third District Court Administrator
Mr. Tom Lawler, Superior Court Clerk, Gwinnett County
Ms. Sandy Lee, Council of Superior Court Judges
Mr. Bill Martin, Clerk & Court Administrator, Court of Appeals of Georgia
Ms. Tia Milton, Law Assistant, Supreme Court of Georgia
Judge Henry Newkirk, State Court of Fulton County
Mr. George Nolan, Georgia Courts Automation Commission
Judge Bonnie Oliver, Northeastern Judicial Circuit
Ms. Jody Overcash, Seventh District Court Administrator
Judge Tim Pape, Floyd County Juvenile Court
Ms. Sharon Reiss, Council of Magistrate Court Judges
Judge John Roberts, Council of Municipal Court Judges
Mr. Fred Roney, Sixth District Court Administrator
Ms. Kirsten Wallace, Council of Juvenile Court Judges

Mr. Shannon Weathers, Council of Superior Court Judges
Judge Melvin Westmoreland, Atlanta Judicial Circuit
Judge Bucky Woods, Mountain Judicial Circuit

Call to Order

Chief Justice Sears convened the meeting promptly at 9:00 a.m. She welcomed all those attending and introduced three new Council members: Judge Anne Workman, Fourth Judicial District Administrative Judge, Judge Connie Holt, president-elect of the Council of Magistrate Court Judges and Judge Bill Clifton, president of the Council of Municipal Court Judges, who is an ex-officio member of the Council. She asked that the members of the Council introduce themselves; followed by those seated in the audience.

Approval of Minutes

Turning to the minutes of the June 12, 2007 Judicial Council meeting, Chief Justice Sears noted one correction on page 11, under Reports from Judicial Agencies where the initial sentence should read: “written reports *were* provided *by* . . .” Judge Barrett moved approval of the minutes as corrected, Justice Hunstein seconded. The motion carried.

Judgeship Study Presentation

Dr. Arnold called attention to the material behind Tab 2, the 2006 caseload data charts and explanatory attachments. The initial pages provide a guide to the judgeship charts, the Judicial Council policy on circuit boundary studies, judgeship study methodology and the most recent Supreme Court of Georgia order amending Judicial Council voting policy. Tabs 3-10 contain letters of support from each requesting circuit.

Dr. Arnold asked Ms. Tiffaney Pete to present the Caseload Report from the limited jurisdiction trial courts. Ms. Pete stated that as of August 8, 2007, caseload data has been reported to the AOC as follows: all 71 state courts; 153 of 159 juvenile courts; 153 of 159 probate courts and 158 of 159 magistrate courts. Dr. Arnold expressed his thanks to all local court personnel who cooperated in reporting nearly 100% of caseload data and to the research staff for their diligence.

Dr. Arnold resumed his presentation of the judgeship materials, beginning on page 18, the chart showing the actual circuit weights for 2006. He noted that each of the eight circuits requesting a judgeship reached the necessary qualifying threshold.

Judge Downs asked if she correctly understood that according to the table on page 17, the threshold value for a circuit with two superior court judges is 2.7, meaning that adding one judge gives that circuit more than enough judges to handle the caseload. For a circuit with 25 judges, however, Judge Downs noted, the threshold value is 28, so that the equivalent of three judges is needed before the circuit qualifies for one judge. In addition, adding that one new judge leaves the larger circuit two judges short of the number that they need to handle the caseload.

Dr. Arnold agreed that Judge Downs' analysis was correct. He stated that the workload assessment committee has made every effort to equalize the judgeship methodology so that the thresholds do not favor or disfavor circuits on the basis of number of judges alone. After further discussion regarding case weights and the relative equivalency of certain felony cases and other offenses, Dr. Arnold noted that while the Council voted in June to expand the case-type categories for both civil and criminal cases, the new judge-year values were not adopted. For this reason the newly-adopted case-weights could not be used in the 2006 caseload analysis for the judgeship study.

Prior to the distribution of ballots, Dr. Arnold noted that a pending circuit-boundary change for the Alcovy Circuit is before the General Assembly, however, if the Council approves their request for a fifth judgeship, Alcovy will pursue either the circuit split or the fifth judgeship, but not both. He reminded the Council members that the Southern Circuit request will require a two-thirds majority for approval. Due to an oversight, the Southern Circuit did not renew their judgeship request although the time had elapsed for an automatic carry-over approval.

Judge Lane moved to allow an out-of-time request for the Southern Circuit to be considered today. Judge Howell seconded. The motion carried.

At a later time Chief Judge Anne Barnes reported the results of the balloting as follows: all eight requesting circuits (Alcovy, Douglas, Flint, Mountain, Northeastern, Piedmont, Southern and Tifton) received the necessary votes for approval. Ranking ballots were distributed and subsequently Judge Barnes announced the order of ranks as follows: **1. Alcovy; 2. Northeastern; 3. Atlanta; 4. Flint; 5. Brunswick; 6. Douglas; 7. Piedmont; 8. Mountain; 9. Tifton; 10. Alapaha; 11. Southern.** These recommendations will be forwarded to the Governor and the General Assembly.

Report from the AOC Director

Mr. Ratley called attention to his written report provided in the agenda. He noted that interviews have been scheduled for the position of AOC Chief Budget Officer. Voicing concern over the burgeoning open caseload in the superior courts, Mr. Ratley stated that he believes it critical for the courts to implement greater control and management of this backlog. He emphasized that the General Assembly is requesting more detailed caseload data from the trial courts; lack of such data puts the judicial

branch in an awkward position. In conclusion, Mr. Ratley reported he has asked that the Chief Justice consider increasing the membership of the current Workload Assessment Committee; the committee's charge would also be expanded to include review of the current Judicial Council policies governing the annual judgeship study.

Budget Matters

Justice Hines, who has replaced Judge Carriere as chair of the budget committee, briefly explained the new procedures for requesting enhancement items. The Judicial Branch has now adopted the policy of other state agencies in asking administrators to present "white papers" in support of their budget requests. He noted that salary increases for appellate and superior court judges are pending in the General Assembly which, if passed, will impact the salaries of other trial court judges.

Justice Hines reviewed the handout detailing the FY 2009 enhancements requested by AOC Divisions and other Judicial Council groups. In summary, out of the \$2,893,099 requested, the committee approved \$2,002,135. This amount, representing a thirty-one per cent reduction of the proposed increases, will be submitted as part of the FY 2009 budget document.

The Judicial Qualifications Commission has requested that it be made a separate budget unit, rather than a component of the Judicial Council budget. For the 2009 request, however, the JQC will remain as part of the Judicial Council budget.

Justice Hines moved that the budget committee recommendations for FY2009 be adopted. Judge Downs seconded. The motion carried.

Reports from Judicial Agencies

A written report was provided by the Board of Court Reporting.

Records Retention Committee. Dr. Arnold made the report on behalf of Judge Whittemore. Both the magistrate court judges and the probate court judges are making progress on approving new uniform rules for retention of evidence. Requests from clerks and other court officials for a review of state-approved records retention schedules for the judicial branch will be considered at a meeting to be held in September.

Workload Assessment Committee. Dr. Arnold made the report on behalf of Judge Bishop. He noted that Judge Bishop had met with the executive committee of the Council of Superior Court Judges at its summer meeting to explain proposed changes in the judge-year values. The workload assessment committee is aware of concerns regarding docketing practices of child support orders and other child support matters and will take up the matter of relevant data collection at its next committee meeting. The committee will also look into methods used by probation providers in reporting case counts for the judgeship study. Judge Bishop has requested that the Council postpone consideration of the proposed judge-year values for the present.

A written report was provided by the Georgia Courts Automation Commission.

Reports from Appellate and Trial Courts

Supreme Court. Chief Justice Sears introduced Ms. Jane Hansen who has joined the staff of the Supreme Court as the public information officer. Ms. Hansen is well-known in Atlanta media circles from her distinguished career as a journalist and editorial page editor at the Atlanta Journal & Constitution. The Chief Justice also recognized Ms. Tee Barnes, clerk of the Supreme Court, who is aggressively pursuing e-filing capability and a new integrated case management system for the Court. Ms. Barnes stated that the Court has recently contracted with TriVir, a private company that had already been

selected by the Court of Appeals to implement e-filing. She expressed her appreciation to Mr. Bill Martin for assisting the Supreme Courts efforts.

Court of Appeals. Chief Judge Barnes reported that the court's second hundred years is off to an excellent start. All twelve judges of the Court of Appeals are now housed in the Judicial Building following the relocation of the offices of the Clerk of Court. Under the direction of Mr. Bill Martin, the court's e-filing initiative will soon allow appellate attorneys to log onto the court's website to check the status of filings in pending cases. The court is currently working to offset a budget deficit caused by increases in rent expenditures. For the 2009 fiscal year they will seek funds to expand their public information efforts and enhance judicial building security.

Superior Courts. Judge McGarity introduced Mr. Shannon Weathers, the council's new General Counsel. Mr. Weathers, who formerly served as their death penalty/habeas corpus clerk, replaces Ms. Lorraine Hoffman-Polk who left the council staff to return to private practice. As part of the council's public outreach initiatives, a sixteen minute video presentation for juror orientation has been completed. The video will be available for airing on public access cable channels. The superior court judges will be working with former juvenile court judge Tom Rawlings, the state's new Child Advocate. The council will appeal the recent superior court ruling that declared the Sentence Review Panel to be unconstitutional.

State Courts. Judge Cole reported on the council's ongoing projects as follows: continued emphasis on building relationships with other trial court councils as part of their strategic plan; a study of the effectiveness of DUI courts funded by the Governors Office of Highway Safety has produced recidivism data confirming that defendants who

participate in DUI court programs are less likely to reoffend within 24 months than other DUI defendants. Judge Cole congratulated Judge Carbo and the Jonesboro High School mock trial team for winning this year's National Mock Trial Competition.

Juvenile Courts. Judge Tilley stated that judges will hold policy discussions with state legislators at a Juvenile Justice Summit scheduled for late September. Judge Teske is heading a committee working with Ms. Beth Locker on adoption of delinquency case-guidelines. Judge Tilley noted that an article by Judge Teske and Ms. Melissa Carter entitled the "Next Generation of Child Advocacy" will appear in the September issue of the State Bar Journal. The article sets forth a model for securing legal counsel.

Probate Courts. Judge Clarke reported that, in conjunction with the Fiduciary Section of the State Bar, the probate judges are redrafting their booklet for Personal Representatives of Decedent Estates. The new version will be made available for downloading on the probate council's website. The Council is working on making the LiveScan fingerprint system available to probate judges for processing firearm licenses. In regard to the upcoming session of the General Assembly, the probate judges will support legislation to upgrade the minimum qualifications required for the office of probate judge.

Magistrate Courts. Judge Warden introduced Ms. Chandler Hayden, the council's legislative liaison. The magistrate council supports ICJE's funding request to provide training for magistrate court clerks. The council is also working with the Commission on Family Violence to produce a Domestic Violence benchbook for judges. A newly-appointed committee on Disability Access will address issues relevant to mental health and physical disabilities.

Municipal Courts. Judge Clifton stated that the council will advocate making the qualification for the office of municipal court judge the same as that for superior court judges. The municipal courts have recently adopted uniform rules of court. He expressed appreciation to the research staff of the AOC for their assistance in increasing the number of municipal courts reporting traffic caseload data.

New/Old Business

Chief Justice Sears called attention to a Resolution honoring Mr. Skip Chesshire, Administrator of the Cobb Superior Court, prepared prior to the meeting. Justice Hunstein moved that the Resolution be adopted. Judge Warden seconded. The motion carried.

Hearing no further business, the Chief Justice asked all Judicial Council members to gather at the hotel's front entrance for a group photo prior to the planned luncheon.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Billie Bolton, Assistant Director

The above and foregoing minutes were approved at the meeting held on _____ day of _____, 200_.



Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts

David L. Ratley
Director

November 9, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Each Member of the Judicial Council

FROM: David L. Ratley

RE: **Approval of Proposed 2008 Calendar of Course Options for Magistrate Court and Municipal Court Judges Training (basic certification and re-certification)**

The Judicial Council is required under O.C.G.A. §§15-10-131(3) and 36-32-21 (5) to approve curricula of the magistrate and municipal courts training councils. The 2008 curricular for both have been approved by their respective training councils and are enclosed for your review and approval.

Mr. Richard D. Reaves, Executive Director of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education, will be in attendance at the Judicial Council meeting and will answer any questions you may have. Copies of the pertinent code sections are enclosed.

Enclosures

Magistrate & Professional Enrichment Products (PEPS)

PROPOSED DRAFT 2008 Calendar of Courses

COURSE	MAX. CAPACITY			DATE	VENUE
CERTIFICATION (For <u>New, Non-Attorney</u> Magistrates)					
	Mag.	Other	Total		
40-Hour Basic (Criminal Law)	30		30	Feb. 24-29	Georgia Center, Athens
40-Hour Basic (Civil Law)	30		30	Sept. 7-12	Georgia Center, Athens
RECERTIFICATION & PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT PRODUCTS* (PEPs)					
20-Hour Firearms Awareness & Safety (PEP)*	25	5	30	March TBA	Glock Facility, Smyrna
6-Hour Mentor Orientation	20		20	March 18	Georgia Center, Athens
20-Hour Cons. Crim. Procedures (PEP)*	80	10	90	May 12-14	Jekyll Island Club, JI
20-Hour Web CT (DV) (PEP)*	30	5	35	June 16-July 25	On-Line (2 hrs/per week)
20-Hour Domestic Violence–Basic (PEP)*	80	10	90	July 10-11	Brasstown Valley, Y. Harris
20-Hour Recertification Survey	160		160	Aug. 11-13	Wyndham, Peachtree City
20-Hour Firearms Awareness & Safety (PEP)*	25	5	30	Oct. TBA	Glock Facility, Smyrna
12-Pharmacology of Drugs (PEP)*	30	10	40	Oct. TBA	UGA Pharm., Athens
14-Hour Clerks & Secretaries, Magistrate	125		125	Dec. 3-5	Marriott Riverfront, Savannah
8-Hour New Chief Magistrate Boot Camp	20		20	Dec. 11	Georgia Center, Athens
**MCJE Training Hours As Approved by Magistrate Courts Training Council					
TRAINING COUNCIL MEETINGS					
5-Hr. Quarterly Council	Winter			Jan. 17-19	Wyndham Vinings, Atlanta
5-Hr. Quarterly Council	Spring			April 25-27	Doubletree, Augusta
5-Hr. Quarterly Council	Summer			June 22-24	Retreat at Lake Blackshear
5-Hr. Quarterly Council	Fall			Oct. 5-7	Marriott, Columbus

* **Professional Enrichment Products (PEPs)** – Open to Judges from All Classes of Court.
– Curriculum examines Multi-Court Perspectives

** **On a case-by-case basis, Magistrate Judges may seek pre or post approval from the MCTC for non-ICJE sponsored training hours. See 2008 ICJE Magistrate and Professional Enrichments Products (PEP) brochure for more information.**

PROPOSAL FOR: 2008 MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES' COURSES

COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	2008 DATES	LOCATION	SLOTS
Local Ordinance Violations <i>and</i> 17-21 Year Old Traffic Violators	12 hours	February	Georgia Center, Athens	50
Spanish for Judges	12 hours	March	Rural Development Center, Tifton	30
New Judge Certification	20 Hours	June 25-27	Marriott, Savannah	25
Traffic Law and Practice Update	12 hours	June 26-27	Marriott, Savannah	200
Traffic Law and Practice Update	12 hours	September	Georgia Center, Athens	100
Pharmacology of Drugs	12 hours	October	Pharmacy School, UGA	20
Spanish for Judges	12 hours	November	TBA, Kennesaw/Ackworth	30
TOTAL SLOTS				455
TOTAL NUMBER OF JUDGES				410

PROPOSAL FOR: 2008 MUNICIPAL COURT CLERKS COURSES

COURSE	DATES	LOCATION	SLOTS
16 Hour Certification	February 26-27	Georgia Center, Athens	50
8 Hour Recertification	May	Georgia Center, Athens	150
16 Hour Certification	October	Rural Development Center, Tifton	50
8 Hour Recertification	November	Rural Development Center, Tifton	150
TOTAL SLOTS			400



County and Municipal Probation Advisory Council

Judge John M. Ott
Chairperson

Mr. Steve P. Page
Vice Chairperson

November 15, 2007

TO: Members of the Judicial Council of Georgia

FROM: Judge John Ott, Chairperson
County and Municipal Probation Advisory Council

SUBJECT: Annual Report of Activities

The attached report is to keep the Judicial Council of Georgia apprised of the activities of the probation advisory council and the status of misdemeanor probation in the state. The council is appreciative of the assistance provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts in staffing and supporting our efforts.

The other members of the council are the Vice Chair, Mr. Steve Page representing the private probation industry; Judge Jim Burton representing the probate courts; Mr. Stan Cooper representing public probation; Sheriff Steve Cronic, Sheriff of Hall County; Judge Neal Dettmering representing state courts; Mr. Michael Nail representing the Department of Corrections; Mr. Steve Page representing the private probation industry; Commissioner Alan Poole of Haralson County; Mayor William Trapnell of Metter; Judge Jim Thurman representing magistrate courts; and Judge Frost Ward representing municipal courts.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or other members of the council if you have any questions or concerns.

COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL PROBATION **ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Background

The County and Municipal Probation Advisory Council was created in 1991 (OCGA §§ 42-8-100 through 108) and reconstituted in 1996. Its mission was expanded in July of 2006 to require the registration of all misdemeanor probation systems with the Council and to ensure uniform professional standards for probation officers and uniform contract standards are maintained and practiced by private probation companies and governmental probation systems that provide general misdemeanor probation supervision, counseling and collection services to the courts. All misdemeanor probation providers serving courts submit quarterly activity reports to the Council for aggregate data purposes. The Council's powers and duties include:

- providing for administration of the Council;
- reviewing uniform professional standards and uniform contract standards and reporting to the General Assembly;
- establishing a 40-hour program of orientation for new public and private probations officers and a 20-hour program of annual continuing education;
- promulgating rules and regulations for the operation of misdemeanor probation services;
- promulgating rules and regulations for the registration of all misdemeanor probation entities;
- producing an annual report; and
- promulgating rules and regulations requiring criminal records checks of all private and governmental probation officers and office staff.

The Council is comprised of eleven voting members: a representative from each of the superior, state, probate, magistrate, and municipal courts, who represent a judicial circuit, county or municipality contracting with a private probation provider; a sheriff; a mayor or member of a municipal governing authority; a county commissioner; a public probation officer; a private probation officer or individual with expertise in the field, all of whom are appointed by the Governor; and the Commissioner of Corrections or a designee.

The Council's rules include regulations governing uniform standards for the professional conduct of misdemeanor probation entities, contract and agreement terms for probation services, conflicts of interest, confidentiality, registration and training. The Council is also responsible for prescribing sanctions against probation entities where violations of rules and regulations occur. Staff monitors quarterly reporting and conducts site visits to ensure that the Council's rules and uniform contract standards are consistently upheld.

Quarterly Meetings and Council Activities

During the 2007 fiscal year, the Council held quarterly meetings and approved the registration of seventy governmental probation systems and two new private probation providers; one newly created company and one which purchased an existing provider. Four private providers elected not to renew their corporate registration for 2007, and no longer provide private probation services. Two newly registered governmental providers elected to secure the services of private probation providers during 2007 as well.

No site visits were conducted during FY 2007 due to budget constraints. Fiscal resources were made available on July 1, 2007, and three of four newly allocated staff positions have been filled. Site visits resumed in September of 2007. It is anticipated that site visits will be conducted on all registered programs over a two year cycle. Site visits undertaken to date have identified areas of deficiency in compliance with CMPAC rules, primarily in the areas of confidentiality, training, personnel, and contracts. Staff is currently evaluating appropriate remedies to bring before the Council to address the identified problems and facilitate greater compliance with both Georgia law and Council rules. The availability of quality training is one area in which Council staff is diligently working to create resources.

The Council is located in the Regulatory Section within the General Counsel Division of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The Staff Director for CMPAC is Ms. Ashley Garner. Mr. Robert Hughes serves as the Council's Compliance Analyst while Ms. Jennifer Baden serves as Compliance Monitor. Ms. JoAnne Sims serves as Administrative Assistant to the program. The final staff position of Compliance Monitor has been advertised and is expected to be filled by January 1, 2008.

Implementation of Senate Bill 44

Since the signing of Senate Bill 44 on July 1, 2006, a primary focus of the Council has been to coordinate comprehensive rule revisions to include the mandates of SB 44, as well as to establish a registration process for governmental systems. Before this legislation was implemented, no central depository of information for governmental probation systems existed. At the time, minimal information regarding governmental probation systems was available. Over 315 courts in Georgia were contacted to gather the necessary data and ensure affected entities received ample registration notice and information.

The Council also sought to promote knowledge and understanding of SB 44 within the broader misdemeanor probation arena. For that reason, the Council invited public comment on proposed rule revisions from over 720 organizations and individuals in Georgia, including Mayors and County Commission Chairs, the Georgia Municipal Association, the Association of County Commissioners, the Office of Legislative Council, all private probation providers, and interested parties. Amended Council Rules were subsequently adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, and became effective on August 10, 2006.

This Council's diligence in providing information and education to governmental probation systems affected by the implementation of SB 44 has been rewarded by the high level of cooperation from the systems who now report to the Council.

To date, 71 governmental probation systems are registered with the Council. One governmental probation system has refused to register in accordance with O.C.G.A. §42-8-107(b) (1). After making numerous efforts over a period of sixteen months to facilitate the registration of this program, the Council has sought the assistance of the Attorney General's Office to compel registration through established judicial processes.

Quarterly Reporting

On behalf of the Council, the Administrative Office of the Courts helped develop a database for misdemeanor probation entities to submit quarterly reports. Information submitted consists of: (a) number and types of courts served; (b) number of probationers under supervision; (c) cases closed; (d) active warrants; (e) hours of community service; and (f) amounts collected for restitution, fines, and the crime victims' fund. This reporting is web-based and available to providers without cost.

There are currently 39 registered private companies, 2 of whom hold no active contracts, and 71 city and county probation systems. As shown in the charts below, these programs provided services to 749 courts, supervised almost 290,000 offenders and reported collections of more than \$110 million during FY 2007.

Chart #1: Total Court Collections – 10 year trend

FY 1997	\$ 28,564,006
FY 2002	\$ 81,247,148
FY 2007	\$110,616,660

Chart #2: Number of Courts Served by Misdemeanor Probation Providers¹ - 10 year trend

	(Midpoint)		
	2 nd Qtr. 1997	2 nd Qtr. 2002	2 nd Qtr. 2007
Superior	24	117	143
State	29	53	74
Probate	48	81	86
Magistrate	29	69	86
Municipal	172	279	356
Recorders	1	14	4
Traffic	0	1	0
Total	303	614	749

Chart #3: Probationers Supervised by Misdemeanor Probation Services¹-10 year trend

	(Midpoint)		
	2 nd Qtr. 1997	2 nd Qtr. 2002	2 nd Qtr. 2007
Superior	1,154	15,940	25,440
State	26,494	78,206	110,893
Probate	7,984	16,001	22,554
Magistrate	2,054	6,047	9,681
Municipal	34,161	52,499	105,087
Recorders	959	7,007	13,652
Traffic	0	6,194	0 ²
Total	72,806	181,894	287,307

¹ Data reported for 1997 and 2002 contain information submitted by registered private probation providers. Data reported for 2007 contains information submitted by both private and governmental probation providers.

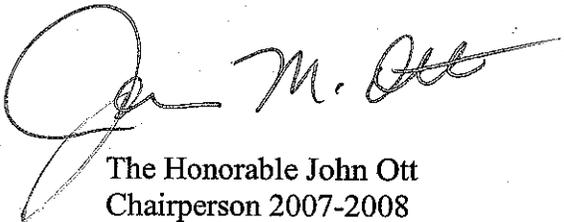
² The sole traffic court, Atlanta Traffic Court, was legislatively eliminated effective July 1, 2005.

Legislative Needs

During the 2006 Legislative Session, the General Assembly passed legislation (SB 44) requiring that all city, county, and private probation supervision services register with the County and Municipal Probation Advisory Council. Funding was made available by the Legislature on July 1, 2007, to implement this new law. The Council is administratively attached to the Administrative Office of the Courts [O.C.G.A. §42-8-101(d) and §50-4-3]. Administrative services currently being provided to the Council are funded by an appropriation to the AOC. The current allocation to the AOC for this function is sufficient to fulfill the Council's legislative obligations. Continued funding at the current level will ensure the Council's ability to provide continued oversight of misdemeanor providers as they serve the courts of Georgia.

The County and Municipal Probation Advisory Council is committed to building on its successful 11 year history of providing quality oversight and regulatory services to misdemeanor probation providers in Georgia, by raising standards to ensure integrity and professionalism in the supervision of misdemeanor probationers. Through adequate funding, the Council provides the valuable and necessary services to all entities, as the implementation of SB 44 continues. This Council appreciates the opportunity to inform the members of the Judicial Council of the accomplishments, growth, and future challenges to be faced in the misdemeanor probation arena. We will be happy to respond to any questions the Judicial Council may have.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Ott", written in a cursive style.

The Honorable John Ott
Chairperson 2007-2008
County and Municipal Probation Advisory Council



GEORGIA COURTS AUTOMATION COMMISSION

244 Washington Street, SW, Suite 300
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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Administrative Activity

GCAC's annual budget planning and management processes are performed in a manner that aligns initiatives to the objectives, initiatives, and programs contained in the GCAC Strategic Business Plan. The Commission insures that its Strategic Business Plan remains accurate and current, last revising it in March 2007. The plan is used as the guide for all Commission activities. A copy of this document is available on the web site at <http://www.gcacommission.org>

The Commission uses a formal project management and financial review process to track project and budgetary activity on a frequent basis. This review process identifies any issues that requires Commission attention, as well as provides an accurate picture of project and budget status. The review process integrates with the Strategic Planning Process adopted by the Commission and is especially important in tracking the number of separately budgeted, interrelated projects by fiscal year.

During October 2007, seventy percent of the Commission's current members attended the Court Technology Conference (CTC10) in Tampa, Florida. This conference is held every other year and provides opportunity for the judiciary from all 50 states to gather for review of the most current court technology available. The attendance by GCAC members represented a significant investment in time and money and provided confirmation of the Commission's previous work and technology direction, as well as information for the Commission to consider as it moves forward with the its mission.

A significant amount of effort was dedicated to administrative activities, including applying the aforementioned formal project and financial review process, attending CTC10, supporting the August Judicial Council and GCAC meetings, and preparing material to support the Commission's FY09 budget request.

Program Summaries

The Commission organizes projects into four primary program areas, **Strategic Planning, Standards and Architecture, Education, and Implementation**. This section highlights the activities for each program area that have been completed since the last Judicial Council report.

Strategic Planning

GCAC conducted a Judiciary-wide Strategic Technology Planning session in late November involving representatives from all classes of court and the Administrative Office of the Courts. Additionally, GCAC began work to formally define products that GCAC offers or will offer to stakeholders in the areas of Strategic Planning, Standards and Architecture, Education, and Implementation. This formal product definition process is complementary to the GCAC Strategic Planning approach as it allows GCAC to formally correlate products to specific strategic objectives and initiatives.

Standards and Architecture

In September 2007, GCAC completed an analysis of the Data Definitions on a Judiciary-wide basis. This included participation by judges, clerks, and court administrators from each class of court and resulted in adding a Common Document Dictionary to the Data Definitions.

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In August 2007, the Commission worked with SEARCH, the National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics, to complete a review of the strategic plan, work flow models, common data dictionary, and court class-specific data dictionary materials developed by GCAC. SEARCH found that GCAC's strategic plans, process models, and data definitions were thorough in their August 31, 2007 Technical Assistance Report, *Data Dictionary Project Deliverables – Evaluation and Assessment*. SEARCH made specific recommendations to consolidate a number of plans on a judiciary-wide basis and to develop a linkage between the plans and the GCAC offered services. Both of those recommendations will be addressed by planned FY08 GCAC projects.

SEARCH also made recommendations at a technical level regarding how the Data Definitions can best be implemented in a manner as to align with national justice technical standards. Such national tools and standards to be considered include the Justice Information Exchange Modeling (JIEM) tool, the Global Justice XML Data Model (GJXDM), National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) and the OASIS LegalXML Electronic Court Filing specification, as appropriate. GCAC also plans FY08 projects to complete initial analysis and application of these technical recommendations.

Education

GCAC continues to educate the counties, vendor, and agencies on the GCAC Data Definitions and their use to support local projects. To date, GCAC has met with four state agencies, numerous counties, and over seven vendors to review the Data Definitions and apply them to the particular needs of that agency, county, or vendor. The adoption of the Data Definitions is highlighted by recent RFPs from Forsyth County, where the county used the Data Definitions material to develop the RFP content and Gwinnett County, where the county required their vendor to develop Data Definition similar to the GCAC Data Definitions.

Implementation

In November 2007, GCAC began the deployment of a Document and Artifact Site that will serve as a central repository for a number of documents that GCAC maintains on an ongoing basis. Access to the documents will vary by user group (agency, county, vendor, commission member). The documents that will be maintained on the Document and Artifact website include, but are not limited to: Council Reports, Meeting Minutes, Data Definitions Reports and Associated Files, Software Certification Files and Documents, and Internal working documents. This will be an effective tool for distributing and receiving updates to the statewide judicial technology standards documentation.

GCAC continues to support the deployment of the Data Definitions by tracking and supporting the implementation of the standard Data Definitions at a local level. GCAC has also supported sessions at Forsyth, Gwinnett, and DeKalb to discuss and apply the GCAC Data Definition standards in those local environments.

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Budget

The GCAC operating budget for FY08 is \$666,327. This budget supports the initiatives of the four primary program areas, **Strategic Planning, Standards and Architecture, Education, and Implementation**, along with GCAC's administrative requirements.

**Program Area Funding Review
FY05 – FY09**

Program Area	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09 (Request)
Administration	\$112,164	\$157,887	\$116,500	\$150,000	\$164,350
Strategic Planning	\$46,000	\$127,500	\$100,000	\$87,500	\$7,500
Standards and Architecture	\$176,000	\$41,000	\$184,217	\$317,627	\$310,000
Education/Advocacy				\$34,400	\$52,400
Implementation				\$76,800	\$433,000
Totals	\$334,164	\$326,387	\$400,717	\$666,327	\$967,250

FY08 contains a large number of separately budgeted projects. Many of those projects make use of contract labor and are also subject to the formal project and financial review process used by GCAC. These projects are summarized in the table below:

**FY08 Project
Summary and Status**

Project Number	Project Description	Status
CAC02	Judiciary Wide Technology Strategic Plan	In process
100.02	Court Council Strategic IT Plan Updates	In process
100.03	Monitor Plans and Progress of Councils	In process
200.01	Georgia Conceptual Architecture Based on Standard Justice Reference Architecture	In process
200.02	Design Data Definitions Extension and Localization Tool for National Standards	In process
200.03	Develop GCAC Standard Product Definitions	In process (Near Completion)
300.01	Search Assessment	Complete
300.02	Judiciary-wide Common Document Analysis	Complete
300.03	Data Definitions Maintenance Strategy	In process (Near Completion)
300.04	Data Definitions Web Site Support	In process
300.05	Georgia Standard JIEM Analysis	In process

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Project Number	Project Description	Status
300.06	NIEM Mapping Strategy	In process
300.07	Initial NIEM Mapping	In process
300.08	County/Vendor/Agency Support of Data Definition Usage	In process
300.09	Data Definitions Annual Update	2008 Project
400.01	Update Software Certification Requirements	2008 Project
500	Stakeholder Education	In process
600	Implementation Management	In process

A detailed report of accomplishments and plans is provided in the Appendix.

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**Strategic Planning
Program Area**

Mission

To facilitate the automation and sharing of information through the establishment of standards and information exchange processes for the benefit of the Courts and citizens of Georgia.

The GCAC developed its first Strategic Plan in 2004 and last updated the plan in March 2007. The Strategic Plan ties initiatives of the Commission to Strategic Objectives, with measures for each.

The Strategic Planning process, begun in 2004, focuses on building a strong foundation to deliver against the legislative charter that created the Commission. In a facilitated session held during April 2007, input from a subset of the GCAC Leadership team met to confirm progress against the 2006 Strategic Plan, reprioritize priorities for the coming years, revise the 2006 Strategic Plan to account for progress and shifts in priorities, revise the strategic map for the GCAC organization, and align and prioritize its services and programs with the strategic map.

With the completion of this effort, a Strategic Vision and Articulation Map for 2007 through 2009 was developed that will enable the GCAC to prioritize and deliver the direction and services that will best support the court automation process across the judicial system of Georgia. Additionally, an action plan has been created to outline the next steps required for the GCAC to begin to implement this vision across the Judiciary.

Utilization of its Strategic Business Plans continues as a primary objective of the Commission. The progress within each of the key initiatives under their respective strategic objectives is shown in green in the chart that follows below. This progress indicates overall coverage by the Commission and participation by the Councils of Judges.

Several key highlights of the GCAC Strategic Plan are presented in the Strategy Articulation Map diagram, Priority Initiatives by Court Class chart, and GCAC Objectives by Fiscal Year diagrams contained in the Appendix.

Recent Program Area Updates

GCAC FY08 plan includes several strategic planning projects. In late November, 2007, all classes of court convened to develop a Judiciary-wide Strategic Information Technology Plan. During FY08, each class of court is expected to update their individual class of court Strategic Information Technology Strategic Plan. A number of GCAC FY08 projects (Define GCAC Standard Product Definitions, Data Definitions Maintenance Strategy, etc.) will strengthen the traceability of initiatives to specific components of the Strategic Plan.

GCAC will complete a revision of its Strategic Business Plan in the spring of 2008.

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**Standards and Architecture
Data Standards and Sharing**

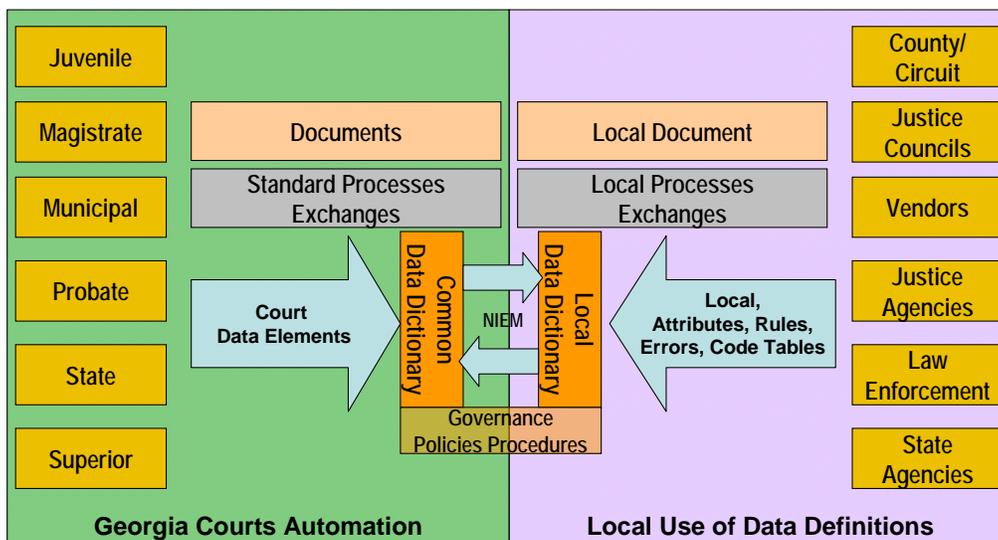
The Commission’s primary Strategic Technology planned project remains the achievement of Integrated Justice through the sharing of valid information using standards developed and approved by the judges, the councils and the courts. The major emphasis of this program area is to develop and provide standards and artifacts based on national standards that are applicable for use in Georgia.

By conducting this analysis and developing materials that are applicable to the Georgia integrated justice needs, GCAC anticipates that sharing strategies and techniques will be implemented in a consistent manner at a lower cost on a statewide basis. Currently GCAC, working with each class of court, provides:

- Class of Court Process Flows depicting standard court operations and processes
- Class of Court Data Dictionary from the Superior, State, Juvenile, Magistrate, Municipal and Probate Courts’ data and security matrices into a single inventory of data elements
- Common Data Dictionary that details data used across the judiciary
- Common Document Dictionary that details documents used commonly across the judiciary

The Data Definitions Artifacts are assembled in a manner as to complement other artifacts that an agency, county, or vendor may need to develop to support integrated justice projects. This is reflected in the Data Exchange Development Diagram below.

Data Exchange Development Diagram



Recent Program Area Updates

GCAC continues to invest in Data Definitions through developing programs and training to facilitate the use of the Data Definitions, completing annual updates to reflect legislative changes, and extending the Data

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Definitions to include detailed mapping to national standards like JIEM (Justice Information Exchange Model) and NIEM (National Information Exchange Model).. FY08 projects include activities in each of these areas.

GCAC completed the development of a draft maintenance strategy for the Data Definitions that includes participation from each class of court, as well as provides a mechanism to conduct a review and update of the Data Definitions from a judiciary-wide perspective. The draft strategy is currently being reviewed with each class of court and will be submitted for Commission review and approval at its December meeting.

GCAC initiated a project in November that will result in a Georgia conceptual data sharing architecture that is based on the evolving national standard known as the Justice Reference Architecture (JRA). GCAC anticipates that this conceptual architecture work, along with the expansion of the Data Definitions, will provide the necessary input for GCAC to make a final recommendation on the development and implementation approach for any potential statewide data sharing system.

Education

The Commission's primary focus of the Education project is on promoting the effective use of the Data Definitions. This comes in the form of both a formalized standard training approach on the Data Definitions to one-time activities that apply to a particular county, agency, or vendor.

GCAC has validated the concepts behind the Education Approach in pilot usage of the Data Definitions.

Recent Program Area Updates

During the FY08 Product Definitions Project, GCAC will formally define training that the Commission will provide to stakeholders on the use of the Data Definitions.

Implementation

The Commission's Implementation Program Area focuses on a number of reporting activities that assimilate data from the program areas and provides the necessary management reports to meet Commission needs, monitoring activities that track the usage of the Data Definitions, and planning and analysis activities to determine scope of future GCAC projects.

Recent Program Area Updates

GCAC tracks usage of GCAC materials through requiring each agency, county, or vendor to execute a confidentiality agreement with GCAC for access to and use of the Data Definitions. The Commission also addressed ad-hoc questions and requests from each related user of Commission generated and supported materials.

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Appendix A – Strategic Plan Support Material

Strategic Articulation Map

Drivers		Mission <i>To facilitate the automation and sharing of information through the establishment of standards and information exchange processes for the benefit of the Courts and citizens of Georgia.</i>		Guiding Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethically formulate and apply best business practices Applicable statewide Collaborative and cooperative approach Programs driven by grass-roots needs and priorities Must meet strategic objectives within the boundaries of our legislative charter Maintain the independence and integrity of the court systems Provide for measurable results and outcomes 			
Vision <i>Better Information Better Decisions Truer Justice</i>							
Unique Attributes		Representative of Each Class of Court	Responsible for the Long-term View of Court Technology in GA	Judge-based Policy, Program and Technology Resource for the Courts	Sufficient Authority to Accomplish Needs and Mandates	Tradition of “Big Picture” Decision-making	
Strategic Objectives		Long-range Technology Planning, Policy and Funding Initiatives	Communicate and Educate Internal Stakeholders	Promote Knowledge Exchange of Integration and Automation Implementation	Advise and Support	Coordinate and Promote to External Stakeholders	
Key Initiatives		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate progress to Councils Executive Committees Coordinate with Judges’ Councils to participate and lead the development of a judiciary-wide IT Strategic Plan Create/provide funding for judiciary-wide initiatives <i>Additional initiatives</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create and distribute GCAC Newsletter Identify 2-3 specific benefits of information exchange in each class of court Collect and disseminate benefits of information exchange Promote data definitions and standards <i>Additional Initiatives</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target key stakeholders to obtain commitment to develop/participate in information exchange Build Knowledge Exchange/Repository Encourage Councils to participate in software standard compliance assessments/reviews <i>Additional Initiatives</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate and manage implementation of key strategic initiatives for GCAC and Councils Assist all classes of courts in defining appropriate standards Promote consistency of processes and actions within each class of court <i>Additional Initiatives</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative communication improvement Budget Office communication improvement Build alliances in support of Standards <i>Additional Initiatives</i> 	
Measures Of Success		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standards defined Data Definitions mapped Judiciary-wide Strategic Plan completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter created Annual rpt published Establish monthly calls Council buy-in and participation Training curriculum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councils agree to participate in S/W standards Identify and rank most beneficial exchange per class of court Benefits defined 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expectations defined Contract Mgr engaged and tasked Provide facilitation access to Councils Educate on services and benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chart strategic alliances Communication plan developed for Legis. and Budget Offices Garner support for legislation 	

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Priority Initiatives by Court Class

The priorities for implantation efforts of the individual classes of courts are driven by the consolidation of the key initiatives identified by each Council. The highest priority was given to the initiatives that spanned all six levels of the Courts. These high priority items included Security and Standards, Technical Architecture and e-Judiciary for every class of court.

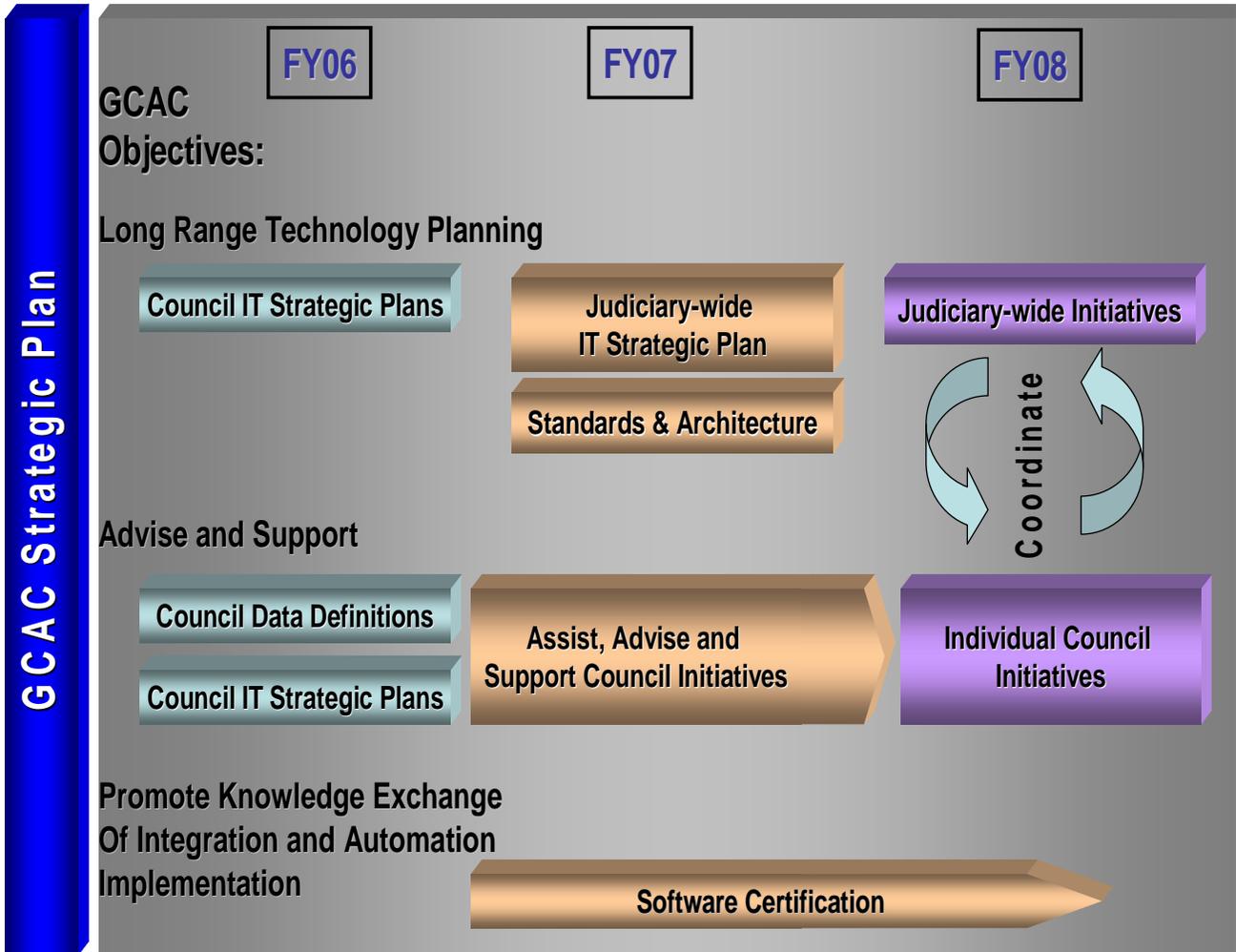
Initiatives/Courts	Superior Court	Juvenile Court	State Court	Magistrate Court	Probate Court	Municipal Court	
Security and Standards	X	X	X	X	X	X	Green
Technical Architecture	X	X	X	X	X	X	
eJudiciary (filing, forms, signatures, transactions)	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Automation	X	X	X	X		X	Light Green
Case Management	X	X	X		X	X	
Education and Training	X		X	X	X	X	
Imaging	X	X		X	X	X	
IT Support	X		X	X	X	X	
Business Case Development/Benefits			X	X	X	X	Yellow
Communication/Marketing			X	X	X	X	
Pilot Initiatives and Identification	X		X	X	X		
Funding		X	X	X	X		
Remote Access	X		X	X	X		
Public Access and Web	X	X		X	X		Light Yellow
Certification		X			X	X	
Conflicts	X	X	X				
Desktop	X	X	X				
Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity	X			X		X	
Interpreter		X	X	X			
Legislative Initiatives		X		X	X		
Publish				X	X	X	
Knowledge Exchange/Repository	X		X				
Licensing			X		X		
Miscellaneous and Court Specific Initiatives		X	X	X	X	X	Red

Strategic Business Plan Initiatives

Advance the development activities associated with the Standards and Architecture Implementation Program developed by GCAC and the Six Court Councils.



GCAC Objectives by Fiscal Year





GCAC Objectives by Fiscal Year

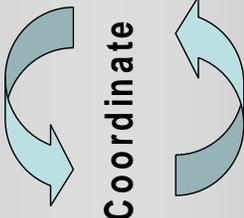
GCAC Strategic Plan

FY09

GCAC Objectives:

Long Range Technology Planning

Implementation of Judiciary-wide Initiatives



Advise and Support

Assist, Advise and Support Implementation of Council Initiatives

**Promote Knowledge Exchange
Of Integration and Automation Implementation**

Software Certification

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Appendix B – Detailed Project Report

Project Status Report Summary Chart

The table below is a component of the formal project management and financial review process used by GCAC. It highlights each FY08 project along with current activities, planned activities, and comments.

Accomplishments	Next Steps/Activities	Comments
100 - Strategic Planning		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held Session Planning Meeting to define agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop prep material for attendees and provide to attendees Reconnect with Technology committee leads to discuss plan upgrades 	
200 – Standards and Architecture		
<i>200.01 – Georgia Conceptual Justice Reference Architecture (JRA)</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project initiation underway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review JRA Define Scope of Architecture Document 	
<i>200.02 – Design Data Definitions Extension and Localization</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project initiation underway 		
<i>200.03 – Define GCAC Product Offerings</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Submitted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review draft and revise document scope and plan 	
300 - Data Definitions		
<i>300.01 - SEARCH Tool Project Support</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete. Project Closed 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future work for IEPD (Information Exchange Package Documentation) Mapping could be considered with SEARCH. Related to NIEM Mapping Project.
<i>300.02 - InterCourt Document Analysis</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete. Project Closed. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan is to transition future releases to model resulting from Data Definitions Maintenance Strategy.
<i>300.03 - Data Definitions Maintenance Strategy</i>		

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Accomplishments	Next Steps/Activities	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Version 1.0 Submitted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and Approve Document Send to Council Technology Chairs Review and Update based on Review with Technology Chairs Implement Plan 	
<i>300.04 - Data Definitions Web Site Support</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiated Population of Data to Wiki 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue Deployment Develop User Documentation Present at December GCAC meeting 	
<i>300.05 JIEM Analysis</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project initiation underway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine leverage that can be gained from work with Gwinnett's model, as well as that of DeKalb 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good PR opportunity Part of Architecture/NIEM team project focus
<i>300.06 and 300.07 - GJXDM/NIEM Strategy and Mapping</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project initiation underway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure additional source data to support planned strategy development. Sourcing data now offers future schedule flexibility Source GBI disposition mappings Complete vendor MOU's and source appropriate mappings Determine vendor/county collaboration potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate with Data Definitions Maintenance Strategy Project New JIEM tool may impact decision Part of Architecture/NIEM team project focus
<i>300.08 - County/Vendor/Agency Support</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered GCAC RFP support proposal to Gwinnett County. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DeKalb MOU PAC MOU 	
400 - Software Certification		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project will start in December 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part of Architecture/NIEM team project focus
500 – Education		

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Accomplishments	Next Steps/Activities	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vendor support of additional potential Gwinnett County RFP respondents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with AOC on Data Definitions Develop draft education plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May want to tie education plan to training defined in Product Definitions.
600 – Implementation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily management and update of plan 		

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts

David L. Ratley
Director

Memorandum

To: Each Judicial Council Member

From: Cynthia H. Clanton, General Counsel and Associate Director for Regulatory 

Date: October 12, 2007

Re: Board of Court Reporting Vacancy

cc: David Ratley, Director
Stephanie Chambliss, Assistant Director
Aquaria R. Smith, Program Manager

The Board of Court Reporting of the Judicial Council of Georgia is composed of nine members: five certified court reporters, two representatives from the State Bar of Georgia, and two members of the judiciary (one Superior Court judge and one State Court judge). Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §15-14-24 the Judicial Council of Georgia appoints the members of the Board for two year terms. Persons appointed to the Board must possess at least five years of experience in their respective professions of court reporting or law.

The Board seat for one of the two representatives from the State Bar of Georgia is currently open. The Board received several nominations from the State Bar of Georgia President Gerald Edenfield and selected Attorney Huey Spearman. A summary of Mr. Spearman's qualifications is below.

Mr. Spearman's nomination to the Board will be considered by the Judicial Nominating Committee. The Committee will announce its decision at the Judicial Council meeting.

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA REPRESENTATIVE

Huey W. Spearman, Attorney at Law. Mr. Spearman received his JD from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law in 1979. Mr. Spearman is a member in good standing of the Georgia Bar Association and is admitted to practice before the Georgia Court of Appeals, the Supreme Court of Georgia, and the United States District Courts. Mr. Spearman is in private practice and serves as the Ware County Attorney. He also serves on the Public Defender's Indigent Defense Committee as the Chief Judge's Appointee, as a Guardian Ad Litem in the Ware County Juvenile Court, and as a Faculty Member of the Trial Advocacy Skills Section of the American Bar Association. Mr. Spearman was the Board of Governor's Representative for the Waycross Judicial Circuit for 10 years. Mr. Spearman's free time is devoted to local community organizations such as the YMCA where he is a member of the Board of Directors.

Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts

David L. Ratley
Director

Memorandum

To: Each Judicial Council Member

From: Cynthia H. Clanton, General Counsel and Associate Director for Regulatory 

Date: November 13, 2007

Re: Board of Court Reporting Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations

cc: Mr. David Ratley, Director
Debra Nesbit, Deputy Director
Judge Linda S. Cowen, Chair, Board of Court Reporting
Stephanie Chambliss Hines, Assistant Director
Aquaria R. Smith, Program Manager

Pursuant to the Georgia Court Reporting Act contained in O.C.G.A. § 15-14-20, et seq. (2007), the Board of Court Reporting, through the Judicial Council, has the authority to define and regulate the practice of court reporting. As a result, the Board has revised its Rules and Regulations to make them more clear, concise, and functional in an effort to better define and regulate court reporting in Georgia.

Attached for your consideration are (i) a brief explanation of the changes made between the current and proposed Bylaws and Rules and Regulations; (ii) the proposed change to Article II of the Board's Bylaws; and (iii) the proposed Rules and Regulations.

The Judicial Committee on Reporting Matters has considered the proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations and Article II of the Bylaws. Chief Judge William T. Boyett will announce the Committee's recommendation at the Judicial Council meeting.

Attachments

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE
RULES AND REGULATIONS
AND BYLAWS OF THE
JUDICIAL COUNCIL BOARD OF COURT REPORTING

The Rules Committee of the Board of Court Reporting, the Board, and the Board Staff have worked very hard over the last year to examine each of the Board's Rules and Regulations. The Board has made an effort to simplify the Rules to make them more concise, to make them more readable, and to make them more functional for the Board itself. The following is a brief explanation of the revisions to each of the existing Articles of the Rules and Regulations. A brief explanation of the proposed Bylaw change also follows. If further information is needed, the Board Chair is available to answer any questions or consider any changes the Judicial Council may deem necessary.

Rules and Regulations of the Judicial Council Board of Court Reporting

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

There are no substantive changes to this Article.

ARTICLE 2. WHO SHALL TAKE THE TEST

There are no substantive changes to Part A of this Article. The information formerly contained in Parts B through D has been moved.

ARTICLES 3, 4 AND 5. CERTIFICATON AND TESTING

This Article was modified extensively. It now contains the information that was previously in Article 2, Parts B through D, as well as the information that was formerly in Article 3 (B), and the information that was previously contained in Article 4.

The Board desires to put all pertinent information relating to the process for an applicant to become a certified court reporter in Georgia into one Article. Further explanation of the more significant changes follows:

1. Testing Details Removed

The Board has removed the specifics about how the Exam will be administered, the passing rates, and the credit to be given for each part of the Exam previously contained in Article 3, and Article 5 in full, for the following reasons:

The Testing Committee of the Board, and the Board Staff have worked diligently in the past six months to gather data about testing, not only the Board's testing practices, but the testing practices of other state and national agencies. It appears that it may be more economical and more efficient for the Board to provide for a national association to do testing for Georgia. For example, only eight people were certified through testing

from the April 2007 Exam and the cost and planning involved were significant. The Board is in the process of exploring this option at this time.

If the Board decides to keep the preparation and administration of the Exam with the Board, the Board desires to be able to make changes in response to information obtained over time without having to bring each small change before the Judicial Council. For example, Article 3 (A) (1) currently provides that a person must pass the written portion of the Exam before the person can sit for the dictation portion. The Board has realized, now that this provision has been in place for several testing cycles, that there are several problems. Applicants pay the same amount (whether they sit for the dictation portion or not), some Applicants travel from out of state to take the Exam at some expense, and they all bring their own equipment for the Exam. The Board would like to change this process to provide that the dictation portion will not be graded if the written portion is not passed rather than preventing Applicants from sitting for the dictation portion.

The Board proposes to create a written Testing Protocol, rather than having the minutiae of testing in the Board Rules. The Testing Protocol would, of course, be available to all Applicants, and to the Judicial Council to review.

The information previously contained in Article 4 (F) is now in the Article relating to Continuing Education.

2. *Certification through "Reciprocity"*

The Board has removed the provision that Applicants can be certified through "reciprocity" that was previously contained in Article 4 (B).

O.C.G.A. §15-14-30 provides in part, "Every person desiring to commence the practice of court reporting in this state shall file an application for testing with the board...." There is no provision in the law for a person to be certified through "reciprocity."

Further, in order for the process to have integrity, each year the Board and Board Staff should examine the testing process of all state and national agencies to ensure that the testing practices of that agency are acceptable for the standards set by the Board of Court Reporting in Georgia. The Board and the Board Staff are not able to diligently oversee this process. The last time that the information was reviewed was 2002.

The Board may decide to provide that testing shall be administered by one of the national associations. If so, then any person who passes the test from that national association will be eligible for a certificate in Georgia and the concept of reciprocity will be superfluous.

Currently, there are more people certified through reciprocity than through testing. This is a detriment to the profession in Georgia, as the persons who are allowed in through reciprocity are not tested on the Georgia statutes relating to court reporting, the Board Rules and Regulations, or the other information in the Handbook. Also, a significant number of the reporters who are certified through reciprocity are becoming suspended for failure to obtain or report continuing education hours and failure to renew.

ARTICLE 6. RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATES

The Board has simplified this Article to provide for the process to renew and the deadline to be easily located and understood by reporters.

The Board has moved the suspension information to a new Article 9 putting all suspension for non-renewal and for failure to obtain continuing education in one place.

The Board has created a new class of court reporters, the “inactive” reporter, for those who wish to stop reporting, retire or change careers. Currently, the only option a reporter has is to stop paying dues and then their record shows they were “revoked” for nonpayment. Obviously, this is inappropriate if the person has simply retired, etc.

ARTICLE 7. EMERGENCY PERMITS

The only significant change to this Article is the removal of the provision that the person holding an emergency judicial work permit has to go through testing while holding the permit. The Board has decided that it is not critical for the person to be tested during the year in which they hold the emergency judicial work permit. If they decide to hold off on testing, they cannot get another emergency judicial work permit, and they can not practice court reporting in Georgia until they pass the test.

ARTICLE 8. ETHICS

The information previously contained in this Article is now in Article 10. The information in prior Article 8 (B) is now more fully explained, and has been modified to reflect the change in law that prohibits contracting.

ARTICLE 9. TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

The information previously contained in Article 9 is now in new Article 8, as well as the information relating to LEAP for new reporters.

There are no substantive changes, except that the information relating to suspension and revocation is now contained in new Article 9.

ARTICLE 10. COURT REPORTING FIRMS

The information in this Article has been moved to new Article 7. There are no substantive changes.

ARTICLE 11. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The information and process provided in Article 11 is not substantially altered. The Board has made an effort to simplify and clarify the information contained in the previous Article 11, in new Articles 11 and 12.

The information previously contained in Article 11 (A) was the same information, verbatim, contained in O.C.G.A. § 15-14-33 so the Board has referred to that statute in the new Rule.

The Board has removed the procedure for the Judicial Council to follow on an appeal from the Board’s decision, as that information is more appropriately placed in a Rule of the Judicial Council. It does not make legal or ethical sense for the Board to proscribe the process by which its own Order is being reviewed.

ARTICLE 12. ADVISORY OPINION PROCEDURES

The information contained in this Article is now in new Article 13 and has not changed.

Bylaw Change

The Board voted to amend Article II, Membership, Section 1 of its Bylaws to clarify the process by which vacancies are filled on the Board and the length of terms. The amended Bylaw also requires that the representatives from the State Bar be practicing attorneys in good standing. The amended Bylaw is consistent with O.C.G.A. §15-14-24(a) which relates to the composition of the Board and the filling of vacancies.

Respectfully submitted,

Judge Linda S. Cowen, Chair
The Judicial Council Board of Court Reporting

Board of Court Reporting

Judge Linda S. Cowen, Chair
Judge Anne Workman
Kerry McFadden
Vickey Riggins

G. William Abel, Vice-Chair
John K. Larkins, Jr.
Marilyn Roe
Vickie Wiechec

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BYLAW
OF THE BOARD OF COURT REPORTING**

Proposed Amendment to Article II: Membership, Section 1:

The membership of the Board of Court Reporting of the Judicial Council shall be composed of nine members: five members to be certified court reporters; two members to be representatives from the State Bar of Georgia, who are practicing attorneys in good standing; and two members from the judiciary, one to be a superior court judge and one to be a state court judge. All members shall be appointed by the Judicial Council of Georgia for a term of two years, except that a person appointed by the Judicial Council to fill a vacancy on the Board of a member who resigns or is unable to complete his or her term, shall serve for the remainder of the term of the member originally appointed. Members shall not be eligible for more than two successive terms; however, completing a vacant term shall not preclude a person's appointment for two successive terms on the Board. The superior court judge, one practicing attorney, and two court reporter members shall be appointed in even numbered years, and the state court judge, one practicing attorney, and three court reporter members shall be appointed in odd numbered years. The Judicial Council shall fill vacancies on the Board at any time.

Current Article II: Membership, Section 1:

The membership of the Board of Court Reporting of the Judicial Council shall be composed of nine members; five members to be certified court reporters and two members to be representatives from the State Bar of Georgia, and two members from the judiciary, one to be a superior court judge and one to be a state court judge. All members shall be appointed by the Judicial Council of Georgia for a term of two years. Provided, however, that members shall not be eligible for more than two successive terms. The superior court judge, one attorney, and two court reporter members shall be appointed in even numbered years and the state court judge, one attorney and three court reporter members shall be appointed in odd numbered years.

Proposed
Rules and Regulations
Of the Board of Court Reporting of
The Judicial Council of Georgia

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

A. Location of Offices

The principal office of the Board of Court Reporting of the Judicial Council of Georgia is: 244 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 300, Atlanta, Georgia 30334-5900.

B. Tenses, Gender, and Number

As used in this Chapter, the present tense includes the past and future tenses, and the future tense includes the present; the masculine gender includes the feminine, and the feminine includes the masculine; the singular includes the plural, and the plural includes the singular.

C. Definitions

1. Any future reference to “the Board” in these Rules shall mean the Board of Court Reporting of the Judicial Council of Georgia.

2. Any future reference to “the exam” in these Rules shall mean the Georgia Certified Court Reporters Exam, including all written and dictation portions, approved by the Board of Court Reporting of the Judicial Council of Georgia.

D. Power of the Board, Generally

Unless otherwise specifically addressed in these Rules and Regulations, by the Judicial Council of Georgia, or in the Georgia Court Reporting Act, the Board shall have discretion to perform any act necessary to define and regulate the practice of court reporting in Georgia, and to establish the Board’s procedures.

E. Power of the Board, Generally

These Rules shall take effect on January 1, 2008, except as provided in Article 3. Also, any grievance filed prior to January 1, 2008 shall proceed under the Rules and Regulations in place at the time the grievance was filed.

ARTICLE 2. PERSONS QUALIFIED TO TAKE EXAM

All persons who did not make application to qualify or did not qualify under Section 11 of Georgia Laws 1974, p. 349 (O.C.G.A. Sec. 15-14-29 (b)), by April 1, 1975, must pass an exam provided for in Article 3 of these Rules to become a Certified Court Reporter, unless qualified to apply for certification under Article 7 (emergency judicial permits) of these Rules.

ARTICLE 3. CERTIFICATION

A. Requirement to Pass Exam

An applicant shall qualify to apply to be a Certified Court Reporter in Georgia by passing an exam, as hereinafter provided, and meeting the requirements of O.C.G.A. Sec. 15-14-29. Application for testing shall be made on a form approved by the Board. The Board reserves the right to refuse to allow testing for good cause.

B. Disqualification for Act of Dishonesty

Any applicant who commits any act of dishonesty with respect to any portion of the exam shall immediately be disqualified, and will not be eligible to take the exam again for a period of two years from the date of the exam on which the applicant was disqualified.

C. Testing

1. The Board shall provide for an exam to be administered to an applicant, pursuant to a written protocol established by the Board from time to time. The exam shall be designed to test the competency of the applicant as a court reporter, as well as the applicant's knowledge of the laws, rules and regulations governing the conduct of court reporting in Georgia.

2. Any person who passes an exam prior to January 1, 2008, in another state, that has been previously approved by the Georgia Board of Court Reporting, and thereafter becomes licensed in that state, may apply to become a certified court reporter in Georgia. However, no application for reciprocal license through a state-administered exam shall be accepted after June 30, 2008. A person who has passed an exam administered by a national court reporting association may be eligible to be certified in Georgia.

D. Procedure for Certification After Testing

1. Application for certification shall be made on a form approved by the Board, after an applicant is notified that the applicant has passed the exam. If the Applicant is applying for certification after passing an exam in another state, or passing an exam administered by a national association, the applicant shall provide a copy of the certification document from that state or national association with the application.

2. As to applicants who take the Georgia exam, applications for certification must be received by the Board within 45 days of the mailing date of notification from the Board that the applicant is eligible. Any applicant who fails to meet the 45-day deadline shall be required to take and pass the exam again in order to apply for certification.

3. A certification fee set by the Board must be included with the application for certification.

E. Certificate

After receipt of the prescribed fee and approval of the application for certification and fee the Board will issue a certificate to the applicant. A reporter possessing such a certificate will be a properly certified court reporter in the State of Georgia.

F. Right to Review

The Board reserves the right to refuse to certify any applicant for good cause.

ARTICLE 4. CERTIFICATION PER METHOD

A court reporter shall be certified to use only the method of takedown that was used for testing. A court reporter may be certified in more than one method of takedown by successfully passing the exam using each method of takedown.

ARTICLE 5. RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATES

A. Form and Fees

Certificates may be renewed annually by filing the renewal form and paying the renewal fee set by the Board on or before April 1st. No renewal form or fees will be accepted unless the reporter complies with the rules regarding continuing education hours.

B. Inactive Status

A court reporter who wishes to cease the business of court reporting in Georgia may elect to become “inactive” by notice to the Board on a form provided by the Board, effective on the date of filing of the form with the Board. An inactive reporter shall not be required to pay dues or obtain continuing education hours. A reporter who elects inactive status, and wishes to become an active certified court reporter again in this state, must become certified again through testing. A reporter who elects inactive status shall provide the Board with an address and location for the reporter’s records relating to work the reporter performed prior to becoming inactive. If a court reporter elects “inactive” status, the reporter shall not be authorized to take down any matters, but shall be authorized to certify transcripts of matters taken down prior to becoming inactive.

ARTICLE 6. EMERGENCY JUDICIAL PERMITS

A. Issuance of an Emergency Judicial Permit

1. Any judge of a court of record shall have the authority to request an emergency judicial permit, allowing a person who is not a certified court reporter in the State of Georgia to act as a temporary official court reporter in that judge's court for a period not to exceed one year, in accordance with O.C.G.A. Sec. 15-14-34.
2. The applicant shall also send an Application for Emergency Judicial Permit, and pay a fee set by the Board. Upon receipt and approval of the request, the Application, and the fee, the Board may issue a permit for that reporter to be the official court reporter for that court only, for a period not to exceed one year.
3. The emergency judicial work permit shall not be renewable, and shall not allow freelance reporting by the judicial permit holder. No person shall be granted more than one emergency judicial permit.
4. The emergency judicial work permit is no longer valid once the holder of the permit takes and passes the exam to become a certified court reporter in Georgia.

ARTICLE 7. COURT REPORTING FIRMS

A. Definition

1. A "court reporting firm" shall include a partnership or other business entity formed by persons who employ one or more court reporters who are engaged in the business of court reporting. The definition shall not include individuals in the business of court reporting who are self-employed, but form a professional corporation and do not employ other court reporters. The definition shall not include government agencies, including courts, that employ court reporters for reporting hearings and other matters.
2. A "court reporting firm" shall also include any association of two or more court reporters working together under a fee sharing arrangement, but as independent contractors, who are engaged in the business of court reporting. Court reporters who refer work to one another, but who do not share fees for the referred work, are not included in this definition.

Registration

1. All court reporting firms as defined in Section A shall register with the Board, and shall supply such information as is required on a form promulgated by the Board. All firms shall pay a registration fee set by the Board. This registration form must be filed with the Board and accompanied by the required fee within 30 days of starting to do business as a firm in Georgia.
2. All court reporting firms shall renew their registration each year and shall pay a renewal fee set by the Board on or before April 1st each year.
3. Any firm failing to register within 30 days of starting business, or any firm that fails to renew their registration on or before April 1st each year, shall be assessed a late fee for registration or renewal in an amount to be set by the Board.

B. Discipline

1. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Sec. 15-14-37(g), the Board may discipline a firm by imposing a fine.
2. A firm shall adopt reasonable measures to assure that any court reporter providing services on behalf of the firm is currently certified in Georgia.

ARTICLE 8. CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

A. Georgia Certified Court Reporters Training Council.

The Georgia Certified Court Reporters Training Council is established. The Council shall consist of seven voting members. The members shall be two freelance voicewriter reporters, two freelance shorthand reporters, one official voicewriter reporter, one official shorthand reporter, and one official reporter certified in any method. The members shall be appointed as follows:

1. Four members shall be appointed by the Georgia Certified Court Reporters Association as follows: one freelance voicewriter, one official voicewriter, one official freelance shorthand reporter, and one official shorthand reporter.
2. Three members shall be appointed by the Board of Court Reporting as follows: one official reporter certified in any method, one freelance shorthand reporter, and one freelance voicewriter;
3. The members shall serve a term of three years. Members may not exceed two consecutive three-year terms.
4. The Board may remove a CRTC member for cause. If a member resigns or is removed before the end of their term, the appointing body shall make an appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term.

5. There must be at least three members of the Council present at a meeting to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Council shall maintain minutes of its meetings.
6. The Council shall provide a written report of the previous calendar year's activities to the Board by March 1 of each year.
7. The Council shall elect a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary at their first meeting every year, who shall serve for one year. The Chair may be re-elected for one additional year, but may not serve for more than two consecutive years. The Administrative Office of the Court shall provide staff assistance to the Council.

B. Duties of the Georgia Certified Court Reporters Training Council

The Georgia Certified Court Reporters Training Council shall be vested with the following functions, powers and responsibilities:

1. To promulgate rules and regulations to carry out this charge;
2. To proscribe, by rules and regulations, the minimum requirements for curricula and standards comprising the continuing education courses and for creditworthy activity.
3. To identify areas of training needed, and to suggest program refinements to training providers;
4. To review and investigate requests for extensions of time to complete continuing education hours based on disability, hardship, or other extenuating circumstances;
5. To evaluate course exceptions when presented for credit;
6. To cooperate with and secure the cooperation of every department, agency or board of the state government or its political subdivision in furtherance of the purpose of this Article;
7. To do any and all things necessary to enable it to adequately perform its duties and to exercise the power granted to it;

C. Training Requirements

1. Newly certified court reporters

Each newly certified court reporter shall be required to take the first *Learning Essentials About Professionalism Seminar* (LEAP Seminar) authorized by the Board after their certification.

2. Emergency Judicial Permit

A holder of an emergency judicial permit shall not be required to take continuing education hours during time period during which the emergency judicial permit is valid.

3. Yearly Requirement

Each certified court reporter shall be required to attend a minimum of 10 hours of approved training per calendar year. However, any reporter issued an initial certificate is not required to acquire credit hours for that calendar year, except that every newly certified Georgia court reporter shall complete the LEAP Seminar as required hereinabove.

ARTICLE 9. SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION FOR DUES AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

A. Suspension.

A certificate is *automatically* suspended for:

1. Failure to pay the renewal fee by April 1st each year, or
2. Failure to meet annual CE requirements.

Suspension is effective immediately upon noncompliance.

A suspended certificate may be reinstated by curing the cause of the suspension before December 31st of the year in which the suspension occurs.

B. Revocation

If the suspension is not cured by December 31st of the year in which the suspension occurs, the certificate is *automatically* revoked.

If the certificate is revoked, the reporter may become certified again only by taking and passing the Georgia certified court reporters exam after revocation, and no sooner than two years after revocation.

C. Discipline for Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with the continuing education requirements shall also be grounds for disciplinary action under Article 11 of these Rules. Sanctions may be imposed for the following reasons:

1. Failure to complete required credits within specified time period;
2. Failure to submit required reporting form or proof of compliance; or
3. False information on a reporting form.

ARTICLE 10. ETHICS

A. General Ethical Requirements

All certified court reporters in the State of Georgia shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Board pursuant to O.C.G.A. Sec. 15-14-33, and for violations of the Board of Court Reporting Rules and Regulation, and for violations of the Code of Professional Court Reporting.

B. Disclosure Form for Depositions

Each court reporter taking a deposition shall provide a copy of a disclosure form to the parties and/or their attorneys, prior to taking a deposition, stating the following:

1. That the court reporter is not disqualified for a relationship of interest under the provisions of O.C.G.A. Sec. 9-11-28 (c), OR
A statement that discloses a permissible relationship of interest under O.C.G.A. Sec. 9-11-28 (c). If the court reporter does disclose a relationship of interest, the court reporter must obtain explicit consent of all parties to the court reporter taking the deposition despite same on the record of the deposition.
2. That the court reporter is a Georgia Certified Court Reporter.
3. That the court reporter is a sole practitioner, or a representative of the XXXX court reporting firm; or an independent contractor of the XXXX court reporting firm.
4. That the court reporter was contacted by the office of (name the attorney/court reporting firm or party who called the court reporter) to provide court reporting services for this deposition.
5. That the court reporter will not be taking this deposition under any contract prohibited by Georgia law.
6. The disclosure form should be dated and signed by the court reporter.

A copy of the disclosure form should be included in the transcript of the deposition, should a transcript be requested.

The sample forms in the Advisory Opinion of the Board of Court Reporting Number 27 are no longer approved by the Board.

ARTICLE 11. BASIS FOR SANCTION

1. The Board shall have the authority to refuse to grant a certificate or emergency judicial permit to an applicant, to revoke the certificate or emergency judicial permit of a court reporter, or to discipline a court reporter, for good cause, including, but not limited to, a finding by a majority of the entire Board that the court reporter or applicant has failed to meet the standards set forth in O.C.G.A. Sec. 15-14-33, and/or O.C.G.A. Sec. 15-14-37.

2. If a certificate or emergency judicial permit is denied, the applicant shall have 10 days from the mailing of the notice of such denial to request reconsideration. A request for reconsideration shall be in writing and shall be accompanied by supporting evidence and argument. An applicant seeking reconsideration may request a hearing before the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting; otherwise, the request shall be considered by vote of the Board without a hearing.

3. It shall be the obligation of a court reporter or applicant to notify the Board of any act that may be a violation of O.C.G.A. Sec. 15-14-33 or O.C.G.A. Sec. 15-14-37 at the time the act occurs. Failure to notify the Board shall also constitute grounds for discipline or refusal to grant a certificate.

ARTICLE 12. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

A. Definitions.

As used within this Article, the following terms shall have the following definitions:

1. *Complaint.* A notarized administrative complaint filed by a party, or by the Board, against a person or entity under the regulatory authority of the Board, alleging that the person is subject to discipline.

2. *Complainant.* A party filing a Complaint or grievance.

3. *Respondent.* A party against whom a Complaint or grievance is filed.

4. *Answer.* A notarized written response to a Complaint that is filed by a respondent at the direction of the Board.

B. Time

1. *Computation of Time.*

Any period of time referenced within this Article refers to calendar days. The time period begins to run on the first day following the event requiring the computation of time. When the last day of the period so computed falls on a day on which the office of the Board is closed, the period shall run until the end of the

following business day. All time-sensitive materials must be received by the Board by 4:30 p.m. local time on the date upon which it is due.

2. *Extensions of Time.*

The Board may extend any time limit provided for in this Article in its sole discretion. All requests for such extension, including requests for postponements or continuances, shall be made by written motion submitted to the Board before the expiration of the time limit or the date of a hearing, so as to allow the Board sufficient time to consider the Motion. The Board shall notify all parties of its action on said motion.

C. Communication Requirements

1. *Address for Receipt of Communications to the Board.*

All communications regarding topics governed by this Article must be in writing and submitted by mail or by hand delivery, with the exception of requests for Complaint forms. All communications shall be sent to the Board at the Board's principal address identified in Article 1 of these Rules.

2. *Communications Generally*

Any communication involving a Complaint and the grievance process shall be submitted to the Board through the Board staff, and shall not be addressed to individual members of the Board or sent directly to members of the Board. The staff shall disseminate all written communications requiring Board action to the members of the Board.

No *ex parte* communications between Board members and parties, or attorneys for the parties, may occur. If any *ex parte* communication does occur, the Board or its staff shall notify all parties of the communication, informing them of its substance, and the circumstances of its receipt.

3. *Receipt of Communications*

All communications under this Article filed with the Board are deemed filed on the date upon which they are received at the Board's principal address.

4. *Confidentiality*

The status of a Complaint will be communicated only to interested parties and their attorney, Board members, and Board staff. The Board's decision shall be communicated, however, in accordance with the terms of the decision (a public reprimand, suspension, or revocation of a license may be communicated to the public, for example, but a private reprimand shall not be).

D. Grievance Initiation.

1. *Who may file*

Any person seeking to file a grievance against a court reporter, court reporting firm, holder of an emergency judicial permit, or any other person or entity under

the jurisdiction of the Board, may file a Complaint with the Board. The Board may also, on its own Motion, file a Complaint.

2. Forms

All Complaints shall be submitted on a form approved by the Board for this purpose. Any and all documentation or information in support of the Complaint must be included with the Complaint. The information on the Complaint form and any information accompanying it must be legible. The Complaint form must be fully completed and must be notarized. Complaint forms may be requested from the Board's staff in person or by phone, or online at www.georgiacourts.org.

3. Dismissal of Complaint for Noncompliance with Rule

Upon receipt of a Complaint, the Board staff shall review the Complaint to ensure that the Complaint complies with the Rules contained in this Article. In the event the Complaint does not comply, the Complaint is dismissed without prejudice, and the Board staff shall notify the Complainant of the dismissal.

E. Dismissal of Complaint by Vote of Board

When a Complaint is properly filed with the Board, the Board shall review the Complaint and any supporting documentation. If the Complaint states a possible ground for discipline, the Respondent may be required to file an Answer. The Board may dismiss the Complaint for failure to state a possible ground for discipline. A Complaint dismissed after review by the Board may not be submitted again by Complainant. The dismissal of a Complaint under this Article does not deprive the Complainant of any right against a Respondent otherwise available at law or in equity.

If a Complaint is Board-initiated, an Answer shall automatically be required.

F. Service of Complaint on Respondent

A certified court reporter and court reporting firms under the jurisdiction of the Board shall inform the Board, in writing, of their current name, mailing address, street address, and telephone number. The Board may rely upon the address on file with the Board in all efforts to contact, communicate with, or perfect service upon persons and entities within its jurisdiction. The choice of a person or entity to provide only a post office box address to the Board shall constitute an election to waive personal service if personal service is required. An acknowledgement of service or a written Answer by a Respondent shall constitute conclusive proof of service.

If a majority of the Board has elected to require an Answer, or the Complaint is a Board-initiated Complaint, the Board staff shall then send the Complaint to the Respondent at the address indicated above by certified mail, together with a request that an Answer be filed. The request for an Answer shall notify the Respondent of the rules and/or statutes that the Respondent is alleged to have

violated, and that Respondent has 30 days from the date of the mailing of the notice to file a notarized Answer.

In the event the notice of a Complaint is returned by the post office as “undeliverable” at the address provided by Respondent as their address of record with the Board, or is returned “unclaimed” or “refused”, and the Respondent cannot be located with due diligence, the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts shall be deemed to be the agent for service for Respondent for the purposes of this grievance process, and service upon the Director shall be deemed to be service upon the Respondent. *See*, O.C.G.A. Sec. 15-14-33 (i).

G. Answer to Complaint

Respondent shall have 30 days from the date of notice from the Board to file a notarized Answer to the Complaint which shall address each allegation in the Complaint. Respondent shall include all supporting documents with the Answer that Respondent wishes the Board to consider.

H. Specification of Documents

The Board, in its sole discretion, may require any party to be more specific in any document filed with the Board.

I. Voluntary Dismissal

A Complainant desiring to voluntarily dismiss a Complaint may dismiss the Complaint without permission prior to the filing of an Answer. After an Answer is filed, the party shall be required to file a Motion to Dismiss, and in that event, dismissal shall be in the sole discretion of the Board. The Board may dismiss a Board-initiated Complaint without Motion.

J. Procedure Upon Receipt of Answer

Upon receipt of an Answer to a Complaint, the Board staff shall review the Answer to ensure that the Answer complies with the Rules contained in this Article. In the event the Answer does not comply with the Rules, the Board staff shall notify the Respondent within 15 days of receipt of the Answer that the Answer shall not be considered by the Board, unless the defects are corrected within 15 days of notice to Respondent of the defects. If Respondent fails to correct the defects within 15 days of notice, the Answer shall NOT be sent to the Board by the staff, and shall not be considered by the Board in its deliberations on the Complaint.

If the Answer, or Amendment to the Answer, complies with the Rules contained in this Article, the Board staff shall send copies to the members of the Board for consideration. Upon a review of the Answer and all supporting documentation supplied therewith, the Board may dismiss the Complaint, if, giving the Complainant the benefit of all doubts, the undisputed evidence shows that a violation has not occurred. The Board may vote to require further documentation from the parties, or to require a hearing on the Complaint, or to dismiss the

Complaint without further action. A Complaint dismissed by the Board after review of the Answer may not be submitted again by Complainant. The dismissal of a Complaint under this Article does not deprive the Complainant of any right against a Respondent otherwise available at law or in equity.

K. Procedure When Answer Required, But Not Filed

When a Respondent fails to file an Answer within 30 days of notice to the Respondent that an Answer is required, the Board may vote to dismiss the Complaint, to require additional information from the Complainant, or to hold a hearing.

L. Substitution or Intervention of Parties

On Motion of a party, or on the Board's own Motion, at any time during the course of any proceeding under this Article the Board may, in its sole discretion, permit the substitution or intervention of parties as justice or convenience may require. Any non-party who wishes to intervene must file a written Motion with the Board specifying the grounds for intervention.

M. Disabilities

The Board reserves the right, in its sole discretion, on its own motion or on that of a party, to modify these procedures to the extent necessary to make accommodations for parties or witnesses involved with a grievance who have disabilities.

N. Right to an Attorney

All parties may be represented by counsel at any stage of the grievance process. Counsel shall promptly enter an appearance if counsel has not previously entered an appearance by signing a Complaint, Answer or other pleading.

If the Board files a board-initiated Complaint or a Motion for Contempt the Board shall request the Attorney General to act as prosecuting attorney in the matter.

O. Notice of Hearing

If the majority of the Board votes to hold a hearing on the Complaint, the Complainant and Respondent shall be notified. The parties shall be given at least 30 days written notice by regular mail of the date, time, and location of the hearing. It shall be the responsibility of the Board staff to arrange the hearing time and place, and to notify the parties and members of the Board of same. The Board staff shall arrange for a court reporter to take down the hearing. The place for the hearing shall be fixed at any site in the State of Georgia, in the Board's discretion.

P. Hearing by the Board

1. Participation of Complainant.

The Complainant shall appear at the hearing in person or by counsel. In its sole discretion, and upon notice in advance to the opposite party, the Board may allow or require the Complainant to appear in person, participate by way of deposition, by video or telephone conference, or any combination thereof. If the Complainant refuses or fails without just cause to appear, the Complaint shall be dismissed.

If the Complaint is a Board-initiated Complaint, the Attorney General's office shall appear and present evidence in support of the Complaint.

2. Participation of Respondent

The Respondent shall be entitled to appear in person at the hearing, and shall be given an opportunity to present his or her response to the Board after presentation of the Complainant's case. In its sole discretion, and upon notice in advance to the opposite party, the Board may allow the Respondent to participate by way of deposition, by video or telephone conference, or any combination thereof.

3. Witnesses and Evidence

Each party shall be entitled to bring witnesses to the hearing. Should a party desire that the Board subpoena a witness, the party shall provide the name and address of the witness to the Board no later than 15 days prior to the hearing. The Board may also *sua sponte* subpoena witnesses for the hearing.

The rules of evidence shall apply, and the order of presentation shall be as at a civil trial. Evidentiary rulings shall be by the Hearing Officer appointed by the Board to preside over the hearing.

4. Costs

The Board shall bear the cost of the take down and transcription of the hearing by a certified court reporter. Each party must pay for their own copy of a transcript, should they want one. The Board shall bear any cost for the arrangement of the space for the hearing. Otherwise, the parties shall each bear their own cost for attending and participating in the hearing.

5. Executive Session

The Board may enter into Executive Session during a hearing to discuss findings or issues, or to vote on issues presented during a hearing. Without limiting the foregoing, the Board shall have the authority to exclude any or all persons during its deliberations on disciplinary proceedings.

6. Evidentiary Standard

At the hearing, the burden of proof is on the Complainant to prove the alleged violation(s) by clear and convincing evidence. The members of the Board shall be permitted to ask questions of the parties and witnesses present at the hearing.

7. Final Order

A Final Order after a hearing by the Board will be issued by the Board within 45 days after the hearing. The Board may extend the time to issue the Final Order for good cause. The Final Order shall be in writing and shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to each party, or their attorney, by the Board staff.

Q. Appeal

1. Procedure for Appeal

The Final Order may be appealed by a party within 20 days of the Board's decision thereon, by the filing of a Notice of Appeal with the Board staff, directed to the Judicial Council of Georgia. The Board staff shall notify the Board and all interested parties of the filing of the Notice of Appeal, and shall transmit the Appeal to the Judicial Council, within 10 days of receipt of same. The Notice of Appeal shall state the nature of the appellant's interest, the facts in support of the appellant's claim of error, and the grounds upon which the appellant contends the decision should be reversed or modified.

2. Stay

The mere filing of a Notice of Appeal shall not stay enforcement of the Board's decision or Final Order. However, either the Board or the Judicial Council may grant a stay against enforcement of the Final Order pending decision of the Judicial Council of the appeal.

3. Transmittal of the Record

Within 30 days of the filing of a Notice of Appeal the Board staff shall transmit a copy of the entire record regarding the matter on appeal to the Judicial Council. The Judicial Council may extend the time for the transmittal of the record for good cause shown.

4. Procedure Upon Reversal

If the Judicial Council reverses a decision of the Board, the Board shall hold another hearing on the Complaint only if directed to do so by the Judicial Council. If the Judicial Council reverses with direction to modify a Final Order, the Board shall modify the Final Order as directed without further hearing. The Board shall schedule another hearing on the Complaint, or shall issue a revised Final Order, within 30 days of receipt of the Order from the Judicial Council on the appeal.

R. Immunity

The regulatory proceedings of the Board are judicial in nature. Therefore, the Board, members of the Board, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the staff of the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Judicial Council, members of the Judicial Council, or any subcommittee thereof, shall be entitled to judicial immunity when engaged in regulatory activities.

ARTICLE 13. ADVISORY OPINIONS

Any person may submit in writing to the Board a request for an Advisory Opinion. The Board may issue either Private or Public Advisory Opinions.

A. Private Advisory Opinions

A Private Advisory Opinion may be requested in lieu of filing a Complaint, for a person who seeks guidance as to whether certain actions or conduct are permitted under the Code of Professional Ethics or the Rules and Regulations of the Board. The person requesting the Private Advisory Opinion shall include all information relevant to their request. The Board may request additional information.

The Board shall keep confidential the identity of the person making the request for a Private Advisory Opinion, and the identity of the person about whom the Opinion is requested.

B. Public Advisory Opinions

The Board may, from time to time, recommend publication of a Public Advisory Opinion which illuminates one or more of the provisions of the Code of Professional Ethics, or the statutes, rules and regulations governing court reporting. These opinions may be based on facts derived from requested Private Advisory Opinions, deleting reference to the names and places of the parties, or upon an assumed statement of facts.

C. Review

The Judicial Council may review any Private or Public Advisory Opinion on its own motion and may adopt, modify or reject it in whole or in part.

**Supreme Court of Georgia's Commission Children, Marriage and Family Law
Committee on Justice for Children
Judicial Council Report, December 2007**

On October 4, 2006, The Supreme Court of Georgia renamed the Child Placement Project to the Committee on Justice for Children. This name works in conjunction with the new Supreme Court Commission on Children, Marriage and Family Law which includes the Committee on Justice for Children (J4C). The Committee on J4C was refunded to continue its work by Congress for additional five more years beginning in October 2006. For the last 10 years, the mission of this work has remained constant which is to improve the court process of child deprivation cases.

Justice P. Harris Hines serves as the current chair of the Committee on J4C. Committee members representing the judiciary, the state bar; the Department of Family and Children Services as well as the community include: Ms. Isabel Blanco, Deputy Director of the Division of Family and Children Services; Mr. Duaine Hathaway, Executive Director of Georgia CASA; Judge Michael Key, Troup County Juvenile Court; Dr. Normer Adams, Executive Director of the Georgia Association of Homes and Services for Children; Attorney Kathleen Dumitrescu, Atlanta Volunteer Lawyer Foundation; Judge Peggy Walker, Douglas County Juvenile Court; Judge Jackson Harris, Superior Court Judge, Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit; Senior Juvenile Court Judge James Morris; Judge Desiree Peagler, DeKalb County Juvenile Court; Attorney Robert Grayson, Cobb County, Special Assistant Attorney General; Judge Lawton Stephens, Western Judicial Circuit; W. Terrence Walsh, Alston & Bird, Chair of the State Bar Committee Children and the Courts; Ms. Lisa Lariscy, Gwinnett County DFCS Director; Judge Kevin Guidry, Juvenile Court of the Piedmont Circuit, and former Juvenile Court Judge Tom Rawlings, now Director of the Office of the Child Advocate. An extensive list of Committee advisors has also been formed and is listed on the website below.

Georgia has over 13,000 children in state custody due to child abuse or neglect. Priority goals for 2007 include: expediting appeals of termination of parental rights cases, strengthening court oversight of placement stability of children in foster care, improving the quality of representation of children, parents and the agency, defining and implementing a set of child outcome measures for courts in deprivation cases and exploring the judiciary's role in prevention of unnecessary removal of children from their homes.

Improvement goals for the past nine years have included: automation of the deprivation case records, cross-training and setting standards of practice for all participants in juvenile court, increasing the representation of parents and children in juvenile court, and obtaining state funding for juvenile court judges. Benchmarks for some of these goals have been reached and while others have needed refinement.

For 2008, J4C plans to focus more on quality assurance for continuous improvement by reviewing children's case files and observing court hearings. These reviews will focus on timeliness of hearings, due process measures and quality of representation. The J4C has a web site hosted by the AOC with regular progress reports and publications as well as a list serve open to all interested. See: www.gajusticeforchildren.org

Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Judge George Kreeger

RE: Standing Committee on Drug Courts Report

DATE: December 11, 2007

New Drug Courts

The following new accountability courts have recently been implemented:

- Muscogee County Adult Felony Drug Court – Judge Frank Jordan
- Chatham County Mental Health Court – Judge Penny Haas Freesemann
- Douglas County Family Drug Treatment Court - Judge Peggy Walker
- Troup County Family Drug Treatment Court – Judge Michael Key

Grant Funding

The Judicial Council Standing Committee on Drug Courts received an appropriation from the General Assembly for \$2.1 million to fund Drug and DUI Courts for Fiscal Year 2008. Forty-seven grants were awarded to Adult Felony, Juvenile, Family Treatment and DUI Drug Courts that applied through a competitive grant process. Each drug court that applied for a grant was awarded funding.

2008 Statewide Drug & DUI Court Conference

The Committee appointed a Drug Court Conference Subcommittee to oversee the planning of the 2008 Drug and DUI Court Conference. The Conference is scheduled for June 17-19, 2008 at the Wyndham Peachtree Conference Center, with expected attendance of over 400 participants. The theme of the 2008 conference is “Foundations for the Future” and will feature plenary speakers to address findings of the latest Drug and DUI Court research and best practices in the field.

Dade Behring Drug Testing Pilot Project

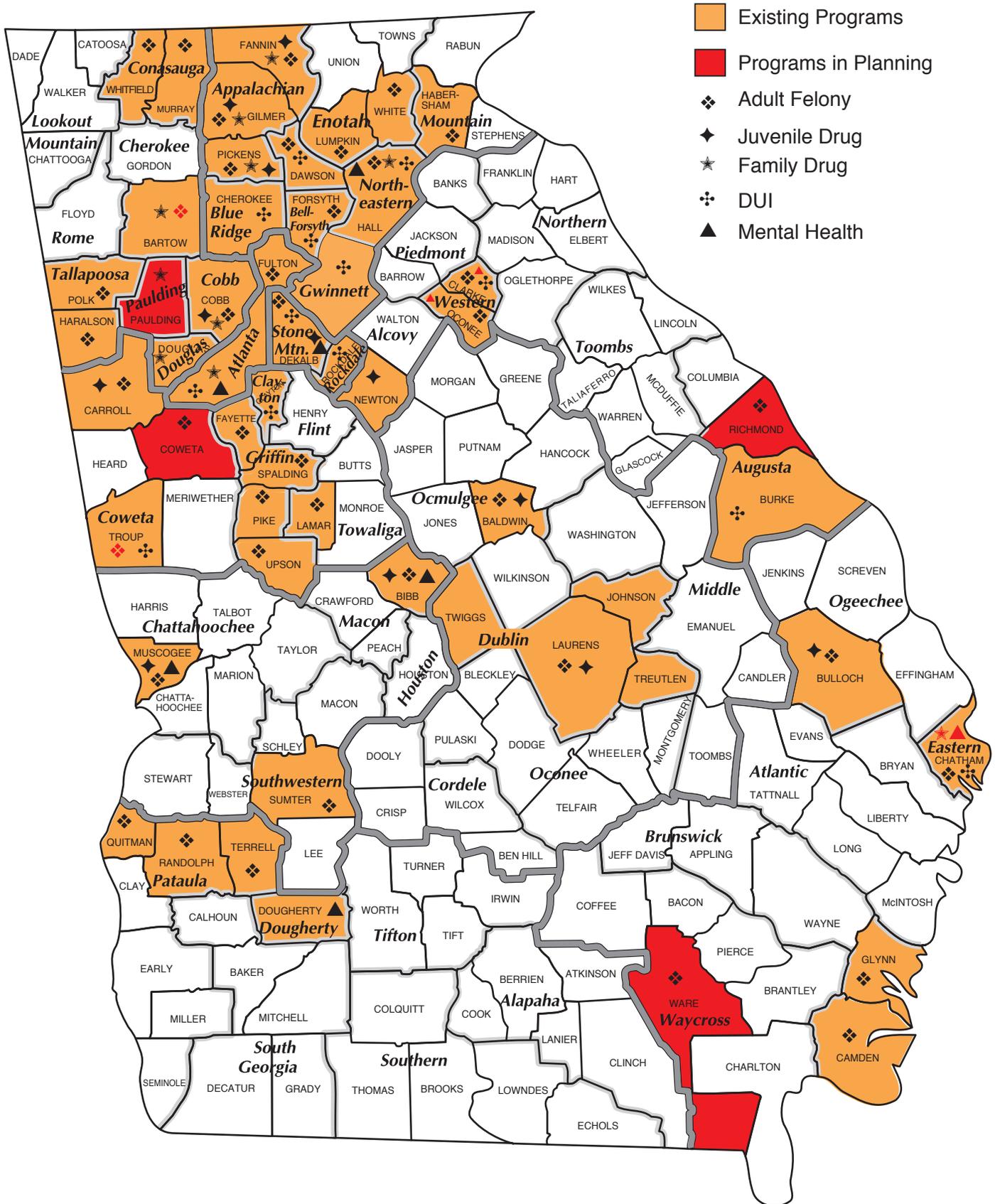
Seven drug courts are participating in the Dade Behring drug testing pilot project to develop better and more cost effective drug testing, and provide sustainability funding for Georgia’s accountability courts.

Subcommittee Work

The Committee appointed the following subcommittees:

- Treatment Standards Subcommittee to develop minimum standards for drug court treatment based on established national best practices.
- Funding Subcommittee to develop the Drug and DUI court grant funding criteria for FY 2009.
- Intrastate Transfer Policy Subcommittee to develop protocols and forms for transferring eligible participants to other Georgia drug courts.

Georgia Accountability Courts

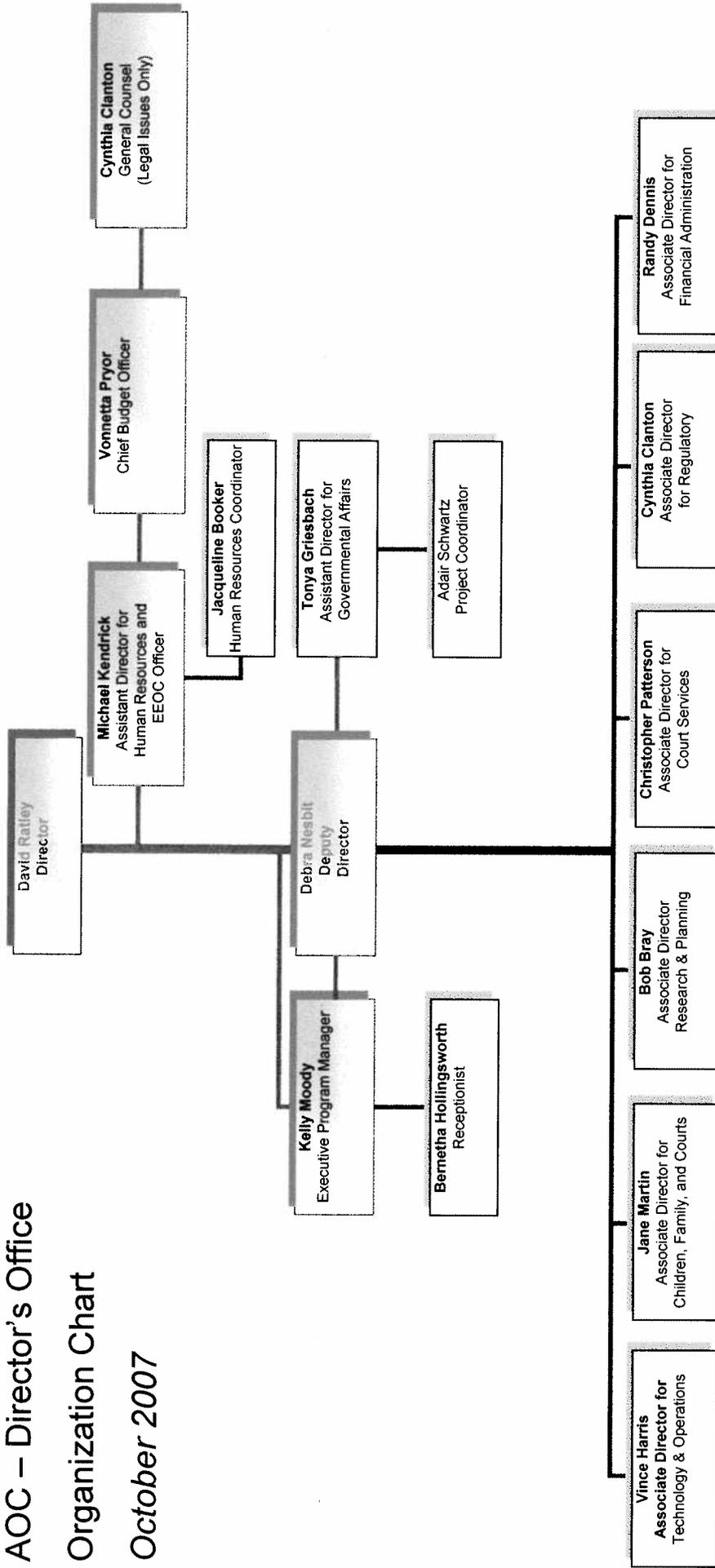


Judicial Circuit in bold, italicized.

AOC – Director’s Office

Organization Chart

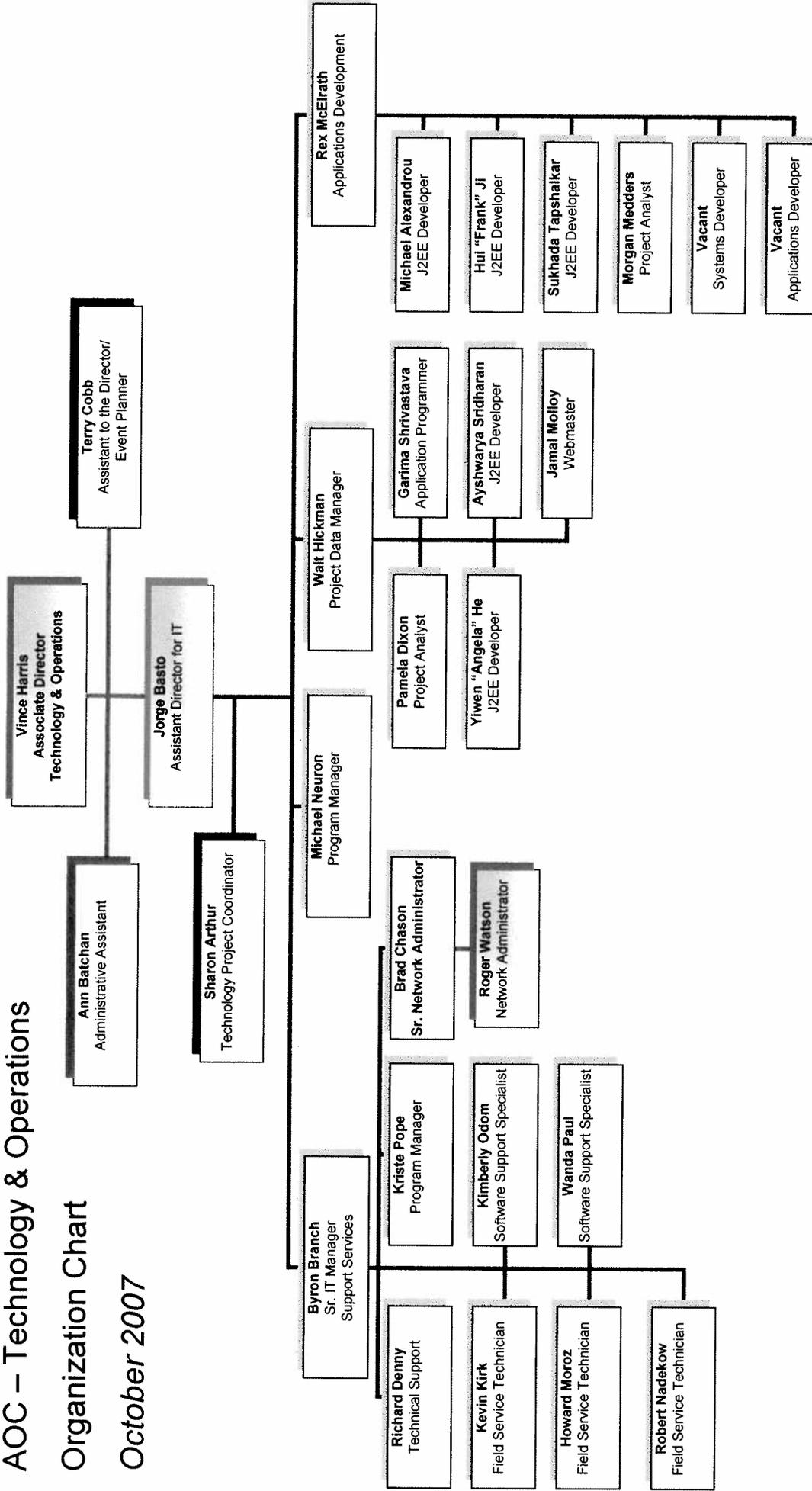
October 2007



AOC – Technology & Operations

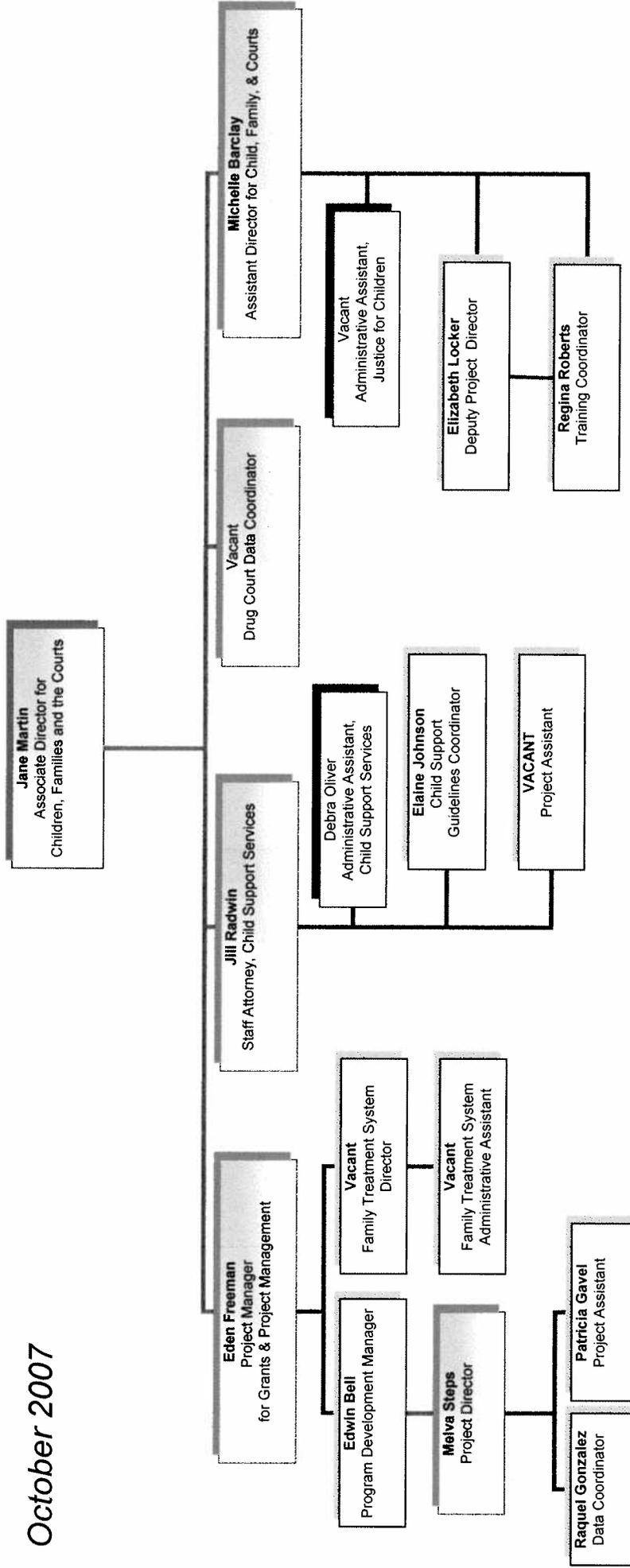
Organization Chart

October 2007

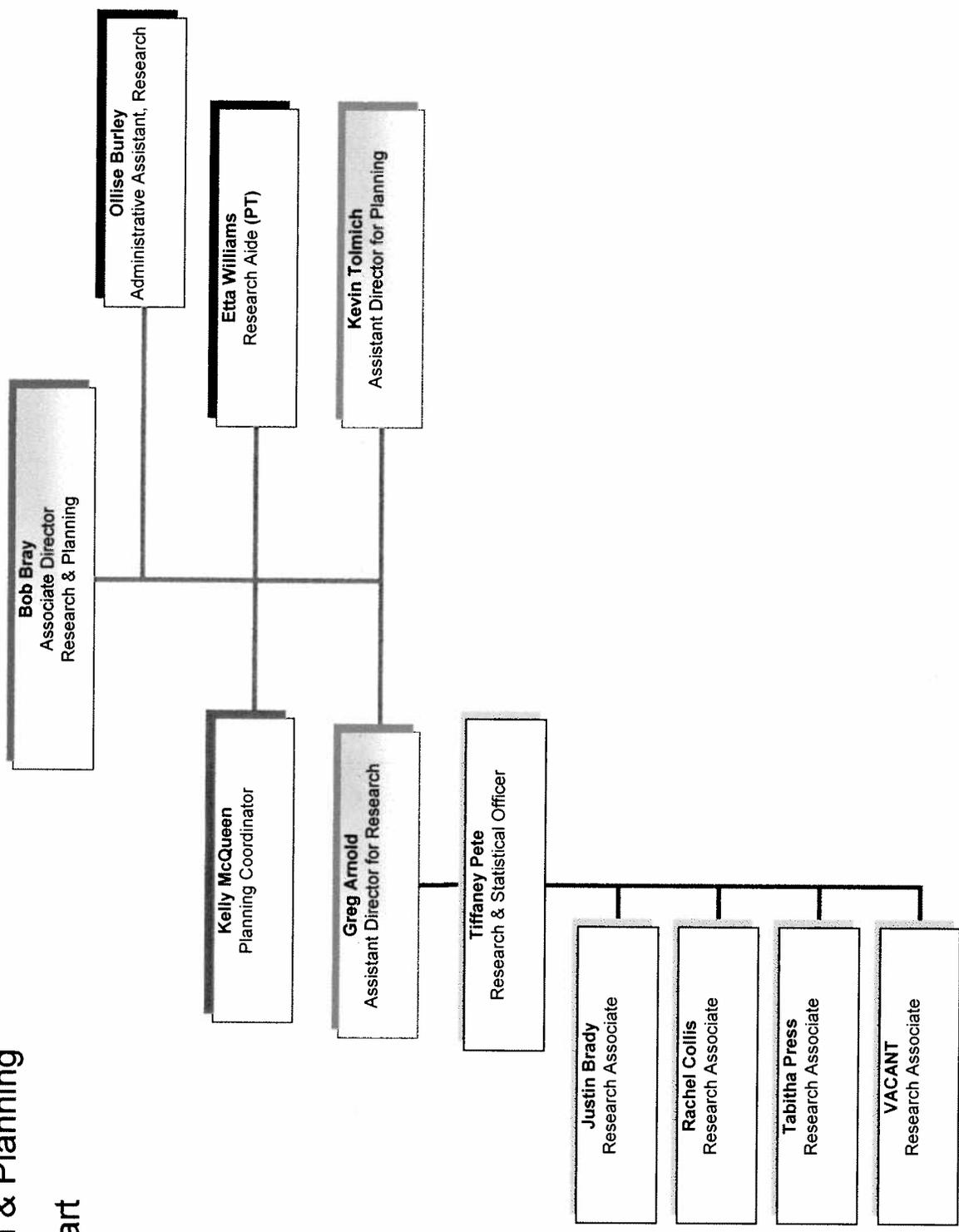


AOC – Children, Families and the Courts Organization Chart

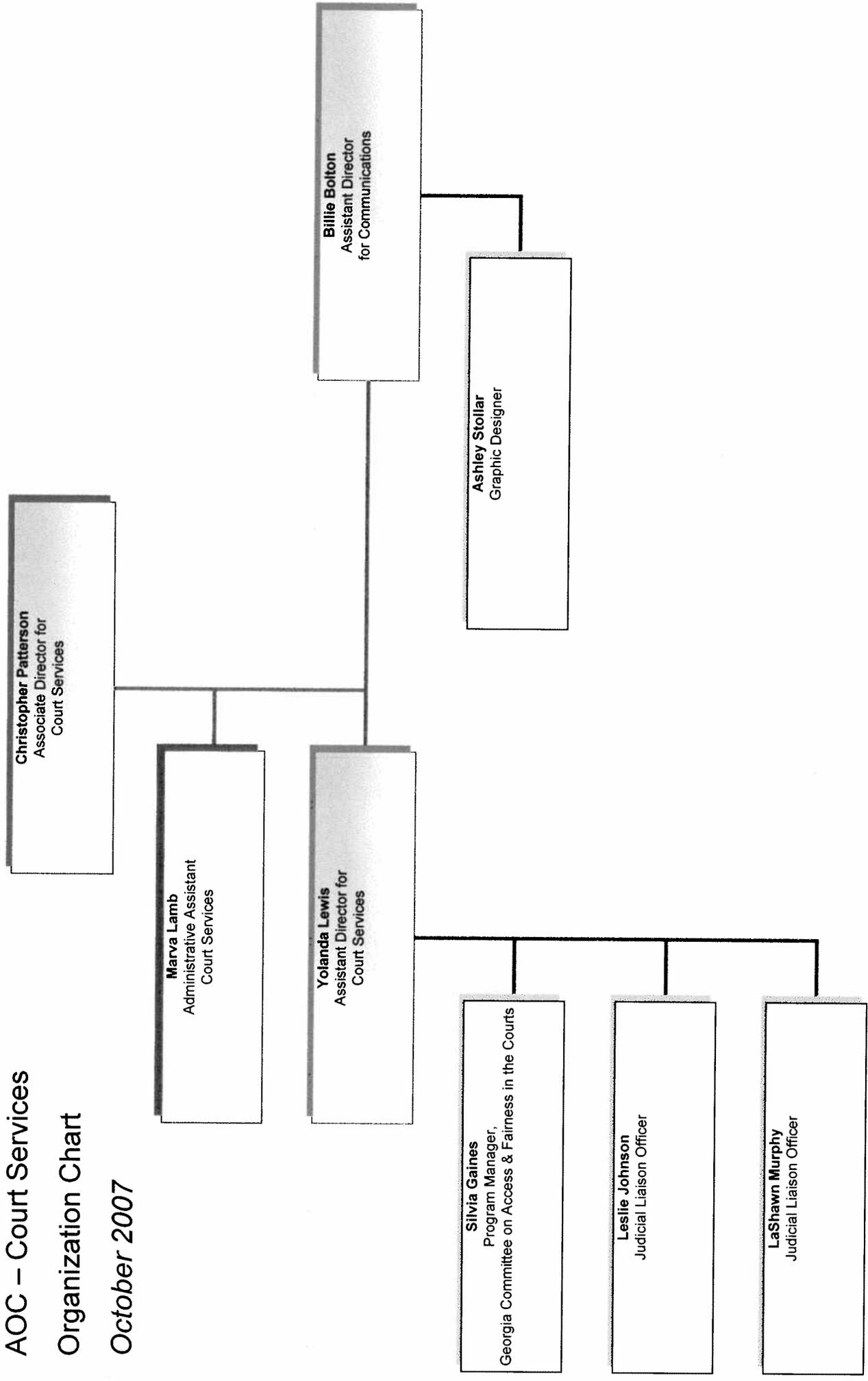
October 2007



AOC – Research & Planning
Organization Chart
October 2007



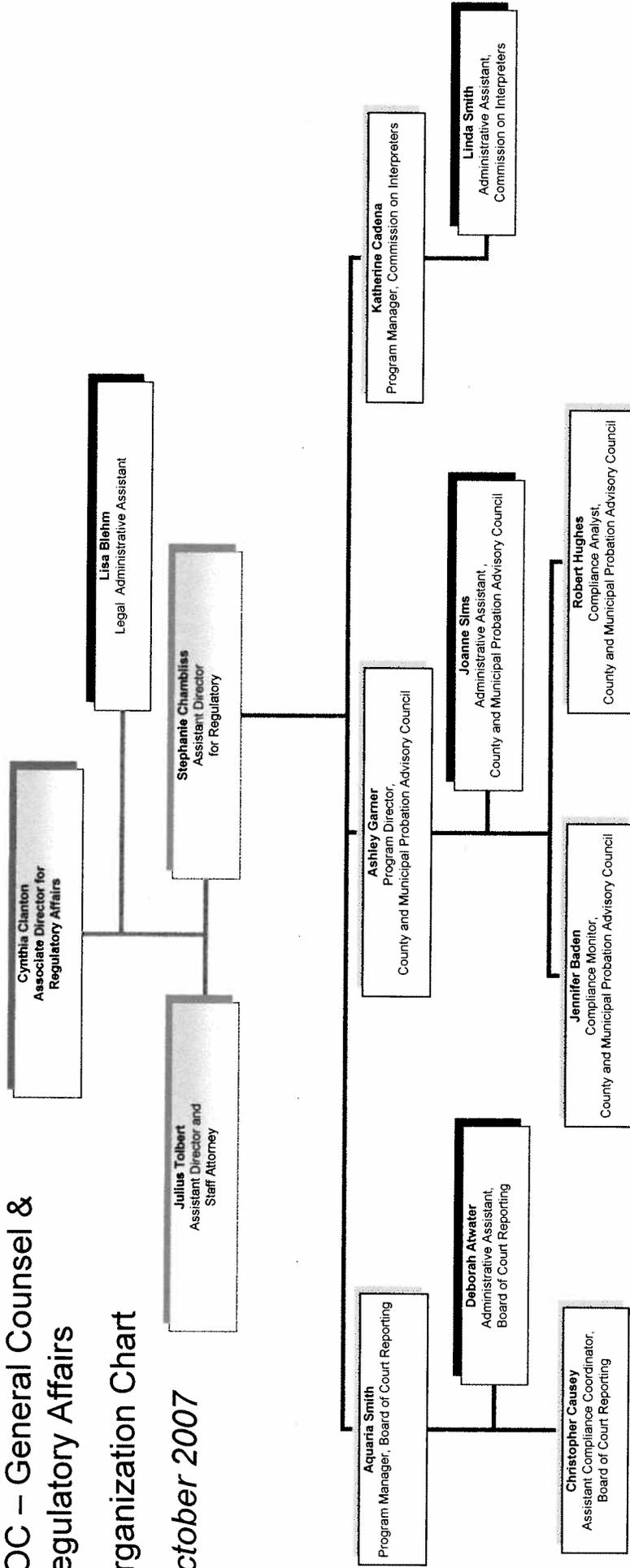
AOC – Court Services
Organization Chart
October 2007



AOC – General Counsel & Regulatory Affairs

Organization Chart

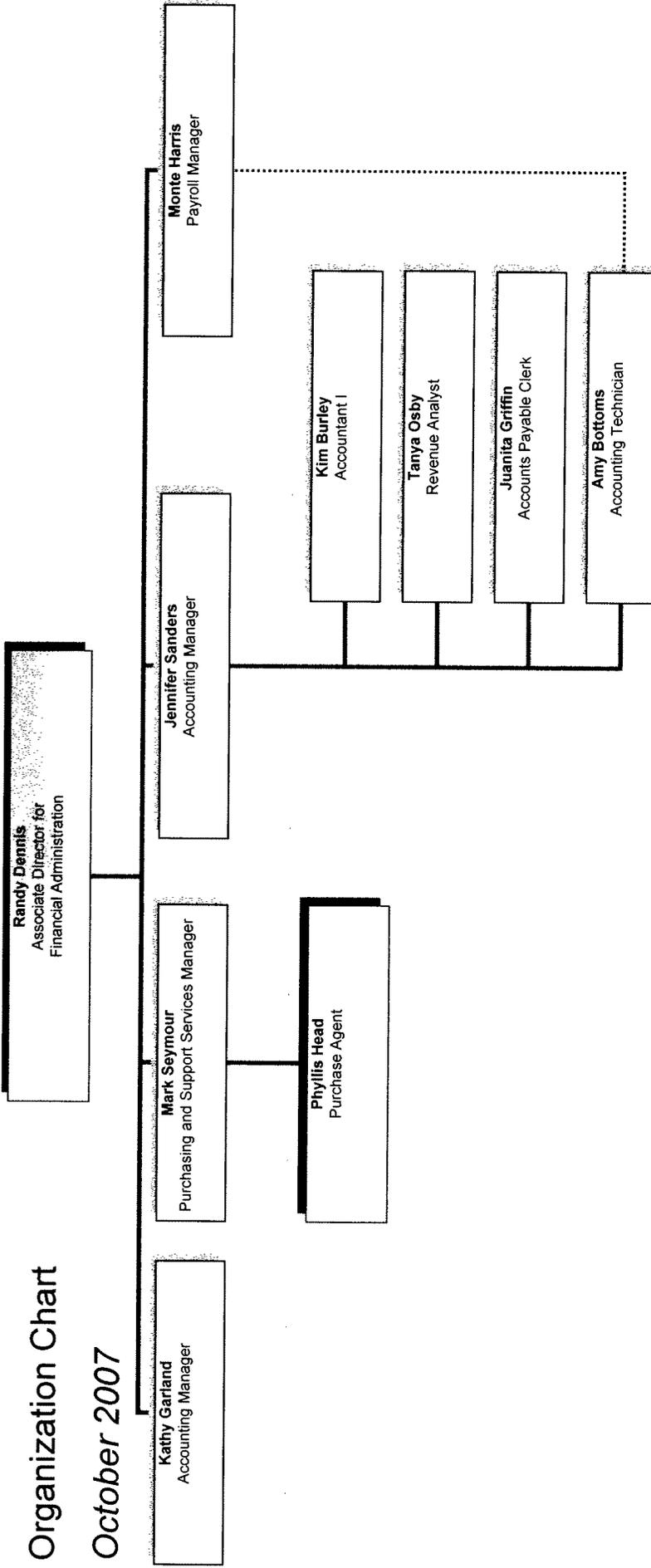
October 2007



AOC – Financial Administration

Organization Chart

October 2007



JUDICIAL BRANCH CONSOLIDATED STATE BUDGET

	FY2008 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS	FY2008 AMENDED	FY2008 TOTAL AMENDED APPROPRIATIONS	FY2009 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST	FY2008 ANNUALIZERS/ ADJUSTMENTS	FY2008 ENHANCEMENT REQUESTS	FY2008 TOTAL REQUESTED APPROPRIATIONS
Supreme Court	\$ 8,700,335	\$ 162,048	\$ 8,862,383	\$ 8,700,335	\$ 442,020	\$ 186,955	\$ 9,329,310
Court of Appeals	\$ 13,808,111	\$ -	\$ 13,808,111	\$ 12,751,212	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,751,212
Superior Courts	\$ 60,845,688	\$ 440,991	\$ 61,286,679	\$ 60,845,688	\$ 1,642,305	\$ 1,443,547	\$ 63,931,540
Council of Superior Court Clerks	258,000	-	258,000	258,000	-	-	258,000
Council of Superior Court Judges	1,079,165	-	1,079,165	1,079,165	352,062	129,014	1,560,241
Judicial Administrative Districts	2,378,508	-	2,378,508	2,378,508	14,106	63,976	2,456,590
Superior Court Judges	57,130,015	440,991	57,571,006	57,130,015	1,276,137	1,250,557	59,656,709
Prosecuting Attorneys	\$ 57,401,675	\$ -	\$ 57,401,675	\$ 57,401,675	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,401,675
District Attorneys	51,194,203	-	51,194,203	51,194,203	-	-	51,194,203
Prosecuting Attorneys' Council	6,207,472	-	6,207,472	6,207,472	-	-	6,207,472
Juvenile Courts	\$ 6,703,551	\$ -	\$ 6,703,551	\$ 6,703,551	\$ 17,837	\$ 25,250	\$ 6,746,638
Council of Juvenile Court Judges	1,701,125	-	1,701,125	1,701,125	17,837	25,250	1,744,212
Grants to Counties	5,002,426	-	5,002,426	5,002,426	-	-	5,002,426
Judicial Council	\$ 16,198,503	\$ -	\$ 16,198,503	\$ 15,983,503	\$ 247,504	\$ 1,699,536	\$ 17,930,543
Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution	144,643	-	144,643	144,643	9,284	250,000	403,927
ICJE	1,109,297	-	1,109,297	1,109,297	18,311	194,796	1,322,404
Judicial Council	13,841,964	-	13,841,964	13,626,964	219,909	1,452,339	15,299,212
JQC	302,599	-	302,599	302,599	-	(302,599)	-
Resource Center	800,000	-	800,000	800,000	-	105,000	905,000
Judicial Qualifications Commission	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,629	\$ 302,599	\$ 309,228
TOTALS FOR THE JUDICIAL BRANCH	\$ 163,657,863	\$ 603,039	\$ 164,260,902	\$ 162,385,964	\$ 2,356,295	\$ 3,657,887	\$ 168,400,146



STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0900

Sonny Perdue
GOVERNOR

August 31, 2007

The Honorable Leah Ward Sears
Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Georgia
State Judicial Building
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Chief Justice Sears:

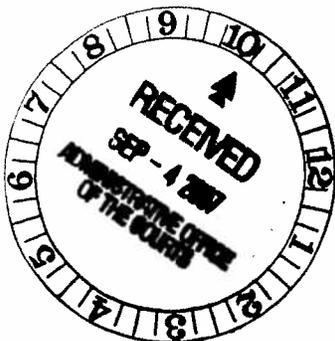
Thank you for your letter of July 16 regarding the preparation of your FY 2009 budget request. I understand the challenges of putting together a budget without the benefit of knowing the various annual costs to be included in the budget submission of the other state agencies. The request you have made is reasonable, and I believe that your needs can be accommodated.

As you know, the decisions around what we refer to as "statewide changes" are not finalized until late in the budget development process. Therefore, this information can not be communicated before the September 4 deadline as you have requested. Once these changes are finalized, however, the Office of Planning and Budget can communicate to your staff what my budget recommendation to the General Assembly will include. Once the changes have been communicated, an amendment to your budget request can be submitted which incorporates the statewide changes and serves as your official budget request. Please let this letter serve as my commitment to you that these changes will be incorporated in your budget as it is transmitted to the General Assembly for their subsequent review and approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sonny Perdue".

Sonny Perdue
Governor



**SUPREME COURT - TOTAL
BUDGET REQUEST
FY08 AMENDED
FY09 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Account	Description	FY2007		Amended Request	FY2009 Adjusted Base	Annualizers/ Adjustments Enhancements		FY2009 Budget Request
		Expenses	FY2008 Budget					
501000	Salaries	\$ 4,764,585	\$ 4,998,605	\$ -	\$ 4,998,605	\$ 175,321	\$ 56,000	\$ 5,229,926
502000	Annual Leave Payout	\$ 22,311	\$ -	\$ 51,269	\$ 51,269	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51,269
503000	Other Supplemental	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
513000	Temp Salaries	\$ 72,109	\$ 72,720	\$ -	\$ 72,720	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 72,720
514000	FICA	\$ 320,722	\$ 387,957	\$ 3,923	\$ 391,880	\$ 13,412	\$ 4,284	\$ 409,576
515000	Retirement	\$ 538,789	\$ 557,034	\$ 37,169	\$ 594,203	\$ 40,048	\$ 5,829	\$ 640,080
516000	Health Insurance	\$ 800,032	\$ 1,141,831	\$ 11,713	\$ 1,153,544	\$ 19,537	\$ 12,792	\$ 1,185,873
517000	Liability Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ 12,000
518000	Unemployment	\$ 4,818	\$ 4,818	\$ -	\$ 4,818	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,818
519000	Workers Comp	\$ 5,414	\$ 12,300	\$ -	\$ 12,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,300
520000	Merit System	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
611000	Postage	\$ 20,081	\$ 16,000	\$ -	\$ 16,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 21,000
612000	Motor Vehicle Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
613000	Printing & Publication	\$ 107,640	\$ 135,100	\$ -	\$ 135,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 135,100
614000	Supplies & Materials	\$ 81,410	\$ 58,118	\$ -	\$ 58,118	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 58,118
615000	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 21,375	\$ 18,600	\$ -	\$ 18,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,600
616000	Equipment not on Inventory	\$ 1,727	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500
617000	Water	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
618000	Energy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
619000	Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ 34,987	\$ 33,250	\$ -	\$ 33,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,250
620000	Insurance & Bonding	\$ 415	\$ 415	\$ -	\$ 415	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 415
622000	Freight	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
626000	Procurement Card Purchases	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
627000	Other Operating	\$ 265,649	\$ 258,250	\$ -	\$ 258,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 258,250
640000	Travel	\$ 64,676	\$ 58,500	\$ 10,000	\$ 68,500	\$ 11,356	\$ -	\$ 79,856
648000	Real Estate Rents	\$ 570,260	\$ 569,023	\$ 35,349	\$ 604,372	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 604,372
651000	Professional Services	\$ 255,471	\$ 220,725	\$ 12,625	\$ 233,350	\$ -	\$ 37,000	\$ 270,350
652000	Professional Services - Expenses	\$ 8,337	\$ 9,600	\$ -	\$ 9,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,600
653000	Other Contractual Services	\$ 258,000	\$ 260,000	\$ -	\$ 260,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 260,000
654000	Contracts - State	\$ 103,036	\$ 51,000	\$ -	\$ 51,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51,000
705000	Tuition and Scholarships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
707000	Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
762000	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
791000	Intergovernmental Transfers	\$ (262,118)	\$ (284,511)	\$ -	\$ (284,511)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (284,511)
814000	IT - Supplies and Materials	\$ 2,688	\$ 3,700	\$ -	\$ 3,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,700
815000	IT - Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 12,558	\$ 14,500	\$ -	\$ 14,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,500
816000	IT - Equipment Under \$5,000	\$ 7,814	\$ 9,800	\$ -	\$ 9,800	\$ -	\$ 26,250	\$ 36,050
819000	IT - Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
821000	Computer/Tele Equipment	\$ 1,513	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ 17,000
848000	IT - Real Estate Rents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,600	\$ 15,600
851000	IT - Professional/Technical Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
863000	IT - Software (Not Cap)	\$ 1,262	\$ 2,750	\$ -	\$ 2,750	\$ -	\$ 17,200	\$ 19,950
864000	Software Maintenance and Support	\$ 2,747	\$ 4,600	\$ -	\$ 4,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,600
871000	Voice/Data Comm Services - GTA	\$ 66,399	\$ 57,500	\$ -	\$ 57,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,500
872000	Voice/Data Comm Services - Not GTA	\$ 27,851	\$ 20,650	\$ -	\$ 20,650	\$ 3,298	\$ -	\$ 23,948
Total		\$ 8,182,560	\$ 8,700,335	\$ 162,048	\$ 8,862,383	\$ 279,972	\$ 186,955	\$ 9,329,310
State Funds		\$ 8,157,256	\$ 8,700,335	\$ 162,048	\$ 8,862,383	\$ 279,972	\$ 186,955	\$ 9,329,310
Other Funds		\$ 25,304	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total		\$ 8,182,560	\$ 8,700,335	\$ 162,048	\$ 8,862,383	\$ 279,972	\$ 186,955	\$ 9,329,310

Amended Details:

Increase in travel costs	\$ 10,000
Annual Leave Payout	\$ 104,074
Increase in Real Estate Ren	\$ 35,349
Increase in professional services	\$ 12,625

Annualizer/Adjustment Details:

Annualize 3% Raise	\$ 104,629
4% Raise as of Jan 1 2009	\$ 143,690
Liability Insurance	\$ 12,000
Increase in postage	\$ 5,000
New Judge travel reimb.	\$ 11,356

Enhancement Details:

Supreme Court Security Officer	\$ 78,905
Court Videos:	\$ 37,000
History of Court and Oral Arguments	
IT Upgrades:	\$ 71,050
Co-location site, disaster recovery	

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: Amended FY 2008

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 104,074

Title of Requested Change: Annual Leave Payout

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Annual Leave Payout for four (4) employees that are retiring and ERS contribution for forfeited and unused leave.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs	\$104,074			
Ongoing Costs				
Total Expenses	\$104,074			
State Funds	\$104,074			
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds	\$104,074			
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: Amended FY 2008

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 10,000

Title of Requested Change: Travel Reimbursement for Justice

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Pursuant to new statute allowing for reimbursement for Justices residing 50 miles or more from the Judicial Building, seek reimbursement for one (1) Justice who falls under this statutory reimbursement scheme; also seek differential in reimbursable mileage rate (.445 mile to .485 mile).

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs	\$10,000			
Ongoing Costs				
Total Expenses	\$10,000			
State Funds	\$10,000			
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds	\$10,000			
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: Amended FY 2008

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 11,394

Title of Requested Change: GBA Real Estate Rental Increase

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Increase in real estate rents not funded in the FY 08 budget.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs	\$11,394			
Ongoing Costs				
Total Expenses	\$11,394			
State Funds	\$11,394			
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds	\$11,394			
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: Amended FY 2008

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 24,000

Title of Requested Change: Convention Center rent increase

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Increase in rent paid to the Georgia International Convention Center to administer the Georgia Bar Exam.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs	\$24,000			
Ongoing Costs				
Total Expenses	\$24,000			
State Funds	\$24,000			
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds	\$24,000			
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: Amended FY 2008

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 12,625

Title of Requested Change: Professional Services

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Funds to cover increase in fees paid to Bar Exam monitors and professional consultants for Bar Exam applicants.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs	\$12,625			
Ongoing Costs				
Total Expenses	\$12,625			
State Funds	\$12,625			
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds	\$12,625			
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 12,000

Title of Requested Change: Liability Insurance

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Enhancement is to cover DOAS liability insurance.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs		\$12,000		
Total Expenses		\$12,000		
State Funds		\$12,000		
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$12,000		
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 5,000

Title of Requested Change: Postage Costs

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Enhancement is for the costs to send out case-related notices and to return large records to the various superior courts..

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs		\$5000		
Total Expenses		\$5000		
State Funds		\$5000		
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$5000		
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 11,356

Title of Requested Change: Travel Reimbursement for Justice residing 50 miles from Judicial Building

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Pursuant to new statute allowing for reimbursement for Justice residing 50 miles or more from the Judicial Building

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs		\$11,356		
Total Expenses		\$11,356		
State Funds		\$11,356		
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$11,356		
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 3,298

Title of Requested Change: Contract renewals for Lexis-Nexis and Westlaw

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Enhancement is for the increased cost of contract renewals for Lexis-Nexis and Westlaw.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs		\$3,298		
Total Expenses		\$3,298		
State Funds		\$3,298		
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$3,298		
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 78,905

Title of Requested Change: Supreme Court Security Officer

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Enhancement is for salary and fringe benefits to hire a new security officer dedicated to create a more secure Court Environment. The Supreme Court strives to maintain open access to the courtroom while seeking to strengthen security for the Justices, visitors, and court personnel. The Court conducts mandatory argument in all cases involving imposition of the death penalty, cases where certiorari has been granted, and where oral argument is requested by any party. Accordingly, the Supreme Court hears approximately 25-30 oral arguments each month. The security officer will serve as the courtroom bailiff during these arguments - many of which involve high-profile and sometimes volatile issues that draw increasingly more spectators and news outlets to the courtroom. The security officer will also coordinate with Capitol Police to monitor access to the Supreme Court in this challenging time of extreme security breaches at all levels of the judiciary and will serve as security when the Court travels to various Court-related appearances – such as off-site oral arguments.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs		\$78,905		
Total Expenses		\$78,905		
State Funds		\$78,905		
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$78,905		
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$37,000

Title of Requested Change: Supreme Court Videos

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Enhancement is for the replacement of an outdated video shown to various visitors (including many dignitaries). The request is also for the creation of a video that will be pertinent to school groups. Finally, the requested funds are for the creation of a video to present to attorneys and parties prior to oral arguments.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs		\$37,000		
Total Expenses		\$37,000		
State Funds		\$37,000		
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$37,000		
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Supreme Court of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 71,050

Title of Requested Change: Creation of disaster recovery co-location site, upgrades in computer equipment

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Enhancement will cover costs for disaster recovery co-location site and upgrades in equipment as well as upgrade in computer hardware connection in Supreme Court courtroom. This expense will be shared with the Court of Appeals.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs		\$71,050		
Total Expenses		\$71,050		
State Funds		\$71,050		
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$71,050		
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

Superior Courts Budget Request

FY 08 Amended Budget

Council of Superior Court Clerks	No information received
Judicial Administrative Districts	No Amended Request
Council of Superior Court Judges	No Amended Request
Superior Court Judges	Amended Request \$440,991

Increases in employer contributions for county courts: juvenile court judges, state court judges, and county solicitors general.

FY 09 General Appropriations Request

Council of Superior Court Clerks **HB 95 funding: \$258,000**

The Council of Superior Court Clerks has not provided any information on their budget request. They have indicated that they intend to submit their request separately.

Total State Funding FY 2009:

Judicial Administrative Districts **HB 95 funding: \$2,378,508**

Annualizers and Adjustments:

Reduction of one-time funding for security training:	(\$25,000)
Annualization of 3% COLA effective January 1, 2008:	\$28,047
Rent increases for three offices: (See attached explanation)	\$11,059

Requests:

Additional funding for security training: (2 nd year--see attached explanation)	\$25,000
Funding for 4% employee COLA effective January 1, 2009	\$38,976

Total State Funding FY 2009: **\$2,456,590**

Superior Court Judges

HB 95 funding: \$57,130,015

FY 08 increased employer retirement contributions for state court judges,
juvenile court judges, and county solicitors general \$440,991

Total State Funding FY 2008 Amended: \$57,571,006

Annualizers and Adjustments:

Reduction of one-time funding for Fulton Business Court (\$100,000)
Reduction of one-time funding for equipment & furniture (\$75,000)
Reduction of one-time funding for FY 08 new judgeships (furn/equip) (\$75,000)
Annualize funding for three new judgeships starting Jan. 1, 2008 \$421,722
Annualize funding for 3% COLA (judges & staff) effective 1/1/08 \$757,181
Transfer contract funds for 5 contract employees to council positions (\$352,226)
(See attached explanation)

Annualize increases and adjustments in health insurance, retirement,
FICA, county paid secretaries and law assistants and other costs \$103,469

Increase in FY 09 employer contributions for juvenile judges,
state court judges, and county solicitors general. \$155,000

Requests:

Funding for 4% COLA for judges and staff, effective 1/1/09 \$1,070,557

Increase in travel funds for mileage reimbursement rate and judges
travel costs \$180,000

Subtotal \$2,085,703

Total State Funding FY 2009: \$59,656,709

Council of Superior Court Judges

HB 95 funding: \$1,079,165

Annualizers and Adjustments:

Reduction of one-time funding for temporary labor	(\$27,200)
Reduction for elimination of Sentence Review Panel (Includes two positions—see attached explanation)	(\$54,208)
Annualize 3% COLA effective January 1, 2008	\$13,165
Annualize step increases for council staff effective July 1, 2007	\$39,453
Rent increase for council office (see attached explanation)	\$28,626
Transfer 5 contract employees to council positions (See attached explanation)	\$352,226

Requests:

Funding for 4% COLA for staff effective January 1, 2009	\$25,926
Increase council salary budget to provide future step increases and allow flexibility in new hire salaries	\$50,725
Funding for permanent increases in temporary labor funds	\$15,000
Funding for paralegal position (retain one long-time SRP staff) (See attached explanation)	\$37,363

Subtotal \$481,076

Total State Funding FY 2009: \$1,560,241

Superior Courts
Explanations for Budget Adjustments and Requested Increases

FY 08 Amended Request

Superior Court Judges

Increase Funding for County Courts Retirement Fund \$440,991

Code Sections 47-23-81 and 47-23-82 provide for state funded employer contributions for state court judges, solicitors general, and juvenile court judges. Recent increases in payments to this fund have been absorbed by the judges' budget, but recent budget cuts will no longer allow this. Current estimates from the state retirement system indicate more than 10% increases in the past two years alone.

FY 09 General Appropriations Request

Judicial Administrative Districts

Adjustment to Real Estate Rent \$11,059

Two JAD central offices were relocated during FY 07 to more centralized locations to provide for more efficient delivery of services. Another district incurred rent increase under a lease agreement. Both actions occurred after the FY 08 budget request was submitted. This resulted in a shortfall across the 10 JADs. This request is for funds to restore operating funds to the districts that had to be reallocated to rents during FY2008.

Request for Additional Funding for Court Security Training \$25,000

In FY 2008 the General Assembly appropriated \$25,000 to the JADs to be used to develop a training program in security measures for court personnel charged with ensuring the safety of court facilities and occupants. The JADs negotiated with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick and received approval to allow state and county personnel to participate in its Physical Security Training Program. This is an advanced training program that focuses on access control, risk assessment, bombs and explosives, security design, contingency planning, workplace violence, and other topics. The FY 2008 appropriation will covers costs associated with training select individuals who will, upon completion of the seminar, be qualified to train other individuals throughout the state. The FY 2009 request is for funds to cover the expense of these trainers in traveling to the various counties of Georgia to conduct on-site training sessions for the local personnel.

Superior Court Judges

Transfer of funds for contract employees to Council positions (\$352,226)

For many years, the Department of Administrative Services has provided five staff positions for the Fiscal Office of the Superior Courts. These positions include an accounting manager, accountant, accountant paraprofessional, payroll paraprofessional, and asset manager. These five employees were located in the Council Office but were officially DOAS employees. One position, the accounting manager, was vacated in 2007 and the new hire was effected through contract with the council office, making it a council position. This transfer will move all the contract funds for these five positions from the judges' budget to the council office budget and employ these staff as council positions. There is no net increase in the costs of moving these employees from contracts to council positions.

Council of Superior Court Judges

Reduction of costs for Sentence Review Panel	(\$54,208)
Request for Additional Paralegal Position	\$37,363

HB 197 of the 2007 legislative session abolished the Sentence Review Panel and requires all activities, including the employment of staff, to be concluded by January 1, 2009. This reduction reflects one half-year of the costs of the panel, including the two full-time positions assigned to the panel. Full-year cost reduction will be annualized in the FY 2010 budget. Because one of the two staff has worked for Superior Courts for a number of years, and has been an exceptional employee, the Council requests that she be retained to provide much needed paralegal assistance to the two attorneys in the Council Office. The other employee will be terminated and the position permanently cut.

Adjustment in Real Estate Rents	\$28,626
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The General Assembly provided an additional administrative assistant position to the Council office in the 2006 legislative session. Although the position was critically needed, it was necessary to delay the hiring until another vacancy created space to locate the new employee. Similar space problems have occurred throughout the past two years, as desks for employees and interns were crowded into hallways and workrooms due to lack of space. Lack of storage space results in the stacking of supplies and files in hallways, the conference room, and the reception area, creating access problems and fire evacuation concerns. In early 2007, the State Properties Commission notified the Council Office that additional space could be provided with a relocation of the Council Office to a larger space on the same floor of the same building. This relocation is scheduled to take place in October 2007. Combined with an increase in GBA rental rates, the resulting increase in rental costs totals \$28,626. (Of this amount, \$2,180 represents the rate increase, which went into effect July 1, 2007, without legislative funding provided. The previous increase which went into effect July 1, 2006, was funded in the FY08 budget.)

Transfer of Contract Employees to Council Staff Positions	\$352,226
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See information under Superior Court Judges. The addition of these costs to the Council budget matches the corresponding reduction in the Judges' budget.

Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia
FY 2008 Amended and FY 2009
Budget Request

HB 95 \$1,701,125

Total State Funding FY 2008 Amended: \$1,701,125

HB 95 \$1,701,125

Annualizers and adjustments:

Funding for 3% employee raise effective January 1, 2008 \$17,837

Requests:

Funding for 4% employee raise effective January 1, 2009 \$25,250

Total State Funding FY 2009: \$1,744,212

Grants to Counties for Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia**
FY 2008 Amended and FY 2009
Budget Request

HB 95	\$5,002,426
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Total State Funding FY 2008 Amended:	\$5,002,426
HB 95	\$5,002,426
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Total State Funding FY 2009:	\$5,002,426

**** Pursuant to code section 15-11-18**

TOTAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL SECTION
 BUDGET REQUEST
 FY08 AMENDED
 FY09 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS

Program	FY2007 Expenses	FY2008 Budget	Amended Request	FY2009 Adjusted Base	Annualizers/ Adjustments	Enhancements	FY2009 Budget Request
Office of Dispute Resolution	\$ 365,383	\$ 144,643	\$ -	\$ 144,643	\$ 9,284	\$ 250,000	\$ 403,927
Institute for Continuing Judicial Education	\$ 1,126,382	\$ 1,109,297	\$ -	\$ 1,109,297	\$ 18,311	\$ 194,796	\$ 1,322,404
Judicial Qualifications Commission	\$ 265,109	\$ 302,599	\$ -	Budget to be separate from Judicial Council			\$ -
Appellate Resource Center	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ 105,000	\$ 905,000
Judicial Council	\$ 11,098,385	\$ 13,841,964	\$ -	\$ 13,626,964	\$ 219,909	\$ 1,452,339	\$ 15,299,211
Total	\$ 13,655,259	\$ 16,198,503	\$ -	\$ 15,680,904	\$ 247,504	\$ 2,002,135	\$ 17,930,542

**TOTAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL (SECTION 6 IN HB95)
BUDGET REQUEST
FY08 AMENDED
FY09 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Account	Description	FY2007		Amended Request	FY2009 Adjusted Base	Annualizers/ Enhancements		FY2009 Budget Request
		Expenses	FY2008 Budget			Adjustments	Enhancements	
501000	Salaries	\$ 3,925,436	\$ 4,757,980	\$ -	\$ 4,823,842	\$ 181,390	\$ 394,795	\$ 5,200,026
502000	Annual Leave Payout	\$ 44,515	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
513000	Temp Salaries	\$ 145,351	\$ 69,224	\$ -	\$ 46,000	\$ -	\$ 43,646	\$ 89,646
514000	FICA	\$ 289,023	\$ 358,609	\$ -	\$ 346,570	\$ 13,877	\$ 34,318	\$ 394,785
515000	Retirement	\$ 408,477	\$ 488,074	\$ -	\$ 474,110	\$ 18,883	\$ 43,263	\$ 536,256
516000	Health Insurance	\$ 663,499	\$ 1,060,834	\$ -	\$ 1,030,192	\$ 33,355	\$ 94,934	\$ 1,158,481
518000	Unemployment	\$ 3,700	\$ 25,264	\$ -	\$ 25,210	\$ -	\$ 608	\$ 25,817
519000	Workers Comp	\$ 3,678	\$ 3,878	\$ -	\$ 3,830	\$ -	\$ 2,440	\$ 6,270
520000	Merit System	\$ 19,551	\$ 11,214	\$ -	\$ 11,067	\$ -	\$ 1,176	\$ 12,243
611000	Postage	\$ 30,438	\$ 30,642	\$ -	\$ 26,642	\$ -	\$ 20,700	\$ 47,342
612000	Motor Vehicle Expense	\$ 11,775	\$ 20,499	\$ -	\$ 20,499	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 21,499
613000	Printing & Publication	\$ 282,413	\$ 253,710	\$ -	\$ 251,710	\$ -	\$ 71,940	\$ 323,650
614000	Supplies & Materials	\$ 172,453	\$ 242,792	\$ -	\$ 240,792	\$ -	\$ 48,011	\$ 288,803
615000	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 49,921	\$ 38,513	\$ -	\$ 37,013	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 38,513
616000	Equipment not on Inventory	\$ 4,664	\$ 3,618	\$ -	\$ 3,618	\$ -	\$ 2,099	\$ 5,717
618000	Energy	\$ 6,154	\$ 7,250	\$ -	\$ 4,650	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,650
619000	Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ 676,947	\$ 241,665	\$ -	\$ 237,165	\$ -	\$ 61,000	\$ 298,165
620000	Insurance & Bonding	\$ 2,157	\$ 106,749	\$ -	\$ 106,743	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 106,743
622000	Freight	\$ 15,207	\$ 15,268	\$ -	\$ 15,268	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,268
626000	Procurement Card Purchases	\$ 56,586	\$ 62,222	\$ -	\$ 59,722	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 64,722
627000	Other Operating	\$ 214,977	\$ 160,450	\$ -	\$ 158,450	\$ -	\$ 34,130	\$ 192,580
640000	Travel	\$ 168,268	\$ 321,424	\$ -	\$ 318,424	\$ -	\$ 32,852	\$ 351,276
648000	Real Estate Rents	\$ 333,755	\$ 551,622	\$ -	\$ 537,582	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ 549,582
651000	Professional Services	\$ 280,634	\$ 94,196	\$ -	\$ 56,000	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ 64,000
652000	Professional Services - Expenses	\$ 392,437	\$ 100,912	\$ -	\$ 97,412	\$ -	\$ 45,160	\$ 142,572
653000	Other Contractual Services	\$ 3,369,791	\$ 3,935,934	\$ -	\$ 3,935,934	\$ -	\$ 180,000	\$ 3,900,934
654000	Contracts - State	\$ 468,363	\$ 19,367	\$ -	\$ 19,367	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,367
705000	Tuition and Scholarships	\$ 135,465	\$ 625,952	\$ -	\$ 625,952	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 625,952
707000	Grants	\$ 924,141	\$ 2,048,800	\$ -	\$ 2,048,800	\$ -	\$ 545,288	\$ 2,594,088
762000	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
791000	Intergovernmental Transfers	\$ 20,844	\$ 6	\$ -	\$ 6	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6
814000	IT - Supplies and Materials	\$ 73,940	\$ 32,752	\$ -	\$ 32,752	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ 35,252
815000	IT - Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 289	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500
816000	IT - Equipment Under \$5,000	\$ 115,544	\$ 16,314	\$ -	\$ 16,314	\$ -	\$ 11,650	\$ 27,964
819000	IT - Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ 148	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
821000	IT - Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ 171,789	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
823000	IT - Software (Cap)	\$ 58,836	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000
848000	IT - Real Estate Rents	\$ 25,043	\$ 15,864	\$ -	\$ 15,864	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,864
851000	IT - Professional/Technical Services	\$ 59,800	\$ 72,500	\$ -	\$ 72,500	\$ -	\$ 300,923	\$ 373,423
863000	IT - Software (Not Cap)	\$ 39,926	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ 750	\$ 4,750
864000	Software Maintenance and Support	\$ 328,461	\$ 335,840	\$ -	\$ 335,840	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 335,840
871000	Voice/Data Comm Services - GTA	\$ 106,849	\$ 118,139	\$ -	\$ 112,139	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 114,139
872000	Voice/Data Comm Services - Not GTA	\$ 46,238	\$ 70,426	\$ -	\$ 67,926	\$ -	\$ 452	\$ 68,378
	Adjustment from One Time Funds (Contracts)				\$ (215,000)			
Total		\$14,147,484	\$ 16,324,003	\$ -	\$15,806,404	\$ 247,504	\$ 2,002,135	\$ 18,056,042
State Funds		\$13,655,259	\$ 16,198,503	\$ -	\$15,680,904	\$ 247,504	\$ 2,002,135	\$ 17,930,542
Other Funds		\$ 492,225	\$ 125,500	\$ -	\$ 125,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125,500
Total		\$14,147,484	\$ 16,324,003	\$ -	\$15,806,404	\$ 247,504	\$ 2,002,135	\$ 18,056,042

Supplemental Details:

Annualizer/Adjustment Details:

Annualizer for FY08 Increase	\$ 114,898
4% raise for FY09	\$ 132,606

Enhancement Details:

Various Requests	\$ 2,002,135
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OFFICE OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION
BUDGET REQUEST
FY08 AMENDED
FY09 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS

Account	Description	FY2007		Amended Request	FY2008 Adjusted Base	Annualizers/ Enhancements		FY2009 Budget Request
		Expenses	FY2008 Budget			Adjustments	Enhancements	
501000	Salaries	\$ 210,712	\$ 92,545	\$ -	\$ 92,545	\$ 6,589	\$ 119,599	\$ 218,733
502000	Annual Leave Payout	\$ 13,960	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
513000	Temp Salaries	\$ 11,762	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
514000	FICA	\$ 16,854	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 504	\$ 9,532	\$ 10,038
515000	Retirement	\$ 21,830	\$ 7,080	\$ -	\$ 7,080	\$ 686	\$ 12,450	\$ 20,216
516000	Health Insurance	\$ 37,549	\$ 9,634	\$ -	\$ 9,634	\$ 1,505	\$ 27,320	\$ 38,459
518000	Unemployment	\$ -	\$ 21,140	\$ -	\$ 21,140	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,140
519000	Workers Comp	\$ 735	\$ 162	\$ -	\$ 162	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 162
520000	Merit System	\$ 588	\$ 144	\$ -	\$ 144	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 144
611000	Postage	\$ 2,294	\$ 441	\$ -	\$ 441	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,441
612000	Motor Vehicle Expense	\$ -	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,750
613000	Printing & Publication	\$ 5,252	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
614000	Supplies & Materials	\$ 4,142	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000
615000	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 2,105	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,500
616000	Equipment not on Inventory	\$ 2,794	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 2,099	\$ 3,099
618000	Energy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
619000	Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ 9,476	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
620000	Insurance & Bonding	\$ -	\$ 1,100	\$ -	\$ 1,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,100
622000	Freight	\$ (34)	\$ 18	\$ -	\$ 18	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18
626000	Procurement Card Purchases	\$ 6,390	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
627000	Other Operating	\$ 27,007	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ 24,000	\$ 25,500
640000	Travel	\$ 6,624	\$ 629	\$ -	\$ 629	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,629
648000	Real Estate Rents	\$ 14,694	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ 14,000
651000	Professional Services	\$ 10,241	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ 11,500
652000	Professional Services - Expenses	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 250
653000	Other Contractual Services	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
654000	Contracts - State	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
705000	Tuition and Scholarships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
707000	Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
762000	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
791000	Intergovernmental Transfers	\$ 1,949	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
814000	IT - Supplies and Materials	\$ 2,607	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
815000	IT - Repairs and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500
816000	IT - Equipment Under \$5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
819000	IT - Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
821000	Comp/Telecom Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
823000	IT - Software (Cap)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
848000	IT - Real Estate Rents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
851000	IT - Professional/Technical Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
863000	IT - Software (Not Cap)	\$ 1,455	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750	\$ 750
864000	Software Maintenance and Support	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
871000	Voice/Data Comm Services - GTA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
872000	Voice/Data Comm Services - Not GTA	\$ 854	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500
Total		\$ 432,839	\$ 144,643	\$ -	\$ 144,643	\$ 9,284	\$ 250,000	\$ 403,927
State Funds		\$ 365,383	\$ 144,643	\$ -	\$ 144,643	\$ 9,284	\$ 250,000	\$ 403,927
Other Funds		\$ 67,456	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total		\$ 432,839	\$ 144,643	\$ -	\$ 144,643	\$ 9,284	\$ 250,000	\$ 403,927

Supplemental Details:

Annualizer/Adjustment Details:

Annualizer for FY08	
Increase	\$ 3,912
4% raise for FY09	\$ 5,372

Enhancement Details:

Recover funding	\$ 250,000
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Employees

Morokuma, Shinji	Director
Davenport, Nathelia	Deputy Director
Franklin, Ashley	Administrative Coordinator

INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING JUDICIAL EDUCATION
BUDGET REQUEST
FY08 AMENDED
FY09 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS

Account	Description	FY2007		Amended Request	FY2009 Adjusted Base	Annualizers/ Enhancements		FY2009 Budget Request
		Expenses	FY2008 Budget			Adjustments	Enhancements	
501000	Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,995	\$ 35,000	\$ 47,995
502000	Annual Leave Payout	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
513000	Temp Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
514000	FICA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 995	\$ 2,678	\$ 3,673
515000	Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,353	\$ 3,644	\$ 4,996
516000	Health Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,968	\$ 7,995	\$ 10,963
518000	Unemployment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76	\$ 76
519000	Workers Comp	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 305	\$ 305
520000	Merit System	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 147	\$ 147
611000	Postage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,500	\$ 17,500
612000	Motor Vehicle Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
613000	Printing & Publication	\$ 117,995	\$ 110,125	\$ -	\$ 110,125	\$ -	\$ 21,000	\$ 131,125
614000	Supplies & Materials	\$ 1,983	\$ 115,125	\$ -	\$ 115,125	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ 140,125
615000	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ -	\$ 21,263	\$ -	\$ 21,263	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,263
616000	Equipment not on Inventory	\$ -	\$ 118	\$ -	\$ 118	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 118
618000	Energy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
619000	Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ 328,176	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
620000	Insurance & Bonding	\$ -	\$ 99,829	\$ -	\$ 99,829	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 99,829
622000	Freight	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
626000	Procurement Card Purchases	\$ 4,170	\$ 17,522	\$ -	\$ 17,522	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,522
627000	Other Operating	\$ 26,894	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500
640000	Travel	\$ 2,187	\$ 127,795	\$ -	\$ 127,795	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 137,795
648000	Real Estate Rents	\$ -	\$ 72,024	\$ -	\$ 72,024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 72,024
651000	Professional Services	\$ 117,224	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
652000	Professional Services - Expenses	\$ 285,109	\$ 2,020	\$ -	\$ 2,020	\$ -	\$ 42,500	\$ 44,520
653000	Other Contractual Services	\$ -	\$ 27,020	\$ -	\$ 27,020	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,020
654000	Contracts - State	\$ 459,043	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
705000	Tuition and Scholarships	\$ 1,965	\$ 500,413	\$ -	\$ 500,413	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,413
707000	Grants	\$ -	\$ 1,021	\$ -	\$ 1,021	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,021
762000	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
791000	Intergovernmental Transfers	\$ 28,775	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
814000	IT - Supplies and Materials	\$ 286	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
815000	IT - Repairs and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
816000	IT - Equipment Under \$5,000	\$ 6,214	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
819000	IT - Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
821000	Comp/Telecom Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
823000	IT - Software (Cap)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
848000	IT - Real Estate Rents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
851000	IT - Professional/Technical Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
863000	IT - Software (Not Cap)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
864000	Software Maintenance and Support	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
871000	Voice/Data Comm Services - GTA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
872000	Voice/Data Comm Services - Not GTA	\$ 612	\$ 15,022	\$ -	\$ 15,022	\$ -	\$ 452	\$ 15,474
Total		\$ 1,380,632	\$ 1,109,297	\$ -	\$ 1,109,297	\$ 18,311	\$ 194,796	\$ 1,322,404
State Funds		\$ 1,126,382	\$ 1,109,297	\$ -	\$ 1,109,297	\$ 18,311	\$ 194,796	\$ 1,322,404
Other Funds		\$ 254,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total		\$ 1,380,632	\$ 1,109,297	\$ -	\$ 1,109,297	\$ 18,311	\$ 194,796	\$ 1,322,404

Supplemental Details:

Annualizer/Adjustment Details:

Cost of living adjustments \$ 18,311

Enhancement Details:

Training funds for new judges \$ 17,500

**JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION
BUDGET REQUEST
FY08 AMENDED
FY09 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Account	Description	FY2007		Amended Request	FY2008 Adjusted Base	Annualizers/ Enhancements		FY2009 Budget Request
		Expenses	FY2008 Budget			Adjustments	Enhancements	
501000	Salaries	\$ 78,615	\$ 134,139	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
502000	Annual Leave Payout	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
513000	Temp Salaries	\$ 38,325	\$ 23,224	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
514000	FICA	\$ 6,095	\$ 12,039	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
515000	Retirement	\$ 8,184	\$ 13,964	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
516000	Health Insurance	\$ 13,139	\$ 30,642	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
518000	Unemployment	\$ 54	\$ 54	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
519000	Workers Comp	\$ 39	\$ 48	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
520000	Merit System	\$ 147	\$ 147	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
611000	Postage	\$ 3,508	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
612000	Motor Vehicle Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
613000	Printing & Publication	\$ 1,764	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
614000	Supplies & Materials	\$ 781	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
615000	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 1,448	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
616000	Equipment not on Inventory	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
618000	Energy	\$ 2,470	\$ 2,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
619000	Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
620000	Insurance & Bonding	\$ -	\$ 6	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
622000	Freight	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
626000	Procurement Card Purchases	\$ 1,985	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
627000	Other Operating	\$ 1,828	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
640000	Travel	\$ 1,590	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
648000	Real Estate Rents	\$ 14,040	\$ 14,040	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
651000	Professional Services	\$ 76,575	\$ 38,196	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
652000	Expenses	\$ 3,229	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
653000	Other Contractual Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
654000	Contracts - State	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
705000	Tuition and Scholarships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
707000	Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
762000	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
791000	Intergovernmental Transfers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
814000	IT - Supplies and Materials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
815000	IT - Repairs and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
816000	IT - Equipment Under \$5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
819000	IT - Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
821000	Comp/Telecom Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
823000	IT - Software (Cap)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
848000	IT - Real Estate Rents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
851000	IT - Professional/Technical Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
863000	IT - Software (Not Cap)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
864000	Software Maintenance and Support	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
871000	Voice/Data Comm Services - GTA	\$ 5,210	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
872000	Voice/Data Comm Services - Not GTA	\$ 1,986	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total		\$ 265,109	\$ 302,599	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State Funds		\$ 265,109	\$ 302,599	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Funds		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total		\$ 265,109	\$ 302,599	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Supplemental Details:

Annualizer/Adjustment Details:

\$ -
\$ -

Enhancement Details:

\$ -

Employees
Custer, Cheryl Director
Moon, Tara Administrative Assistant

**APPELLATE RESOURCE CENTER
BUDGET REQUEST
FY08 AMENDED
FY09 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Account	Description	FY2007 Expenses	FY2008 Budget	Amended Request	FY2009 Adjusted Base	Annualizers/ Adjustments	Enhancements	FY2009 Budget Request
501000	Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
502000	Annual Leave Payout	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
513000	Temp Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
514000	FICA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
515000	Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
516000	Health Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
518000	Unemployment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
519000	Workers Comp	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
520000	Merit System	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
611000	Postage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
612000	Motor Vehicle Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
613000	Printing & Publication	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
614000	Supplies & Materials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
615000	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
616000	Equipment not on Inventory	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
618000	Energy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
619000	Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
620000	Insurance & Bonding	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
622000	Freight	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
626000	Procurement Card Purchases	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
627000	Other Operating	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
640000	Travel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
648000	Real Estate Rents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
651000	Professional Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
652000	Professional Services - Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
653000	Other Contractual Services	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ 105,000	\$ 905,000
654000	Contracts - State	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
707000	Tuition and Scholarships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
707000	Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
762000	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
791000	Intergovernmental Transfers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
814000	IT - Supplies and Materials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
815000	IT - Repairs and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
816000	IT - Equipment Under \$5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
819000	IT - Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
821000	Comp/Telecom Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
823000	IT - Software (Cap)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
848000	IT - Real Estate Rents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
851000	IT - Professional/Technical Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
863000	IT - Software (Not Cap)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
864000	Software Maintenance and Support	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
871000	Voice/Data Comm Services - GTA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
872000	Voice/Data Comm Services - Not GTA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total		\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ 105,000	\$ 905,000
State Funds		\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ 105,000	\$ 905,000
Other Funds		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total		\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ 105,000	\$ 905,000

Supplemental Details:

Annualizer/Adjustment Details:

\$ -

Enhancement Details:

Staffing and operational costs \$ 105,000

TOTAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL (PROGRAM)
BUDGET REQUEST
FY08 AMENDED
FY09 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS

Program	FY2007 Expenses	FY2008 Budget	Amended Request	FY2009 Adjusted Base	Annualizers/ Adjustments	Enhancements	FY2009 Budget Request
Legal Services to Victims of Domestic Violence	\$ 2,095,081	\$ 2,189,360	\$ -	\$ 2,189,360	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,189,360
Georgia Law School Consortium	\$ 180,939	\$ 180,939	\$ -	\$ 180,939	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 180,939
Council of Municipal Court Judges	\$ 18,543	\$ 19,534	\$ -	\$ 19,534	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,534
Council of Magistrate Court Judges	\$ 167,488	\$ 193,689	\$ -	\$ 193,689	\$ 3,260	\$ 17,500	\$ 214,449
Council of Probate Court Judges	\$ 60,004	\$ 145,138	\$ -	\$ 145,138	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 145,138
Council of State Court Judges	\$ 272,860	\$ 287,334	\$ -	\$ 272,334	\$ -	\$ 91,500	\$ 363,834
Georgia Courts Automation Commission	\$ 348,650	\$ 666,327	\$ -	\$ 666,327	\$ 4,233	\$ 300,923	\$ 971,484
Child Support Guidelines Commission	\$ 121,206	\$ 422,970	\$ -	\$ 222,970	\$ 3,426	\$ -	\$ 226,396
Access and Fairness in the Courts Committee	\$ 115,759	\$ 120,795	\$ -	\$ 120,795	\$ 2,098	\$ -	\$ 122,892
Georgia Council of Court Administrators	\$ 5,107	\$ 4,884	\$ -	\$ 4,884	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,884
Judicial Council Standing Committee on Drug Courts	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 2,150,000	\$ -	\$ 2,150,000	\$ -	\$ 595,288	\$ 2,745,288
County and Private Probation Advisory Council	\$ 70,007	\$ 298,413	\$ -	\$ 298,413	\$ 10,110	\$ -	\$ 308,523
Administrative Office of the Courts	\$ 6,642,740	\$ 7,162,581	\$ -	\$ 7,162,581	\$ 196,780	\$ 447,128	\$ 7,806,490
Total	\$ 11,098,385	\$ 13,841,963	\$ -	\$ 13,826,963	\$ 219,908	\$ 1,452,339	\$ 15,299,211

**JUDICIAL COUNCIL PROGRAM TOTAL
BUDGET REQUEST
FY08 AMENDED
FY09 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Account	Description	FY2006 Expenses	FY2007 Budget	Amended Request	FY2008 Adjusted Base	Annualizers/ Adjustments	Enhancements	FY2008 Budget Request
501000	Salaries	\$ 3,636,110	\$ 4,531,297	\$ -	\$ 4,531,297	\$ 161,806	\$ 240,196	\$ 4,933,298
502000	Annual Leave Payout	\$ 30,556	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
513000	Temp Salaries	\$ 95,264	\$ 46,000	\$ -	\$ 46,000	\$ -	\$ 38,646	\$ 84,646
514000	FICA	\$ 266,074	\$ 346,570	\$ -	\$ 346,570	\$ 12,378	\$ 22,108	\$ 381,057
515000	Retirement	\$ 378,464	\$ 467,030	\$ -	\$ 467,030	\$ 16,844	\$ 27,170	\$ 511,044
516000	Health Insurance	\$ 612,810	\$ 1,020,558	\$ -	\$ 1,020,558	\$ 28,881	\$ 59,619	\$ 1,109,058
518000	Unemployment	\$ 3,646	\$ 4,070	\$ -	\$ 4,070	\$ -	\$ 532	\$ 4,601
519000	Workers Comp	\$ 2,905	\$ 3,668	\$ -	\$ 3,668	\$ -	\$ 2,135	\$ 5,803
520000	Merit System	\$ 18,816	\$ 10,923	\$ -	\$ 10,923	\$ -	\$ 1,029	\$ 11,952
611000	Postage	\$ 24,636	\$ 26,201	\$ -	\$ 26,201	\$ -	\$ 1,200	\$ 27,401
612000	Motor Vehicle Expense	\$ 11,775	\$ 19,749	\$ -	\$ 19,749	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,749
613000	Printing & Publication	\$ 157,403	\$ 141,585	\$ -	\$ 141,585	\$ -	\$ 49,940	\$ 191,525
614000	Supplies & Materials	\$ 165,548	\$ 124,667	\$ -	\$ 124,667	\$ -	\$ 22,011	\$ 146,678
615000	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 46,370	\$ 14,750	\$ -	\$ 14,750	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,750
616000	Equipment not on Inventory	\$ 1,870	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500
618000	Energy	\$ 3,684	\$ 4,650	\$ -	\$ 4,650	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,650
619000	Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ 335,196	\$ 237,165	\$ -	\$ 237,165	\$ -	\$ 33,000	\$ 270,165
620000	Insurance & Bonding	\$ 2,157	\$ 5,814	\$ -	\$ 5,814	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,814
622000	Freight	\$ 15,241	\$ 15,250	\$ -	\$ 15,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,250
626000	Procurement Card Purchases	\$ 44,040	\$ 42,200	\$ -	\$ 42,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,200
627000	Other Operating	\$ 159,248	\$ 156,950	\$ -	\$ 156,950	\$ -	\$ 3,630	\$ 160,580
640000	Travel	\$ 157,867	\$ 190,000	\$ -	\$ 190,000	\$ -	\$ 17,852	\$ 207,852
648000	Real Estate Rents	\$ 305,022	\$ 463,558	\$ -	\$ 463,558	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 463,558
651000	Professional Services	\$ 76,594	\$ 52,500	\$ -	\$ 52,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,500
652000	Professional Services - Expenses	\$ 103,099	\$ 95,392	\$ -	\$ 95,392	\$ -	\$ 2,410	\$ 97,802
653000	Other Contractual Services	\$ 2,549,791	\$ 3,108,914	\$ -	\$ 3,108,914	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ 2,968,914
654000	Contracts - State	\$ 9,320	\$ 19,367	\$ -	\$ 19,367	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,367
705000	Tuition and Scholarships	\$ 133,500	\$ 125,539	\$ -	\$ 125,539	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125,539
707000	Grants	\$ 924,141	\$ 2,047,779	\$ -	\$ 2,047,779	\$ -	\$ 545,288	\$ 2,593,067
762000	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
791000	Intergovernmental Transfers	\$ (9,880)	\$ 6	\$ -	\$ 6	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6
814000	IT - Supplies and Materials	\$ 71,046	\$ 32,752	\$ -	\$ 32,752	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32,752
815000	IT - Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 289	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
816000	IT - Equipment Under \$5,000	\$ 109,330	\$ 16,314	\$ -	\$ 16,314	\$ -	\$ 9,650	\$ 25,964
819000	IT - Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ 148	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
821000	Comp/Telecom Equipment	\$ 171,789	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
823000	IT - Software (Cap)	\$ 58,836	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000
848000	IT - Real Estate Rents	\$ 25,043	\$ 15,864	\$ -	\$ 15,864	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,864
851000	IT - Professional/Technical Services	\$ 59,800	\$ 72,500	\$ -	\$ 72,500	\$ -	\$ 300,923	\$ 373,423
863000	IT - Software (Not Cap)	\$ 38,471	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000
864000	Software Maintenance and Support	\$ 328,461	\$ 335,840	\$ -	\$ 335,840	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 335,840
871000	Voice/Data Comm Services - GTA	\$ 101,638	\$ 112,139	\$ -	\$ 112,139	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 112,139
872000	Voice/Data Comm Services - Not GTA	\$ 42,788	\$ 52,404	\$ -	\$ 52,404	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,404
	Adjustment from One Time Funds (Contracts)				\$ (215,000)			
Total		\$11,268,905	\$ 13,967,464	\$ -	\$13,752,464	\$ 219,909	\$ 1,452,339	\$ 15,424,711
	State Funds	\$11,098,385	\$ 13,841,964	\$ -	\$13,626,964	\$ 219,909	\$ 1,452,339	\$ 15,299,211
	Other Funds	\$ 170,519	\$ 125,500	\$ -	\$ 125,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125,500
Total		\$11,268,905	\$ 13,967,464	\$ -	\$13,752,464	\$ 219,909	\$ 1,452,339	\$ 15,424,711

Supplemental Details:

\$ -

Annualizer/Adjustment Details:

Annualizer for FY08

Increase \$ 92,675

4% raise for FY09 \$ 127,234

Enhancement Details:

\$ 1,452,339

**JUDICIAL COUNCIL
BUDGET REQUEST
FY09 ENHANCEMENTS**

Program/Project	Details of Request	Judicial Council Request
Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution	Restoration of Operating Funds	\$250,000
ICJE	Recovery of base CJE Funding not included in new judgeships- Reduced to Amount needed to train 5 new Judges	\$17,500
ICJE	Full-Time employee for Court Administrators Professional Certificate Program - Reduced to costs of Staff Person	\$77,296
ICJE	Magistrate Court Judicial Educational Products and services	\$100,000
Georgia Appellate Practice and Educational Resource Center, Inc.	One Attorney, Investigator and Administrative Person and Litigation/Travel Costs. Reduced to One Attorney and Litigation Costs.	\$105,000
Council of Magistrate Court Judges	Magistrate Benchbook and Newsletter Funding- Reduction included in ICJE Request for Magistrates	\$17,500
Council of State Court Judges	Mock-Trial for 2009 National Competition	\$25,000
Council of State Court Judges	2 Law Clerks - Reduced to 1 Law Clerk	\$66,500
Georgia Courts Automation Commission	State-wide Standards and Data Sharing Program(s)	\$300,923
Judicial Council Standing Committee on Drug Courts	Implementation of 5 new courts. Reduced to 3 new courts, In-State Team Training	\$395,632
Judicial Council Standing Committee on Drug Courts - DUI Courts	Implementation of 3 new courts reduced to 2 new courts	\$199,656
Committee on Justice for Children	3 Juvenile Law Asst. Reduced to 2 Juvenile Court Law Assistants	\$115,236
AOC Governmental Affairs - Mental Health Courts	Mental Health Courts Summits Improving the Response to Defendants with Mental Illness (10 Meetings with Handouts)	\$25,350
Committee on Civil Justice/ Appalachian Circuit Family Law Information Center	Pilot Project for Remote area FLIC office to help Pro-Se litigants	\$124,276
Commission on Children, Marriage, and Family Law	Part-Time Staff Director and Summit - Reduced Amount for Summit	\$104,718
AOC General Counsel/Regulatory Matters Judicial Council Board of Court Reporting	Part-Time to Full-Time Status for Compliance Coordinator	\$28,232
AOC General Counsel/Regulatory Matters - Commission on Interpreters	Creation of a new position - Quality Assessment and Evaluation Coordinator	\$49,316

Total Enhancement Request

\$2,002,135

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution (GODR)

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$250,000 (no change)

Title of Requested Change: Restoration of Operating Funds

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

This request is for continuing operating funds in FY2009 and restoration of FY2008 operating funds cut by the legislature in 2007. The GODR staff of four ensures the quality and growth of Georgia's court-connected alternative dispute resolution system, which serves 111 counties with a total population of nearly 9 million Georgians. GODR also monitors and maintains the quality of 2,200 neutrals that are registered with GODR to serve the court system. In FY2006, more than 32,000 lawsuits were referred to ADR processes through this system, and more than half were settled before trial, saving citizens and the judicial system time and money. If this request were not funded, GODR would have to close, and there would be no central, statewide authority to enforce the Supreme Court ADR rules or oversee the quality of services provided by Georgia's court-connected ADR system. In its place, multiple local bureaucracies would have to be created to replicate the services GODR provides to local court programs. Statewide approvals of neutrals and trainers would no longer exist, so each neutral and each trainer would have to be approved by each local court program to provide services to that locality. No new court ADR programs could be established. Existing court programs would no longer receive technical and financial assistance from the state, nor guidance on and consistent enforcement of Supreme Court ADR Rules.

Measures:

Statistics GODR will use to evaluate the impact of this funding restoration will include: the total number of state-registered neutrals; the number of new neutrals processed and registered; the number of renewing neutrals processed; the number of public phone and e-mail inquiries processed; the total number of court ADR programs statewide; the number of new court programs; number of cases referred to ADR and settled through ADR; number of approved trainers; the number of new trainer applications processed and approved; number of categories trainers are approved to train in; the number of trainings sponsored by GODR; the number mediators and court staff trained by GODR; the number of continuing education opportunities sponsored by GODR; the number of attendees at GODR-sponsored trainings and seminars; the number of attendees at the annual ADR Institute and Neutrals' Conference; the number of speaking engagements by staff.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA
Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs		\$250,000		
Total Expenses		\$250,000		
State Funds		\$250,000		
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$250,000		
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

Time period of request covers July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia (ICJE)

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$60,000 (\$17,500 final recommendation)

Title of Requested Change: Recovery of Base CJE Funding Not Included in New Judgeships

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

The ICJE is the State's agency designated by the Georgia Supreme Court and the Georgia Judicial Council for supplying judicial education and training, especially in connection with mandatory judicial education and training activities, whether as basic courses or ongoing re-certification activities.

State-funded new judgeships at the superior court and the juvenile court level are subject to mandatory CJE, as are new judgeships of state courts. Since 1996, 100+ new judgeships in these three classes-of-courts have been created without financial provision for meeting their mandatory CJE requirements. During this same period, the funding of the ICJE was reduced dramatically, 15% between FY2003 & FY2004 amounting to \$186,000. Restoration of this funding over a succession of years would enable absorption of these new judgeships into programming without reducing the quality of the CJE opportunities delivered; and for FY2008, \$60,000 was restored.

Measures:

Constituent evaluation surveys administered post-program will include assessment for impact and utility.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs	\$17,500	\$18,375	\$19,293.75	\$20,258.43
Total Expenses	\$17,500	\$18,375	\$19,293.75	\$20,258.43
State Funds	\$17,500	\$18,375	\$19,293.75	\$20,258.43
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Other Funds	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	\$17,500	\$18,375	\$19,293.75	\$20,258.43
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

A 3% increase in the expense of doing business is anticipated each year.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia (ICJE)

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$127,427 (\$77,296 final recommendation)

Title of Requested Change: Court Administrators Professional Certificate Program

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

The ICJE is the State's agency designated by the Georgia Supreme Court and the Georgia Judicial Council for supplying judicial education and training, especially in connection with mandatory judicial branch education and training activities, whether as basic courses or ongoing re-certification activities or professional certificate programs.

Absent funding this request, court administration in Georgia will continue to be a career learned on-the-job at the local level, evolving out-of-touch with emerging national improvement trends in the field, depriving the Georgia public and its judiciary of managers possessing the most modern skills and information to positively impact court operations in the State. The funding sought furnishes, for the first time, a professional development track of skills and information programming for court administrators in Georgia. There is no higher education degree or academic concentration in Georgia that prepares individuals to work effectively in the field of court administration. This ICJE program would be grounded in the national standards or the ten core competencies for court administrators devised by the National Association for Court Management. It also would reflect an academic partnership between the University of Georgia's ICJE and Michigan State University's court management concentration in its public administration degree.

Measures:

Constituent evaluation surveys administered post-program will include assessment for impact and utility.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs	0	\$77,296	\$81,160.80	\$85,218.84
Total Expenses	0	\$77,296	\$81,160.80	\$85,218.84
State Funds	0	\$77,296	\$81,160.80	\$85,218.84
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Other Funds	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	0	\$77,296	\$81,160.80	\$85,218.84
Positions	0	1	1	1
Motor Vehicles				

A 3% increase in the expense of doing business is anticipated each year. The funding sought will provide the ICJE with one position at the level of Event Coordinator in the UGA personnel system, as well as underwrite product design and delivery and for a pair of semi-annual, twelve hour, training programs based upon meeting the ten core competencies for court administrators promulgated by the National Association of Court Management. The full certificate would thus be achievable in five years of concentrated participation.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia (ICJE)

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$100,000 (no change)

Title of Requested Change: Magistrate Court Judicial Educational Products and Services

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF SERVICES

The ICJE is the State's agency designated by the Georgia Supreme Court and the Georgia Judicial Council for supplying judicial education and training, especially in connection with mandatory judicial education and training activities, whether as basic courses or ongoing re-certification activities.

Absent funding this request, most if not all the in-depth CJE services here-before described risk going undelivered. They routinely address the needs of one-third to one-half of the 500+ Magistrate Court Judges in Georgia. They are integral to the ongoing work of regular judges, but do occupy a secondary status to basic orientation training for new judges and survey-review recertification efforts for many other judges.

Measures:

Constituent evaluation surveys administered post-program will include assessment for impact and utility.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs	100,000	103,000	106,090	109,273
Total Expenses	100,000	103,000	106,090	109,273
State Funds	100,000	103,000	106,090	109,273
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Other Funds	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	100,000	103,000	106,090	109,273
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

A 3% increase in the expense of doing business is anticipated each year.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Georgia Appellate Practice and Educational Resource Center, Inc.

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$279,300
(*\$105,000 final recommendation*)

Title of Request Change:

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Georgia is the only death penalty state that does not provide counsel in state post-conviction proceedings. *Gibson v. Turpin*, 270 GA. 855 (1999). The Center's mission is to ensure that each death-sentenced inmate in Georgia is adequately represented in state and federal post-conviction proceedings. Through direct representation and recruitment of *pro bono* counsel, the Center has historically provided counsel to each death-sentenced inmate. Although the Center could ethically and fiscally decline to take any further cases because of a caseload conflict, the Center has continued to shoulder the responsibility of representing death-sentenced inmates in the absence of any right to counsel despite the lack of sufficient resources to adequately litigate cases.

The Resource Center received continuation funding of \$800,000 in FY 2008 which was \$279,340 less than what was requested by the Administrative Office of the Courts. In fact, the Resource Center's funding has been frozen at \$800,000 since FY 2002. To continue to provide the same level of services to the cases in, or about to enter, state habeas corpus proceedings, the Resource Center needs a state grant of \$1,079,300 for FY 2009. The request for an increase in funding is necessary to ensure that the Resource Center can continue to offer the same level of representation that it currently provides its clients and to take on the additional nineteen cases that will enter the system in FY 2008 and 2009. The request for an increase of \$279,300 will fund one new staff attorney position, one new investigator position and a part-time administrative assistant to take on the new cases coming into the system. Without increased funding, the Resource Center will be unable to take on the new capital cases entering the system in FY 2008 and 2009.

Measures:

The principal measures will be the Resource Center's caseload, the Center's rate of direct representation, and the pace at which capital habeas cases proceed through the system to final resolution.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs		\$105,000	\$110,250	\$115,762.50
Total Expenses		\$105,000	\$110,250	\$115,762.50
State Funds		\$105,000	\$110,250	\$115,762.50
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$105,000	\$110,250	\$115,762.50
Positions		1		
Motor Vehicles				

The requested grant increase for the twelve month period of FY' 2009 would enable the Center to create an additional staff attorney position, an additional investigator position and a part time administrative assistant position. The grant would also allow for salary increases to bring the attorney salaries to a level more in keeping with other Atlanta public sector attorney salaries. These increases in staffing (1 new position) and compensation as well as health insurance and benefits are budgeted at \$191,000. Increased office expenses would tally \$17,500. Staff training would increase by \$3800. Litigation travel would increase by \$22,000 and direct litigation expenses would increase by \$45,000.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Council of Magistrate Court Judges

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net Change in State Funds requested for the Program: \$25,000 (\$17,500 final recommendation)

Title of Requested Change: Magistrate Benchbook and Newsletter Funding

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

The Council was created to support the Magistrate Court Judges in the performance of their duties. Successful performance of duties is dependant upon the type and amount of resources available.

This request is to fund both our newsletter publication and distribution and our *Violence in Georgia* Benchbook updates. The ICJE budget was cut this year and one of the items they fund for us is the newsletter which is an integral part of our communication process for meeting notices, legal updates, administrative updates, legislative issues judicial council requests, as well as other judicial branch information. We must continue to provide the newsletter, as it is not practical to move to an electronic format for many rural counties. If we were unable to provide this service, many judges would be uninformed or informed in an untimely manner not only about Council business but also about other serious changes in the law and judicial branch.

The *Violence in Georgia* Benchbook is a new project that we have developed because Magistrate Court Judges have a unique responsibility with regard to violence toward domestic violence victims, elder abuse, child abuse and gang related violence violations. It is important to distinguish what a magistrate judge may do and under what authority. About one half of our judges also sit in other courts, and thus the line of distinction must be carefully defined. In many of the rural counties, Superior Court Judges serve many counties and there is no State Court. Thus the burden of effective and immediate legal recourse may fall upon the local magistrate. Given the seriousness of this topic and the frequency with which our judges must adjudicate such issues, the Council undertook to draft a Benchbook specifically addressing violence issues in magistrate court. A grant was sought and given for the initial draft but as the law changes, updates and supplements must be continued or the Benchbook would not be a viable resource for the judges to use.

Measures:

Upon the distribution of the Benchbook and with the ability to continue and improve publication of our newspaper, follow-up will be made with each of the judges to ensure that they are using the forms of media, that they are effective and what changes are necessary to ensure the beneficial use of funding for these two projects. Beneficial changes will be made as needed.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs		\$17,500		
Ongoing Costs			\$ 18,375	\$ 19,293.75
Total Expenses		\$17,500	\$ 18,375	\$ 19,293.75
State Funds		\$17,500	\$ 18,375	\$ 19,293.75
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$17,500	\$ 18,375	\$ 19,293.75
Positions		0	0	0
Motor Vehicles		0	0	0

Both requests are for a twelve-month fiscal year.

Newsletter: Last fiscal year the cost to publish four quarterly reports was approximately \$4,700. We wish to publish it at least every two months as well as add additional information and increased cost of postage; the total cost will increase to \$7,500.

Benchbook updates will cost substantially less than the original publication of the Benchbook. We are seeking \$15,000 for the cost of preparing, printing and mailing the updates as prepared by the Violence in Georgia Committee and \$2,500 to update our judicial web site.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Council of State Court Judges

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$40,000 (\$25,000 final recommendation)

Title of Requested Change: Mock Trial

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

It is the mission of the Council of State Court Judges (Council) to further the improvement of the State Courts in Georgia and to enhance the quality and expertise of its judges, and to maintain the impartiality of the judiciary and to ensure the fair, efficient administration of justice.

The Council is requesting additional funding for the Mock Trial program in Georgia. In 2009, the national competition will be held in Atlanta. The costs to hold this event are extremely high, approximately \$350,000.00, and the Council feels it is imperative to host the best national competition so that the organizers will want to return to Atlanta for future events. It is also important to represent the state well since the 2007 national champions are from Georgia.

Measures:

Success will be measured on the perception of the attendees to the event.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs		\$25,000		
Ongoing Costs				
Total Expenses				
State Funds		\$25,000		
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$25,000		
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

The requested funds are a portion of the funds needed by state organizers of the event.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Council of State Court Judges

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$133,000 (\$66,500 final recommendation)

Title of Requested Change: Law Clerks

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

It is the mission of the Council of State Court Judges (Council) to further the improvement of the State Courts in Georgia and to enhance the quality and expertise of its judges, and to maintain the impartiality of the judiciary and to ensure the fair, efficient administration of justice.

The Council is requesting funding for 2 law clerk positions to assist judges with legal research, case law and other judicial matters. Jurisdictionally, the superior courts and state courts are not that different. State courts hear similar type of cases as superior courts, but the state courts do not have access to similar resources as do the superior courts. This is especially true in regards to law clerks. Superior court judges are statutorily guaranteed to have a law clerk while state court judges are not. Because of the lack of statutory guarantee, many localities will not provide the state court judges with a much needed law clerk. It is understandable that all state court judges might not need a full time law clerk. This request provides for the sharing of 2 law clerks among the over 125 state court judges.

Measures:

Timeliness and accuracy are going to be essential with the work product of these two positions. Judges will be polled to see if the information provided was accurate and if the information was provided within the specified time periods.

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs		\$66,500	\$69,825	\$73,316.25
Ongoing Costs				
Total Expenses				
State Funds		\$66,500	\$69,825	\$73,316.25
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$66,500	\$69,825	\$73,316.25
Positions		1	1	1
Motor Vehicles				

The requested amount includes a salary of \$40,000 plus fringe benefits for two law clerk positions. It also includes operating costs of \$10,000 per position.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Georgia Courts Automation Commission

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: **\$319,923** (\$300,923 - final recommended)

Title of Requested Change: Statewide Standards and Data Sharing Program(s)

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

The Mission of the Georgia Courts Automation Commission Mission is to facilitate the automation and sharing of information through the establishment of standards and information exchange processes for the benefit of the Courts and citizens of Georgia.

Program goals for FY09 are consistent with the goals of FY08 and previous fiscal years. Additional funding is needed to support the next sequential phases of the strategic plan for statewide data sharing.

Program 1 – Strategic Planning

A FY09 funding decrease of \$80,000 will occur in this particular program area due to the off year requirement to update the IT Plans for the Councils. Plans are revisited every other year for updates and revisions to insure they remain current and useful to the Councils.

Program 2 – Standards and Architecture

A minimal funding increase of \$2.373 is needed to finish the last phases of development work on the Standards and Architecture and establish it as a maintenance function.

Program 3 – Education / Advocacy

An increase of \$18,000 is needed to provide for the development of the Knowledge Repository. The Knowledge Repository will serve as a central communication point for counties, agencies and vendors to receive and share updates from GCAC. An increase in the number of participants being served dictates the creation of this information management tool for GCAC.

Program 4 – Standards Implementation

An increase of \$365,200 is needed to fund the development and managed distribution of the Global Justice XML Data Model templates via a contract program manager. The templates are needed to support the application and implementation of the standards statewide. The contract resource will be used to develop the templates and guide their distribution to local counties, agencies and vendors.

The net increase of the FY09 budget over the FY08 budget is \$300,923.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Standing Committee on Drug Courts

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$647,512 (\$395,632 final recommendation)

Title of Requested Change: Drug Courts: Effective Interventions for Offender Accountability

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

The mission of drug courts is to enhance the administration of justice by improving the adjudication of non-violent drug related crimes, and increasing public safety. A drug court provides intensive judicial oversight, comprehensive community supervision of the offender, drug testing, treatment, and immediate incentives and sanctions for accountability.

The Judicial Council Standing Committee on Drug Courts is requesting funding to provide Implementation for three (3) new drug courts, Drug Court Planning Initiative (DCPI) Training to eight (8) drug court teams – one five-day training, and a statewide evaluation for adult felony drug courts.

Federal grants were used to support the initiation of the drug court model in Georgia. However, those funds have been exhausted for existing courts and are very limited for new courts. Local funds, including participant fees, can be used to sustain drug courts once they are operational and effectiveness is demonstrated at the county level and community support is generated. Only “seed” monies to implement new courts are being requested. Federal Drug Court Planning Initiative (DCPI) scholarships have been available in past years for drug court training, but those funds have been cut and slots for national training are very limited. Federal grants for a state evaluation are not available. Universities have been approached about conducting drug court evaluation, but universities are seeking funding for such projects and do not have free evaluation services available.

Measures:

The program measures and effects are:

- 1) Retention rate – Drug court participants will remain in the program at a higher rate than similarly situated offenders who are referred to treatment outside of the drug court model, which research shows leads to better outcomes.
- 2) Post-program recidivism (measured by re-arrest and conviction) - Recidivism for drug court participants will be reduced as compared to similarly situated offenders who are not in drug court.
- 3) Cost effectiveness - Costs for drug court participants will be lower than similar offenders who are sentenced to prison.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs		\$ 50,000.00		
Ongoing Costs		\$ 345,632.00	345,632.00	345,632.00
Total Expenses		\$ 395,632.00	345,632.00	345,632.00
State Funds		\$ 395,632.00	345,632.00	345,632.00
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$ 395,632.00	345,632.00	345,632.00
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

The budget is based on actual implementation costs for year one of an existing Georgia drug court.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Standing Committee on Drug Courts/DUI Courts

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 299,484 (\$199,656 final recommendation)

Title of Requested Change: DUI Court Implementation Grants

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

The goal of DUI Courts is to provide intensive case management and judicial oversight, using the national drug court model to the judicial and administrative drivers' license sanctions provided under Georgia law for convicted multiple DUI offenders

An evaluation of the DUI Court Pilot Project released in March, 2007, found that DUI Court graduates had significantly fewer arrests during both the 12 and 24-month follow up periods than a comparison group of similar multiple offenders who received standard criminal and administrative sanctions but not DUI Court. In fact, DUI Court graduates were three times less likely to have a new DUI arrest within the 12-month follow up period and almost four times less likely to have a new DUI arrest within the 24-month follow up period.

Federal grants were used to support the initiation of the DUI Court model in Georgia. However, those funds have been exhausted. Local funds, including participant fees, can be used to sustain DUI Courts once they are operational and effectiveness is demonstrated at the county level and community support is generated. Only "seed" monies to implement two (2) new courts are being requested.

Measures:

The program measures and effects are:

- 1) Retention rate – DUI Court participants will remain in the program at a higher rate and receive treatment for a longer period than similarly situated offenders who are referred to treatment outside of the DUI Court model. Research shows longer time in treatment leads to better outcomes.
- 2) Post-program recidivism (measured by re-arrest and conviction) - Recidivism for DUI Court participants will be reduced as compared to similarly situated offenders who were not in DUI Court.

Now that an evaluation of the pilot project has shown successful outcomes, a cost-benefit analysis is being planned.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs		\$199,656	\$	\$
Total Expenses		\$199,656	\$	\$
State Funds		\$199,656	\$	\$
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$199,656	\$	\$
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

This budget is based on implementation costs for existing Georgia DUI Courts.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Administrative Office of the Courts/Supreme Court of Georgia Committee on Justice for Children

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 172,343 (\$115,236 final recommendation)

Title of Requested Change: Juvenile Court Law Assistants

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

The Committee on Justice for Children is funded by the federal Court Improvement Project (CIP) grant, which is awarded to each state's highest court for the purpose of improving the processing of civil child abuse and neglect (i.e., deprivation) cases across the state.

Currently in Georgia, the Special Assistant Attorney Generals (SAAGs), who provide legal representation for the Department of Family and Children's Services (DFCS) case managers, draft all orders entered in a deprivation case. This tradition is inconsistent with the practices of any other level of court wherein the party that prevails in a hearing proposes an order, which is circulated amongst the parties, and then submitted to the court for signature. The practice became commonplace in juvenile court due to lack of resources, high caseloads and other practical constraints on the court systems.

Moreover, the SAAGs are paid a per order fee above their contract. Yet, the orders commonly are poorly drafted, untimely, and not reflective of the individual circumstances of the case or hearing for which they are entered.

Georgia is getting reimbursed at 29% of its Title IV-E reimbursement which translates roughly into 140 million dollars per year. Each percentage point of improving on this reimbursement rate represents roughly 4 million federal dollars. Low reimbursement rates are reportedly due to poorly written court orders which are not in compliance with federal and state law.

The juvenile court law assistants will be placed into two (2) judicial circuits with the lowest Title IV-E reimbursement rates and the highest proportional foster care populations. Our main goal with these new law assistant positions is to stop the delegation of the court orders to the attorneys in the circuits and put this task solely back within the courts.

Measures:

Results from the Title IV-E and Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) will be used to evaluate the impact of this change. The projected return on investment is an increase in the penetration rate for Title IV-E funds, translating to more federal financial support for the child welfare system, and improved passage rate on the CFSR for items related to content and timeliness of orders.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs		4,000		
Ongoing Costs		\$111,236	\$120,997.80	
Total Expenses		\$115,236	\$120,997.80	
State Funds		\$115,236	\$120,997.80	
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$115,236	\$120,997.80	
Positions		2		
Motor Vehicles				

* Increase based on 10% for COLA and benefit increases

The projections are based on the average salary for juvenile court law assistants across the country, plus benefits for full-time employees. The request covers a two-year period (24 months), which will be the term of employment for each law assistant, subject to renewal of their employment.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Administrative Office of the Courts/Chief Justice's Task Force on Mental Health

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 25,350 (no change)

Title of Requested Change: Mental Health Court Summits-- Improving the Response to Defendants with Mental Illness

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

A recent independent audit of Georgia's Department of Corrections revealed that 16% of the state's inmates were receiving mental health services as of June, 2006.¹ The Department of Corrections estimates that the percentage of prisoners with mental illness is increasing steadily at the rate of one percent per year.² So by 2010, in just three years, it may be the case that 20% of the state's inmates will need treatment for mental illness. Given these statistics, it is imperative to discover, through local community summits, what can be done to provide a better response to people with mental illness who have contact with the criminal justice system in Georgia.

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is requesting funding to hold informational Mental Health Court Summits in each of the Ten Judicial Districts to provide information dissemination and community capacity building to improve the response to persons with mental illness who come in contact with the criminal justice system. We estimate that 50-150 key stakeholders will attend each session, with over 1,000 Georgians taking part in the summits. Stakeholder groups that will be invited to the summits include, but are not limited to, the courts, law enforcement and other criminal justice agencies, city and county government, treatment, public health, public housing, education, job training and placement, mental health consumers and family members, the medical community, and community and faith-based organizations.

Measures:

Outcomes will be measured by the number of persons attending each summit, type of stakeholder groups represented at each summit, and the results of evaluations completed by attendees to measure knowledge gained.

¹ See Andria Simmons, Prisons see more inmates requiring mental health care. *Gwinnett Daily Post*, 7/30/06.
² *Id.*

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs		\$25,350.00		
Ongoing Costs				
Total Expenses		\$25,350.00	\$26,617.50	\$27,948.37
State Funds		\$25,350.00	\$26,617.50	\$27,948.37
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$25,350.00	\$26,617.50	\$27,948.37
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

This budget is based on actual costs for similar summits conducted by the AOC. Summits will be held in local college facilities or other public spaces which can be used at minimal or no cost. A continental breakfast, drinks, and afternoon snack will be provided to allow for networking time among the participants. Other costs are printing of handout materials and speakers' travel reimbursement.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court Committee on Civil Justice/Appalachian Circuit Family Law Information Center

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 154,276 (\$124,276 final recommendation)

Title of Requested Change: Pilot Project for Multi-County, Remote Area Court Based Self Help Assistance Center

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

The mission of the Appalachian Judicial Circuit Family Law Information Center (hereinafter "Appalachian FLIC") will be to provide legal assistance in regard to all family law related matters, including domestic violence Temporary Protective Orders ("TPO") petitions, so that those who are not represented can be prepared when they come to court and be on equal footing with those who are being represented, and ensure that their needs are being met.

The Appalachian Judicial Circuit requests legislative funding to establish a FLIC office for the circuit, which includes Fannin, Gilmer, and Pickens counties. The Georgia Constitution provides parties the right to prosecute or defend themselves, and a FLIC office would better enable them to do so in family law cases. The judges in the circuit plan to house the FLIC office in the Law Library of the new Gilmer County Courthouse, but will also provide remote assistance to Pickens and Fannin Counties. It is anticipated that Gilmer County will provide office space, office equipment, furniture, telephone service and other general office support as in-kind contribution to the project. The funding will assist the Appalachian judicial circuit in staffing the FLIC office with an attorney and an assistant who will be supervised directly by Judge Brenda Weaver. The funding will also assist the Appalachian judicial circuit in purchasing videoconferencing equipment that can be used to provide "virtual" access to pro se litigants in the circuit who reside outside of Gilmer County. Additionally, the FLIC attorney will regularly visit the Fannin and Pickens courthouses to provide the same type of assistance which or that would be provided daily at the Gilmer County Courthouse.

Measures:

The measures that will be used to evaluate the impact of this change include the number of pro se litigants served by the FLIC office; the length of time it takes to resolve a pro se case after the implementation of the FLIC office; and the number of resets granted in cases after the implementation of the FLIC office. The Child Support Commission will assist in data collection to determine the effectiveness of the pro se assistance program and duplicating this model statewide. It is expected that the return on investment will be an increase in judicial efficiency because of the ability to more expeditiously hear and decide pro se litigant cases and because the litigants will come to court better prepared. Further, the expected success of this program will serve as the model for other areas in the state where there are similar issues of serving the growing population of the self represented litigant.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs	0	\$17,900	\$0	\$0
Ongoing Costs	0	\$106,376	\$130,489.80	\$137,014.29
Total Expenses	0	\$124,276	\$130,489.80	\$137,014.29
State Funds	0	\$124,276	\$130,489.80	\$137,014.29
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Funds	0	There is a possibility that Gilmer County will provide the following as in-kind: Travel Fringe Benefits Office Space Supplies Printing	See FY 2009 that may be provided as in-kind	See FY 2009 that may be provided as in-kind
Total Funds	0	\$124,276	\$130,489.80	\$137,014.29
Positions	0	2	2	2
Motor Vehicles	0	0	0	0

The proposed budget as attached below is for the time period July 1, 2008, through and including June 30, 2009. The requested amounts cover the 12-month state fiscal year and the out-year projections assume a 5% growth rate.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Supreme Court Commission on Children, Marriage and Family Law

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$ 134,718 (\$104,718 final recommendation)

Title of Requested Change: Healthy Marriages, Healthy Families, Healthy Communities

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

Georgia's trial courts have experienced a precipitous increase in cases involving domestic relations over the past few years. Indeed, approximately 65% of all civil cases heard at the superior court level involve issues pertaining to families and children. The Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, in her role as chief administrative officer of the judicial branch, is responsible for improving the administration of justice provided by the State's courts. The Chief Justice also has the authority to establish Supreme Court commissions to study issues, make recommendations for change, and implement changes. In Georgia, Supreme Court commissions have been very successful in bringing about major systemic improvements in matters impacting the courts and the lives of Georgians.

The Judicial Council of Georgia is requesting \$ 134,718.00 to provide permanent, dedicated support for the Commission. This will include staff for operations and an evaluation of project effectiveness, a media campaign targeted at judges, the family law bar, litigants, and the general public to raise awareness of the benefits that low-conflict, healthy marriages reap for men, women, children, and communities, and the distribution of these materials to local community partners (including school systems and local faith based groups), meeting facilitation costs, and an annual Summit to spotlight recent advances in the field.

Specifically, the Court, through the Commission, plans to conduct Continuing Legal Education training for the bench and bar. In addition, the aforementioned media campaign will include the launch of a judicial benchbook focusing on the topic and also the release of brochures that will be disseminated throughout the Georgia Judicial Branch for public use. The Commission anticipates a number of additional activities, including, but not limited to, a review of counseling and intervention programs for divorcing couples and stepfamilies; an examination of existing legislation and court rules related to marriage, children and families; court-connected marriage education and divorce intervention programs; remarriage and step-family education workshops; and a campaign, both in the schools and beyond, to publicize the benefits to children of growing up with parents engaged in a low-conflict marriage.

Measures:

The central measure will be the reduction of the domestic relations caseload for Georgia's judiciary. Also, we propose to increase the number of children being raised in healthy families; educate court personnel on the importance of marriage to child well-being and the alternatives to divorce; identify marriage strengthening public policies; and improve legal representation in the court system.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs				
Ongoing Costs		\$ 104,718	\$ 109,953.90	\$ 115,451.59
Total Expenses		\$ 104,718	\$ 109,953.90	\$ 115,451.59
State Funds		\$ 104,718	\$ 109,953.90	\$ 115,451.59
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$ 104,718	\$ 109,953.90	\$ 115,451.59
Positions		1/2		
Motor Vehicles				

The requested amounts cover the 12-month state fiscal year and the out-year projections assume a 5% growth rate.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Administrative Office of the Courts/Board of Court Reporting

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: Approximately \$28,232. The proposed pay range is \$35K. (no change)

Title of Requested Change: Part-time to full-time status for the Compliance Coordinator

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

The General Counsel Division is requesting that the current part-time compliance coordinator become a full-time employee in order to provide the required services to the Board of Court Reporting and to assist with the regulation and training of the 1132 court reporters in Georgia.

In recent years, the number of court reporters regulated by the Board has increased along with an increasing number of court reporting firms (currently 128). Consequently, the number of complaints, disciplinary hearings and trainings has increased. This increase outweighs current staff resources required to regulate court reporters. The staff's primary functions for the Board include oversight and the coordination of all required testing and training of every licensed court reporter in Georgia. Additionally, the staff is responsible for providing all administrative support for Board sponsored activities such as test development meetings and facilitating quarterly Board meetings, as well as the coordination of the required LEAP training seminars for reporters, the production of the Board's publication (*Board Briefs*), processing of over 1268 license and firm renewal applications and fees, updating rule changes approved by the Board, and doing all of the investigation, preparation and presentation of complaints to the Board about court reporters. In Fiscal Year 2009 the Board plans to revise its current rules, which will also impact on the staff's existing duties.

Measures:

- The total number of court reporters served.
- The number of trainings.
- The number of publications.
- The number of complaints received and processed per year.
- The frequency of disciplinary hearings heard by the Board.
- Time and preparation of materials devoted by staff for disciplinary hearings.
- The number of license renewal and applications processed per year.

The projected return on the investment is the ability to complete and expedite the above required services in less time and to improve the quality of services by staff in other areas; i.e., handling of renewal payments, data entry operations, trainings, publications, preparation of minutes and correspondence, and other duties to regulate reporters.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs		\$ 28,232		
Ongoing Costs		\$ 28,232	\$29,643.60	\$ 31,125.78
Total Expenses		\$ 28,232	\$29,643.60	\$ 31,125.78
State Funds		\$ 28,232	\$29,643.60	\$ 31,125.78
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$ 28,232	\$29,643.60	\$ 31,125.78
Positions				
Motor Vehicles				

The market rate for a comparable position is \$35K per year. Presently, the compliance coordinator works 30 hours per week resulting in an annual salary of approximately \$20,800.00. State funds are requested to cover a 40-hour week work schedule, for a period of not less than a year, and state benefits for the employee.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

BUDGET UNIT: Judicial Council of Georgia

Program: Administrative Office of the Courts/Commission on Interpreters

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2009

Net change in state funds requested for the program: \$49,316 (no change)

Title of Requested Change: Creation of new position

SECTION B. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

Description:

The Commission on Interpreters (COI) is a Supreme Court commission, which was established to administer a statewide comprehensive interpreter program to oversee the development and ensure the quality of all interpreters, and to establish standards of conduct for interpreters. Due to a continuing increase of Spanish-speaking populations in the state, the numbers are expected to also impact the courts. It is imperative that the Commission on Interpreters plan for this expected growth by recruiting certified interpreters throughout areas of the state, and by maintaining the integrity of those interpreters.

The General Counsel Division is requesting funding for one (1) Quality Assessment and Evaluation Coordinator (QAEC) at a salary of \$35,000.00 per annum, plus all benefits allowable for full-time state employees, to monitor the quality of interpreters throughout the state. Currently, there are only two full-time workers serving as staff to the Commission. They include both a full-time program manager and an administrative assistant. COI's constituents include any of the 600 courts in the state that require a need for a linguistic interpreter, the non-English speaking interpreters, court administrators, attorneys, judicial personnel, and the AOC. With only 73 certified interpreters to cover the entire state, the demand far exceeds the supply because those 70 plus interpreters cannot possibly service the entire state. The only remaining course of action is to utilize the 336 registered interpreters who do not possess the same skill sets and extensive training as the certified interpreters. Although the registered interpreters may appear as a temporary fix, the consequence of not increasing the number of certified interpreters is likely to drastically decrease by December 2008 because of the new rule change, which will require that they become certified. The QAEC is needed more than ever to help facilitate this impending transition.

Measures:

An increase in the number of certified interpreters will be the preferred method of measurement used to evaluate the success of the enhancement. Other measures include the number of courts utilizing the certified interpreters, the passing rates of the registered interpreters transitioning to certified status, and contacts and visits made by the QAEC to monitor the performance of the interpreters.

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GEORGIA

Program Impact Statement

SECTION C. BUDGET

	Requested Amount		Projected Amount	
	AFY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Start-up Costs/ One-time Costs		\$49,316		
Ongoing Costs		\$49,316	\$51,781.80	\$54,370.89
Total Expenses		\$49,316	\$51,781.80	\$54,370.89
State Funds		\$49,316	\$51,781.80	\$54,370.89
Federal Funds				
Other Funds				
Total Funds		\$49,316	\$51,781.80	\$54,370.89
Positions		1	1	1
Motor Vehicles				

The following formula represents the methodology in support of the out-year projections:
 $\$35K \text{ Base salary} \times 1 \text{ year (12 months)} + .040903 \text{ (benefits)} = \$49,316.50 \text{ per year (plus any annual increase like COLA).}$

JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION
BUDGET REQUEST
FY08 AMENDED
FY09 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS

Account	Description	FY2007 Expenses	FY2008 Budget	Amended Request	FY2009 Adjusted Base	Annualizers/ Adjustments	Enhancements	FY2009 Budget Request
501000	Salaries	\$ 78,615	\$ 134,139	\$ -	\$ 134,139	\$ 4,705	\$ -	\$ 138,843
502000	Annual Leave Payout	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
513000	Temp Salaries	\$ 38,325	\$ 23,224	\$ -	\$ 23,224	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,224
514000	FICA	\$ 6,095	\$ 12,039	\$ -	\$ 12,039	\$ 360	\$ -	\$ 12,399
515000	Retirement	\$ 8,184	\$ 13,964	\$ -	\$ 13,964	\$ 490	\$ -	\$ 14,454
516000	Health Insurance	\$ 13,139	\$ 30,642	\$ -	\$ 30,642	\$ 1,075	\$ -	\$ 31,717
518000	Unemployment	\$ 54	\$ 54	\$ -	\$ 54	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54
519000	Workers Comp	\$ 39	\$ 48	\$ -	\$ 48	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 48
520000	Merit System	\$ 147	\$ 147	\$ -	\$ 147	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 147
611000	Postage	\$ 3,508	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000
612000	Motor Vehicle Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
613000	Printing & Publication	\$ 1,764	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000
614000	Supplies & Materials	\$ 781	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000
615000	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 1,446	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500
616000	Equipment not on Inventory	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
618000	Energy	\$ 2,470	\$ 2,600	\$ -	\$ 2,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,600
619000	Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,500	\$ -	\$ 4,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,500
620000	Insurance & Bonding	\$ -	\$ 6	\$ -	\$ 6	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6
622000	Freight	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
626000	Procurement Card Purchases	\$ 1,985	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500
627000	Other Operating	\$ 1,828	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000
640000	Travel	\$ 1,590	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000
648000	Real Estate Rents	\$ 14,040	\$ 14,040	\$ -	\$ 14,040	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,040
651000	Professional Services	\$ 76,575	\$ 38,196	\$ -	\$ 38,196	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38,196
652000	Expenses	\$ 3,229	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500
653000	Other Contractual Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
654000	Contracts - State	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
705000	Tuition and Scholaships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
707000	Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
762000	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
791000	Intergovernmental Transfers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
814000	IT - Supplies and Materials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
815000	IT - Repairs and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
816000	IT - Equipment Under \$5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
819000	IT - Rents Other Than Real Estate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
821000	Comp/Telecom Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
823000	IT - Software (Cap)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
848000	IT - Real Estate Rents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
851000	IT - Professional/Technical Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
863000	IT - Software (Not Cap)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
864000	Software Maintenance and Support	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
871000	Voice/Data Comm Services - GTA	\$ 5,210	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000
872000	Voice/Data Comm Services - Not GTA	\$ 1,986	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500
Total		\$ 265,109	\$ 302,599	\$ -	\$ 302,599	\$ 6,629	\$ -	\$ 309,228
State Funds		\$ 265,109	\$ 302,599	\$ -	\$ 302,599	\$ 6,629	\$ -	\$ 309,228
Other Funds		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total		\$ 265,109	\$ 302,599	\$ -	\$ 302,599	\$ 6,629	\$ -	\$ 309,228

Amended Details:

Annualizer/Adjustment Details:

Annualizer for FY08	
Increase	\$ 2,793
4% raise for FY09	\$ 3,836

Enhancement Details:

	\$ -
Employees	
Custer, Cheryl	Director
Moon, Tara	Administrative Assistant

Council of Probate Court Judges

244 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 300

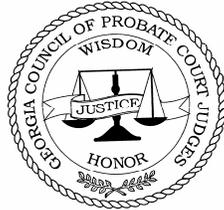
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Report to the Judicial Council of Georgia December 2007

The following report contains a brief summary of the current initiatives undertaken by the Council of Probate Court Judges:

Guardianship Video

The Council of Probate Court Judges has endeavored to produce an updated informational video to assist petitioners who are filing guardianship actions. Working in conjunction with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the Council has secured funds necessary to undertake the project. In recent weeks, a notification of grant award was received from the State Justice Institute. Once the grant funds are disbursed they will be used to supplement State-appropriations to finance the project, which will include two separate videos and handbooks: Guardianship of Minors and Conservatorship for Adults. The project is also inclusive of a Handbook for Conservators of Minors and Handbook for Conservators of Adults.

Both videos will be published in English and in Spanish, disseminated to each probate court across the state, and posted to the Council's website.

Personal Representatives of Estates

The handbook, *Duties of Personal Representatives of Decedents' Estate in Georgia*, has been revised and is now available to members of the judiciary and the general public. The publication explains in common language the primary duties of an executor/administrator to collect decedent's assets, pay creditors, and distribute the remaining assets heirs or other

beneficiaries. The publication has approved by the Council's Executive Committee for distribution, and is available for public access through the Probate Judges' website www.gaprobate.org.

Live Scan

Several courts, particularly those in rural areas, have expressed concern about the lack of access to Live Scan technology. A request for information and assistance was submitted to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). Currently CJCC is working to develop a formal process to review out of cycle grant requests. Until further information is available, the Council will continue to investigate funding options and tools justice systems can adopt in creating an integrated approach to resources and information sharing. The availability of Live Scan fingerprint systems in the courts will expedite the review of firearm applications, as well as other court related business.

Website Template for Probate Courts

In an effort to improve accessibility and better serve citizens, the Council has embarked upon an initiative to provide all local probate courts with a website. At the Council's request, the IT Division of the Administrative Office of the Courts is developing a website template for courts that currently lack local IT support. The sites will provide basic information about the local court, including directions, hours of operation, contact information and types of cases heard in the probate court. Court users will also have access to other resources and information clearinghouses, such as links to the Council of Probate Court Judges and the Administrative Office of the Courts of Georgia websites.

Mental Health Initiative

Judge Susan Tate, Co-Chair to the Statutory Review Committee on the Chief Justice-Led Task Force to Promote Criminal Justice/Mental Health Collaboration attended the most recent meeting held on October 11, 2007. At present, the Statutory Review Committee is examining the laws and procedures governing involuntary commitments, reviewing the terms for outpatient commitment, and assessing outpatient treatment eligibility requirements. Moreover, the Committee is taking an investigative look into expanding the circumstances under which a person may be transported for mental evaluation. An examination of the statutes regarding forensic commitment for persons who are incompetent to stand trial is also

being conducted. The Committee's focus is continuity of care issues, public safety and the lack of treatment and supportive services

Strategic Planning

The Council convened its annual strategic planning session on September 24th-26th at Brasstown Valley Resort. Executive officers and committee chairs assessed existing goals and considered proposed legislative initiatives. Invited members from the State Bar Fiduciary Law Section assisted in the effort to review proposed legislation and contemplate other statutory revisions of interest to probate courts. Specific legislative initiatives approved by the Council will be put forth following the November Business meeting.

Collaborative Efforts with Other Court Councils

The Council has agreed to work with the councils of Municipal, Magistrate and State Court Judges on collaborative initiatives of mutual benefit to the four classes of court. The workgroup will be composed of the President, Vice President, and President-Elect of each council. The initial meeting, scheduled as a conference call in January 2008, will provide representatives a forum to establish common goals, discuss resource sharing and introduce possible projects. Items for discussion may include uniformity in criminal rules, cross class of court trainings, and increased support of legislative initiatives.

Workload Assessment

The Council has suspended its workload assessment initiative until further review by the Workload subcommittee and the Office of Research at the AOC. The subcommittee will work to clarify the project's scope, make revisions to the survey instrument and deliberate on the most effective methodology for the project. Members of the Judicial Workload Assessment Committee for Probate Courts met to discuss operational concerns of the study and will reconvene the study at a later date. More than 50 randomly selected courts agreed to participate in the study.

WJC/yll



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Report to the Judicial Council of Georgia December 2007

The following report is an overview of current initiatives and projects undertaken by the Council:

Ex-Officio Membership – Supreme Court

In September, a formal request was made to Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears to appoint a member of the Supreme Court to serve as an ex-officio member to the Council's Executive Committee. This endeavor is of great significance as the Council seeks to work collaboratively with other judges and classes of court towards the "common agenda of providing wise, impartial and professional judicial forums for all Georgia's citizens^[i]". Justice Harris Hines has agreed to serve in this capacity and will provide insight and knowledge of opportunities and challenges facing our courts. Justice Hines will be officially welcomed at the upcoming Executive Committee meeting in January. The Council extends its sincerest thanks to the Supreme Court and Justice Hines for agreeing to work closely with the municipal court judges. We look forward to a progressive year and welcome his wisdom and guidance.

Court Security

The Council of Municipal Court Judges' Subcommittee on Court Security convened its first meeting on October 26th at the AOC Macon Office. The Committee is chaired by Judge Tommy Bobbitt, and includes representatives from each class of court, the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police and the Georgia Municipal Association. The 17 member Committee also includes Judge Kim Warden as the Judicial Council representative and former agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the U.S. Marshals Office. At the meeting, committee members outlined the initial steps toward

developing minimal standards, training needs and resources needed to devise effective security protocols for all municipal courts. The Committee has received confirmation that court security consultants with the National Center for State Courts will provide assistance in reviewing the final standards for the courts. The Committee's first step will be to devise a survey that will be disseminated to all chiefs of police and municipal courts judges, requesting information about existing security structures in the courts. The next meeting is scheduled December 14, 2007.

Collaborative Efforts with Other Court Councils

Executive Leadership of the Council recently extended an invitation to the councils of the Probate, Magistrate and State court judges to discuss methods for improving relations and increasing the number of collaborative initiatives among the classes of court. The workgroup will be composed of the President, Vice President and President-Elect of each Council. The initial meeting is a conference call to be held in January 2008. Discussion topics will center upon common goals, possible projects and the sharing of resources across classes of court. Discussion items may also include uniformity in criminal rules governing all three courts, training standards for judges and collaborative efforts to increase support for legislative initiatives in the future.

Public Relations – New Website

In October, the Council rolled out a new website to support the needs of the municipal judges and citizens visiting the court. The interactive site includes information about the Council of Municipal Court Judges, informational brochures, legislative updates, access to the latest poverty guidelines and training schedules. Citizens can find additional resources about municipal courts and their function, access helpful information for pro se litigants and the *Basic Rules of Court Conduct* brochure in six of the most frequently spoken languages in Georgia. The site, www.georgiacourts.org/councils/municipal also provides access to the Council's official newsletter, *The Judges Bulletin*, a directory of judges and clerks and meeting schedules.

Solicitor Training

A subcommittee chaired by Judge Maurice Hilliard had been convened to determine training options for solicitors in municipal courts. The Committee will include several municipal court judges and the Council expects to invite at least one probate court judge with traffic jurisdiction to assist with training efforts. The members will explore training options currently available in the judiciary and identify curriculum design that supports the unique needs of the court. The Committee will meet in the coming weeks to establish a firm direction for this initiative.

Technology – Vendors’ Forum

On November 20th, representatives the Council, GCAC, AOC and 25 associates from various case management software companies will meet at the AOC Macon office to discuss case management systems, data collection options and reporting needs of municipal courts. The purpose of the meeting is to identify the best method to automate, extract and transmit data from the courts. Information of interest includes financial data, caseload information and ensuring that the appropriate data is securely transmitted to external agencies. The Council will work with other state agencies to retrieve this data. The meeting is expected to generate dialogue that will encourage a partnership arrangement between the council and private enterprise to best serve municipal courts.

Mental Health Taskforce

Judge David Mecklin has been designated as the Council’s representative to the Chief Justice Led Task Force to Promote Criminal Justice/Mental Health Collaboration. He will work with the Task Force’s Training subcommittee to explore ways to adequately address the education needs of the justice system community in regard to litigants with mental health concerns. Judge Mecklin also serves as a member of the Training Council and will make recommendations on mental health training needs for judges and clerks of municipal courts.

BC/yll

^[i] Excerpt from Bill Clifton, President, Council of Municipal Court Judges, letter to Chief Justice Sears. September 2007.