

Welcome from the Council President

One of the pinnacles of my career has been to be elected President of The Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia. My term of office began on June 1, 2019 along with the other council officers, after being sworn in during the 2019 Annual Spring Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia Conference.

It is my privilege to serve as the new President of The Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia (hereinafter known as “CJCJ”). I was appointed as Juvenile Court Judge of the Atlanta Judicial Circuit, Fulton County Juvenile Court in 2013, having served as an Associate Judge since 2002. I am member of a plethora of legal organizations and currently designated as Chief Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court in Fulton County, Georgia.

Over the last few years, many changes have been proposed and adopted in the Georgia Juvenile Justice/Child Welfare System. There continue to be changes that will impact both our Council and the children and families that we served. In preparation for this, it is imperative to continue to ensure there is a strong judicial association to promote collaboration with other stakeholders as we address the concerns of our council membership. I am honored to be able to serve this association as representative of Georgia’s Juvenile Court Judges on numerous statewide committees, including the Judicial Council of Georgia. I intend to work with my colleagues and other stakeholders to improve the administration of justice, especially as it relates to juvenile justice and child welfare, in order to improve the lives of the children and families that we have contact with every day.

CJCJ provides support for all juvenile court judges, by promoting and maintaining standards of efficiency and excellence within the Georgia Juvenile Court System; and by encouraging legislation and other desirable programs serving the common interest of children and their families in the State of Georgia. We meet semi-annually to provide continuing judicial education and training, for consideration of matters pertaining to the discharge of the official duties and obligations of its members and to promote best court practices and ensure a better understanding of the problems and needs of the children coming before the courts, whether due to risk and needs of dependency, delinquency or being a child in need of services.

In addition to this education and training, CJCJ also presents two awards annually during the Fall Judicial Conference; the Council presents the “Judge Aaron Cohn Award” to an outstanding Judge and the “Martha K. Glaze Service Award” to acknowledge a non-judicial individual who has contributed to their Court and local community. Nominees for these awards have typically gone above and beyond their duties in working with children and families to ensure their success in the community.

The Judicial Award is given in honor of Judge Aaron Cohn who was appointed juvenile court judge of Columbus-Muscogee County in 1965 and served in that capacity until his retirement in 2011. This tenure made him one of the longest serving juvenile court judges in the nation. He served as President of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges as well as President of the Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia. Judge Cohn’s time on the bench exemplified a remarkable career of

selfless and dedicated contributions to the children, youth, and families of his community and the State of Georgia.

The Service Award is given in honor of Judge Martha K. Glaze who was appointed juvenile court judge of Clayton County in 1977 and served in that capacity until her retirement in 1999. She served on the Board of Trustees of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges as well as President of the Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia. She was a long serving Chair of the Council's Standing Committee on Education and Certification setting the standards for the education of the juvenile court judges of Georgia. And like Judge Cohn, Judge Glaze's time on the bench exemplified a remarkable career of selfless and dedicated contributions to the children, youth, and families of his community and the State of Georgia.

These awards are representative of the work that our membership and partners are doing, with the support of CJCJ on behalf of the children and families of Georgia, to ensure that their lives are improved using restoration, rehabilitation and treatment services available.

Judge Juliette Scales
Fulton County Juvenile Court Judge
Council of Juvenile Court Judge, President