



Judicial Council of Georgia

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice P. Harris Hines
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton
Director

Judicial Council Strategic Plan Standing Committee Strategic Plan Update

Last updated April 18, 2018

Initiative	Update
<p>Initiative 1 - Promote public accessibility and transparency in the courts</p>	<p>Completed. Meetings, events, and classes including a panel on public accessibility and transparency in the courts, Judicial Council meetings, and Day on the Bench events have been livestreamed and recorded. Recordings can be found here: https://livestream.com/accounts/15641258.</p> <p>While this initiative has been completed, the AOC will continue to livestream and record events as available.</p>
<p>Initiative 2 - Promote the use of technology as an effective communication tool</p>	<p>Completed. Statewide content is being posted on a regular basis on the AOC's Facebook and twitter. Twitter Town Halls, where judges answer questions from the public via Twitter, have been conducted. The Georgia Courts Journal is now available electronically.</p> <p>The AOC will continue to update its social media content and publish news concerning the judiciary.</p>
<p>Initiative 3 - Encourage ongoing use of <i>CourTools</i> measures to promote access and fairness in the courts</p>	<p>Surveys were distributed to nearly 400 individuals who participated in a prior statewide Access and Fairness survey to determine what changes courts have implemented. Surveys were also distributed to individuals who previously took CourTools trainings to determine if, as a result of the trainings, those courts have implemented CourTools measures.</p> <p>As a result of the surveys, the AOC Office of Research and Data Analysis (ORDA) is developing a core service model which will allow ORDA staff to offer trainings to local courts on how to implement CourTools measures themselves.</p>

<p>Initiative 4 - Encourage Legislative branch communications and initiatives of mutual interest</p>	<p>The 2018 legislative session adjourned on March 29, 2018. Five of the nine legislative items that the Judicial Council took a position of support on achieved final passage. All four budget enhancement requests for FY 2019 were fully funded. Regular communication was maintained with Executive and Legislative branch partners throughout session on items of mutual interest and the Judicial Council was given several statutory duties as a result of SB 407. AOC staff maintained a legislative tracking website, facilitated weekly teleconferences with all councils, provided legislative reports twice per week to judges and court personnel, and provided daily notes reflecting floor and committee business.</p>
<p>Initiative 5 - Modernize court information collection and workload assessment to accurately reflect the work of the courts</p>	<p>The Judicial Council adopted the Georgia Court Guide to Statistical Reporting at its August 9, 2017 meeting. The Guide will serve as the official, approved way for Georgia courts to report their caseload.</p> <p>The AOC Office of Research and Data Analysis (ORDA) has redesigned its webpage to be more interactive and improve the availability of caseload data. The webpage will continue to be promoted and traffic to the webpage is being measured.</p>
<p>Initiative 6 - Promote effective multi-disciplinary judicial education practices across multiple councils and groups</p>	<p>Completed. Recommendations on best practices in training and education for trial court judges were approved by the Judicial Council in December 2017. The Standing Committee on Education and Training will continue as an inactive Judicial Council Committee should the need for future best practices in training and education arise.</p>
<p>Initiative 7 - Enhance the professional and ethical image of the judiciary in the community</p>	<p>Completed. Opportunities for judges to interact with local communities are identified and promoted. Past opportunities include a Law Day coloring contest and award ceremony, Day on the Bench events, and videos and articles profiling Georgia judges. Articles on many of these opportunities can be found here: http://journal.georgiacourts.gov/</p>
<p>Initiative 8 - Monitor and share trends and best practices of interest to the judiciary</p>	<p>AOC staff are identifying emerging topics and trends impacting the courts and will offer best practices or recommendations for addressing such trends.</p>
<p>Initiative 9 - Assist the judiciary in business continuity</p>	<p>A Sub-Committee on Emergency Preparedness and Continuity of Judicial Operations has been created. The Sub-Committee is updating</p>

and leadership succession planning	and modernizing the Judicial Council Emergency Operations Plan previously created in 2005.
------------------------------------	--