

*Judicial Council
Administrative
Office of the
Courts*



**ANNUAL
REPORT
FY 2018**

The Judicial Council of Georgia

was created in 1945 to develop policies for administering and improving Georgia courts. Judicial Council members and committees meet throughout the year to address specific aspects of court administration and improvement. The Judicial Council is made up of 27 members who represent every class of court, plus the President of the State Bar of Georgia, who serves as a non-voting member. The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) was created in 1973. As staff to the Judicial Council, the AOC provides subject-matter expertise on policy, court innovation, legislation, and court administration to all Georgia courts.

This report is published by the Judicial Council of Georgia and the Administrative Office of the Courts in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 15-5-24.

Director, Cynthia H. Clanton
Chair, Chief Justice P. Harris Hines
Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts
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georgiacourts.gov

Note: This report covers Fiscal Year 2018, which runs from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. Names and titles listed in this report are as of those dates and do not reflect changes in leadership or titles before or after those dates.

Rendering of the Georgia Justice Center by Clark Smith for Robert A.M. Stern Architects.

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OVERVIEW

State of the Judiciary

Chief Justice P. Harris Hines delivered an optimistic speech on February 22, 2018, marking his final address to the legislature.



“The year 2018 will be a year of great change,” the Chief Justice observed, noting that a new Governor and Lieutenant Governor will be elected. “Many new judges will don their robes of office for the first time. Our citizens will elect a new justice to our Supreme Court, and Governor Deal will make his fifth appointment to the Court.”

“I am confident that when I leave the bench as Georgia’s Chief Justice at the end of August, after a legal career that began in 1968, Georgia’s judiciary will be steady, strong, and situated to become the best it has ever been.”

The Chief Justice thanked legislators for their support of the state’s judiciary. *“Your belief in an independent, non-partisan, and non-political third branch of government has been manifested by the creation of additional justices and judges for our state’s*

Balcony attendees standing as the justices enter the Georgia House of Representatives.



Georgia’s Judges 2018	
Supreme Court.....	9
Court of Appeals	15
Superior Courts.....	214
State Courts	129
Juvenile Courts.....	132
Probate Courts.....	172
Magistrate Courts	495
Municipal Courts, Civil, and Recorders	403
Total	1,569

SOURCE: AOC RESEARCH

Georgia Statistics	
Population	9.68 million
Minors	2.35 million
Counties	159
Births	130,042
Marriages	68,000
Divorces.....	33,000
Deaths.....	106,820
Corporations	876,014
Schools.....	3,069
Motor Vehicles ...	3.74 million
Court Cases	≈6 million

SOURCE: STATE OF GEORGIA SOURCES

two appellate courts; by passage of legislation that has made both Georgia's Supreme Court and Court of Appeals more efficient, productive, and effective in interpreting and clarifying the law; and by recognizing the hard work of those who sit upon Georgia's benches of justice by rewarding them with appropriate and appreciated compensation."

Criminal Justice Reform Council

The Chief Justice said, *"A sea change I have witnessed in my many years as a judge is how we view and respond to criminal behavior. We've become smarter, more precise, and more just. As a result, the courts are doing a better job of protecting society, saving taxpayer dollars, and restoring families. A rewrite of the juvenile code and appropriation of \$7 million for communities to develop alternatives to locking up young people in the state's youth jails and prisons has had a dramatic effect in Georgia."*

Accountability Courts

The establishment of Accountability Courts is a very beneficial shift in Georgia's judicial system. As of January, every Judicial Circuit in Georgia has at least one accountability court. In six years, the number of participants has tripled. Chief Justice Hines highlighted the work of Judge Brian Amero, Superior Court, Flint Judicial Circuit, who saw a need to help families and created a Parental Accountability Court. *"In six years of existence, these courts have helped almost 5,000 parents – mostly fathers – avoid jail time and pay more than \$5 million in support for more than 7,000 Georgia children. Additionally, they have saved counties more than \$10 million in incarceration costs."*

Technology

One success story of importance has been the establishment of a statewide web portal to bring ready access to our courts. Efficiency will be improved, time and money will be saved, and justice will be administered more quickly. Case filings are now being accepted electronically in the state's Appellate Courts.



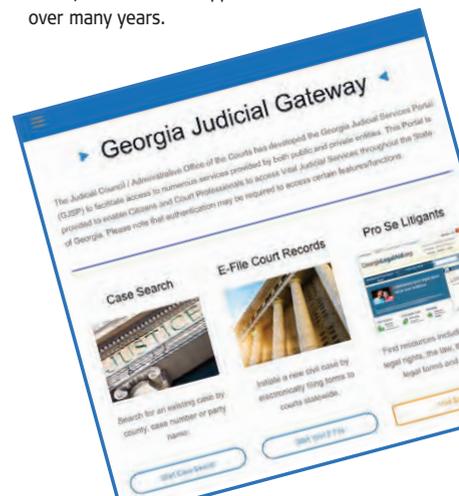
Chief Justice P. Harris Hines, center, and Presiding Justice Harold D. Melton enter the House Chamber for the State of the Judiciary Address.



Justice Nels Petersen enters the House Chamber for the State of the Judiciary Address.



Ms. Helen Hines is recognized by the Chief Justice for her support and love over many years.



From the Director



“The Judicial Council’s Administrative Office of Courts exists solely to serve Georgia’s court system and to provide it crucial services that facilitate the efficient administration of justice. For 2018, that service is broader than ever.”

On behalf of the Judicial Council and the Administrative Office of the Courts of Georgia (AOC), I am pleased to share the 45th Annual Report covering our work in Fiscal Year 2018. The AOC was created by statute in 1973 to serve the Judicial Council, which is the statewide governing body for the judicial branch of Georgia. The Judicial Council is made up of 26 judges representing all classes of courts and the President of the State Bar of Georgia, who is a non-voting member.

It has been a year of extraordinary service for our staff, serving the needs of the judiciary and improving the administration of justice. Our services included five Judicial Council meetings; multiple committee meetings; our annual case count in addition to a major judicial workload assessment project; a cybersecurity evaluation and recommendations; expansion of our Tax Refund Intercept Program; shepherding legislation and budget requests through the legislative session; steady work on the Juvenile Data Exchange Project and the Court Process Reporting System; launching of a Single Sign-On Portal for technology services; and the administration of grants for legal services for victims of domestic violence.

The AOC staff also worked with multiple partners in the executive branch and beyond, including: updating the Council of Accountability Court Judges’ data manual and reports; data collection and summary for the Georgia Child Support Commission; data collection and analysis for Parental Accountability Courts; editing the Judge’s Guide to Mental Illness in the Courtroom; hosting the National Enhancing Judicial Skills Workshop for Domestic Violence; providing human trafficking training with the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education; providing grants for courts serving self-represented litigants; updating the Domestic Violence Mediation Guidelines; and hosting a Child Welfare summit and an Access to Justice summit.

This year there were several natural events that impacted our state and work. Throughout these events, the AOC posted



The Judicial Council strives to bring the experience of justice to Georgians in many ways. At the August 2017 meeting, student winners of the Law Day Art Contest received "Scales of Justice" awards from Chief Justice Hines and Presiding Justice Melton. The theme was "the separation of powers."

The Judicial Council /Administrative Office of the Courts performs the crucial work of maintaining uniform standards of justice across Georgia's court system. The Council met five times in 2018 to hear committee reports, share best practices, vote on policy, and gauge progress.



courthouse closings from all over the state and coordinated information for the judicial branch as well as the public at large.

We've also focused on enhancing the professional and ethical image of the judiciary in the community through a number of creative events and resources. The AOC hosted a Twitter Town Hall with our judges and the public; livestreamed a panel discussion with judges promoting public accessibility and transparency in the courts; created "Riding the Circuit" videos for the Ocmulgee, Brunswick, and Pataula Judicial Circuits; sponsored "Day on the Bench" events in the Piedmont, Middle, and Flint Judicial Circuits; and co-sponsored a Law Day Art Contest for students with the theme of "The Separation of Powers."

DIRECTOR'S LETTER CONTINUED

Architect's rendering of the new judicial building, slated to open in 2019.



February, 2018



June, 2018



The AOC even had an international impact as our relationship with the United States Department of State and the Republic of Georgia judiciary continued this year. This culminated in a dinner for judges from both Georgias hosted by the 7th Judicial Administrative District.

George Bernard Shaw once said, "Progress is impossible without change," and we can see progress across the street with the new Judicial Building, which is going to be impressive. The current Judicial Building on Capitol Hill was built in 1956 when Georgia's population was 3.7 million, and Chief Justice W.H. Duckworth led the Supreme Court. Since then, we've had 20 different Chief Justices and 11 Governors.

It is a privilege and a pleasure to serve as your AOC Director and lead an agency filled with deeply dedicated public servants. We talk about our work not being about perfection, but connection. However, we are working mighty hard to deliver perfect service to the judicial branch to assist with the administration of justice to our citizens. We are renewed every day toward that purpose.

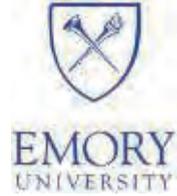
With appreciation and respect,

Cynthia H. Clanton

Director

Administrative Office of the Courts

Thanks to our valued partner organizations:



OVERVIEW

*2018 Highlights***July 2017**

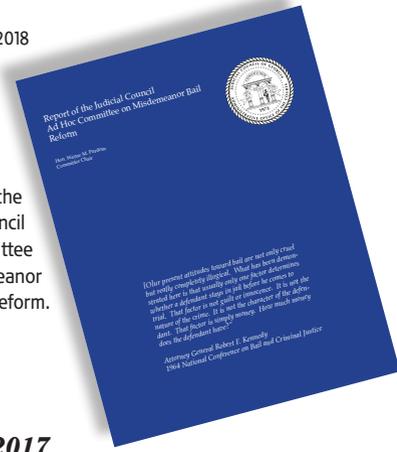
- Judge Dillard sworn in as Chief Judge of the Georgia Court of Appeals. • The AOC staff ride along with Judge Alison Burleson and see quite a bit of the Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit. • July 31 marks the last day of our summer interns.

**August 2017**

- Groundbreaking takes place for the new Judicial Building. • A panel conversation is livestreamed: Promoting Public Access and Transparency in Georgia's Judicial Branch—Judge Dillard, Judge Wigington, Judge Thompson.



Report of the
Judicial Council
Ad Hoc Committee
on Misdemeanor
Bail Reform.

**September 2017**

- Judicial Council's Ad Hoc Committee on Misdemeanor Bail Reform was created.
- "A Day on the Bench" event was held in the Piedmont Judicial Circuit in Celebration of Constitution Day.

**November 2017**

- The National Association of Women Judges Conference took place in Atlanta, which allowed the women judges of Georgia to gather around a photo of Georgia's first woman judge, Dorothy Robinson.



December 2017

- Day on the Bench Event in the Middle Judicial Circuit; Chief Justice Hines presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Senator Jack Hill.



- Senator Blake Tillery addresses the audience at the Day on the Bench event, on the Bill of Rights Day (December 15) in Swainsboro, Georgia.



- Representative Wendell Willard briefs the Judicial Council on the upcoming 2018 legislative session.

January 2018

- We had a snow day at the capitol.
- We also had a visit from the Honorable Fumiya Mori from Nagoya District in Japan, who met with our Human Resources Manager and EEO Officer Stephanie Hines about suggested best practices for managing judicial branch personnel.



A rare sighting of snow at the Cook County Courthouse snapped by Judge Chase Daughtrey of Adel, GA.



OVERVIEW

2018 JC/AOC HIGHLIGHTS *CONTINUED*

Riding the Pine with Judge Alison Burleson

'Riding the Pine' or 'Riding the Judicial Circuit' has a long history in the Judicial Branch of Georgia and of the United States

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YouTube

A highlight of the FY 2018 is the production of an innovative series of videos called "Riding the Pine." It represents a "day in the life" of the hard working judges who travel a wide circuit to deliver justice outside Georgia's main population centers. Produced in-house by the AOC, these videos bring to life some very human stories of law, justice, and judgment.

In addition, they help bring the idea of careers in the judiciary to the attention of students and guidance counselors. They help the judges communicate with their constituents and their communities, too.

Riding the Pines is just one of the dozens of media items posted by the AOC in cooperation with every council, branch, and office of Georgia's Judiciary. Under the banner of the *Georgia Courts Journal*, AOC is helping build trust, understanding, and cooperation systemwide.

Riding the Pine with
Judge Alison Burleson

<https://youtu.be/eTetMu28e0Y>



**Riding the Pine with
Judge Stephen Kelley**

<https://youtu.be/a0ejwp72vsg>



**Riding the Pine with
Chief Judge Joe Bishop**

<https://youtu.be/v0rjrO79Dk0>



**Journaling the great work
of Georgia's Judiciary**

<http://journal.georgiacourts.gov>



OVERVIEW

2018 JC/AOC HIGHLIGHTS *CONTINUED*

February 2018

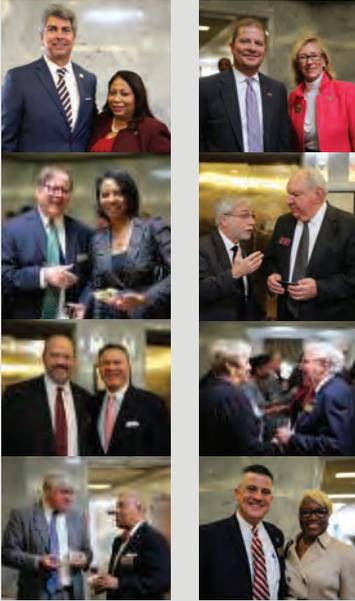


Attorney General Chris Carr (above) speaks to the Judicial Council at its meeting on February 23, 2018.



A reception hosted by the Judicial Council and the State Bar of Georgia followed the State of the Judiciary Address on February 22, 2018.





February 2018
African American History Month—
Georgia's Judges

March 2018
Women's History Month—
Georgia's Judges

Marking milestones in Georgia's Judicial history.

OVERVIEW

2018 JC/AOC HIGHLIGHTS *CONTINUED*

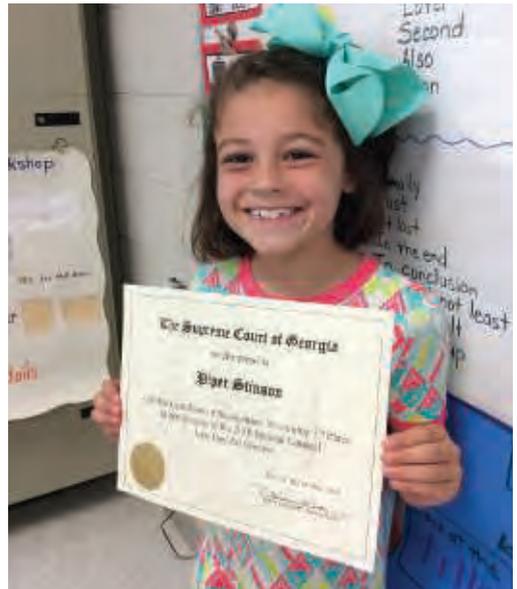
April 2018



- Top: JC/AOC holds its own Twitter Town Hall!
- Above, AOC staffer Jerry Bruce delivering Keynote at Georgia State University's Law Day.
- Below, the Council of Municipal Court Judges holds a strategic planning session.



- AOC receives an award of service from the Council of Probate Court Judges at their Spring 2018 conference.



- One of our 12 Judicial Council Law Day Art Contest Winners, sponsored in partnership with the Department of Education and the Georgia Council of Court Administrators. See: <http://journal.gegiacourts.gov/article/2018-law-day-coloringposter-contest>

May 2018



“...and beyond that, Judge Crumbley’s resting pulse is really one of kindness”— Judge Amero remarks at the unveiling of the portrait of Judge Crumbley.



- Muscogee County Probate Judge Marc D’Antonio with a young man who expressed his desire to one day be a judge.



- JC/AOC hosts the Georgia Reflections on Access and Fairness in the Courts Summit: Engaging the Faith Community.

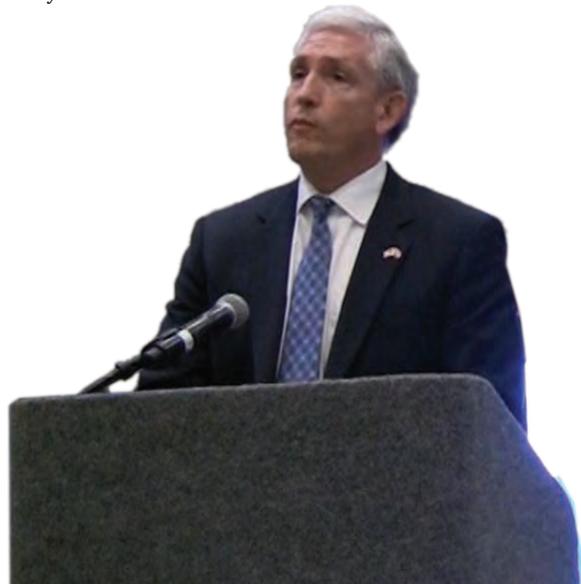
June 2018

- Justice David E. Nahmias presents the Chief Justice Hines Awards for outstanding child advocacy, at the State Bar Conference:

“I hope you’ll look for opportunities to recognize the difficult work being done by case managers in your communities.”



- Three trial judges from the Republic of Georgia and the Chairman of the Republic of Georgia Common Courts visited Cobb County Superior Court to observe a jury trial before Superior Court Judge Ann Harris.



OVERVIEW

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

Mission

The Judicial Council and AOC lead collaboration on policy across Georgia's courts to improve the administration of justice in Georgia.

Vision

To improve justice in all Georgia courts through collaboration, innovation, and information. As staff to the Judicial Council of Georgia, the Administrative Office of the Courts provides subject-matter expertise on policy, court innovation, legislation, and court administration to the state's trial and appellate courts. The AOC also furnishes a full range of information technology, budget, and financial services to the judicial branch.

Leadership

Cynthia Clanton is Director of the AOC and the lead of the Director's Division, which is made up of the Governmental Affairs and Trial Liaison led by Tracy Mason; Legal led by Jessica Farah; and Human Resources led by Stephanie Hines. The other Divisions of the AOC are: Communications, Children, Families and the Courts, led by Michelle Barclay; Financial Administration Division, led by Drew Townsend and Budget Director Maleia Wilson; Information Technology, led by Jorge Basto; and Judicial Services, led by Christopher Hansard, which includes the Office of Research and Data Analysis and the Office of Court Professionals.

About the AOC

The Director's Division is comprised of Human Resources, Governmental and Trial Court Liaison, General Counsel, and Budget. The Director determines priorities, strategy, and direction of the agency and oversees its divisions.

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

provides fiscal services for the Judicial Council, AOC, the state's courts, and other judicial branch organizations. Services provided include: payroll administration, budget preparation and management, audit compliance, invoicing, fixed asset management, and management of accounts receivable and payable. The Financial Administration staff also provides budget data to the Governor's Office and General Assembly on behalf of each Judicial Council budgetary unit.

COMMUNICATIONS, CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND

THE COURTS DIVISION supports court system initiatives and partnerships that improve outcomes for Georgia's most vulnerable citizens – children, victims of domestic violence, and families seeking child support. It includes staff support to the Child Support Commission, the Committee on Justice for Children, the Access, Fairness, Public Trust and Confidence Committee and oversees grant management for victims of domestic violence. A combination of state, federal and private funds finance this work. The staff serves as a liaison to the Council



The AOC invites judges to address AOC meetings. Clockwise from top left: Judge Charlie Bethel, Chief Judge Dillard, Judge Tripp Self, Judge Carla Wong McMillian, Judge Clyde Reese, Judge Brian Rickman, and Judge Amanda Mercier.

of Accountability Court Judges and Georgia Commission on Family Violence. This office also houses the Communications Department for the entire AOC.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION develops, supports and enhances automation solutions for all levels of court throughout the State of Georgia. The AOC IT Division offers consulting and research services, provisioning of hardware resources and compliance with legislative mandates as well as keeping up with industry fluctuations, develops, supports and enhances automation projects for all levels of court throughout the State of Georgia.

JUDICIAL SERVICES DIVISION is made up of two offices: Research and Data Analysis, and Court Professionals. Through these two offices, this division provides data-driven analysis of the state's trial courts and oversees the policy and regulatory matters of Georgia's court professionals.

In addition to staffing all the Judicial Council meetings, committees (ad hoc and standing) and connected committees, the AOC provides fiscal, legal, human resource, technology, legislative tracking, research, communication and liaison services to multiple classes of courts.

OVERVIEW**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS** *CONTINUED****Highlights***

- HR shared services – assisted four state judicial entities with their recruitment and hiring needs, including preparing a salary classification chart for one of the groups – advertised job postings for 18 additional judicial partners – recruited and on-boarded 21 internal positions since July 2017.
- Legal shared services – drafted/reviewed 186 contracts.
- Fiscal shared services – serves 17 judicial agencies. Tax Refund Intercept Program was expanded to 43 courts.
- Tracked 363 pieces of legislation during the 2018 legislative session.
- IT server environment hosts 1,124 monitored services with helpdesk support for over 1500 requests.
- IT launched the Georgia Judicial Services Portal and hired the first judiciary Cyber Security Officer.
- Assisted in the certification, registration, and licensure of 37 Process Servers, 438 Court Neutrals, 66 Court Reporters and 14 Licensed Interpreters.
- Sponsored three Day on the Bench events.
- Created video stories of three judges who ride circuit in GA to show a day in their lives.
- Sponsored a Law Day Art contest.
- Hosted a Twitter Town Hall with multiple judges representing multiple classes of courts.



AOC Staffers LaShawn Murphy, Tracy Mason, and Tara Smith prior to the Judicial Council meeting in Athens, April 27, 2018.

- Hosted a panel of judges to discuss *Promoting Transparency and Accountability in Georgia's Courts*.
- Hosted 10 child welfare legal trainings sponsored by the Committee on Justice for Children, including many multi-day events.
- Hosted 30 Child Support calculator and law trainings.
- Managed IT projects such as – GAJE (electronic child support filings in 134 courts) – JDEX (a collaborative project with multiple executive branch agencies currently hosting 113,000 juvenile offender records) and – eCourt's case management program (will support the mandate of electronic filing of court documents in superior courts).
- Hosted a *Georgia Reflections on Access and Fairness in the Courts Summit: Engaging the Faith Community* with sold out attendance.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL
OF GEORGIA

Judicial Council of Georgia

Authorized and Directed by Statute (Ga. L. 1945, 1973, 1983, 1984)

Created by Supreme Court Order (Amended May 2016)

All Judicial Council Members serve Ex-officio.

The Director of the AOC is the Secretary to the Judicial Council pursuant to its bylaws.

Chair

Chief Justice P. Harris Hines, Supreme Court of Georgia

Vice Chair

Presiding Justice Harold D. Melton, Supreme Court of Georgia

Council Members:

Chief Judge Stephen L. A. Dillard, Court of Appeals

Vice Chief Judge Christopher McFadden, Court of Appeals

Chief Judge Kathy S. Palmer, Superior Court, Middle Circuit

Judge Stephen Kelley, Superior Court, Brunswick Circuit

Judge Stephen Scarlett, Superior Court, Brunswick Circuit

Judge Stephen Goss, Superior Court, Dougherty Circuit

Judge Arthur Lee Smith, Superior Court, Chattahoochee Circuit

Judge Courtney L. Johnson, Superior Court, Stone Mountain Circuit

Judge Robert C.I. McBurney, Superior Court, Atlanta Circuit

Judge Brian Amero, Superior Court, Flint Circuit

Judge Jack Partain, Superior Court, Conasauga Circuit

Judge Donald W. Gillis, Superior Court, Dublin Circuit

Judge Bonnie Chessher Oliver, Superior Court, Northeastern Circuit

Judge Carl C. Brown, Superior Court, Augusta Circuit

Judge Gregory Fowler, State Court, Chatham County

Judge Nancy Bills, State Court, Rockdale County

Judge Juliette Scales, Juvenile Court, Fulton County

Judge Philip Spivey, Juvenile Court, Baldwin County

Judge Torri M. Hudson, Probate Court, Treutlen County

Judge Sarah Harris, Probate Court, Bibb County

Judge James M. Griner, Jr., Magistrate Court, Screven County

Judge Glenda Dowling, Magistrate Court, Pierce County

Judge LaTisha Dear Jackson, Municipal Court, City of Stone Mountain

Judge Matthew McCord, Municipal Court, City of Stockbridge

Brian “Buck” Rogers, Attorney, President of State Bar of Georgia (Non-Voting Member)

Judicial Council members as of June 30, 2018.



The Judicial Council in August, 2017

Midyear membership changes:

Chief Judge Gail Tusan;

replaced by Judge Robert C. I. McBurney

Judge Rooney Bowen II;

replaced by Judge Torri M. Hudson.



Judicial Council meeting in Athens, April 27, 2018.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

Judicial Council Actions

MEETINGS: The Judicial Council convened five times in FY 2018 to consider action items and to review reports from the following committees:

- Access, Fairness, Public Trust and Confidence
- Budget
- Court Reporting Matters
- Grants
- Judicial Workload Assessment
- Legislation
- Strategic Planning
- Technology
- Records Retention
- Process Servers

ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL INCLUDED:**August** (Atlanta)

- Recognize Law Day Award Winners.
- Approve support of legislation on a wide-range of issues (state court judge pensions, amend probate court statutes, streamline TRIP process, civil e-filing).
- Approve Amended FY 2018 and FY 2019 budget requests. Recommend a judgeship for Cobb Judicial Circuit.
- Adopt amendments to the Judicial Council Policy on the Study of Superior Court Judgeships and Circuit Boundaries.
- Adopt Georgia Court Guide to Statistical Reporting.
- Approve nominations to the Board of Court Reporting.

October (Macon)

- Adopt civil and domestic relations filing forms authorized by Senate Bill 132 (2017).

December (Atlanta)

- Approve support of legislation on a wide-range of issues (HB 571 Magistrates Retirement Fund, amendment of OCGA § 19-6-15, amendments to OCGA §§ 15-6-77 and 15-6-61).
- Approve support of the Criminal Justice Reform Council regarding misdemeanor bail reform measures.
- Approve the Trial Court Caseload Reporting Policy.
- Approve ICJE Education Recommendations.

February (Atlanta)

- Committee and Council updates.

April (Athens)

- Presentation of draft Policies and Fees for Court Reporting Services in Civil Cases.
- Committee and Council updates.
- Final report on 2018 legislative session.



Tracy Mason and Tyler Mashburn on the last day of the 2018 legislative session.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

Fiscal Year 2018 Budget

Year in Review

The Judicial Branch was appropriated \$133,930,779 for FY 2019 during the 2018 legislative session. This accounts for less than 1% of the budget for the State of Georgia.

Enhanced funding was received for the Court Process Reporting System, the Council of Accountability Court Judges, the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education, and the Administrative Office of the Courts. Funding supported certification and peer review programs, education and training, maintenance and enhancement of the Court Process Reporting System, and information security. Adjustments were received for statewide changes and unemployment insurance claims.

The amended FY 2018 budget included a reduction of funds to reflect savings in personal services and to align budget expenditures and adjustments.

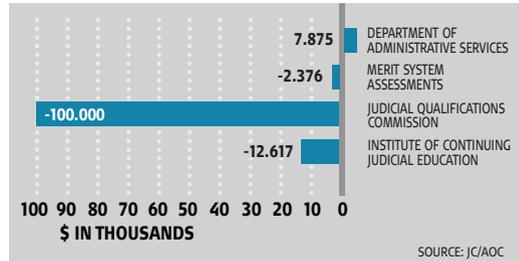
Judicial Council Budget

The total FY 2018 budget for the Judicial Council totaled \$15,479,797.

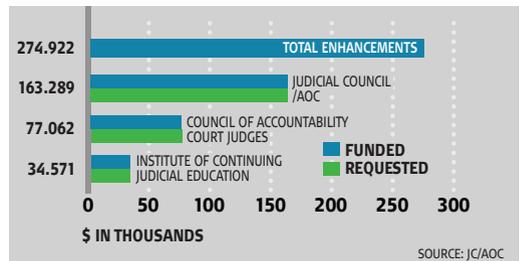
In 2018, the Judicial Council supported legislation that passed, notably:

- SB 407, which included recommendations made by the Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committee on Misdemeanor Bail Reform and provisions for civil e-filing in superior and state courts.

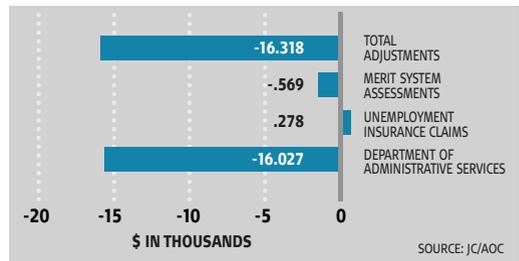
AMENDED FY 2018 BUDGET ENHANCEMENTS TO FUNDING



FY 2019 BUDGET ENHANCEMENTS



FY 2019 ADJUSTMENTS



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET *CONTINUED*

Amended FY 2018 Enhancement Request	Funding Adjustments
Institute of Continuing Judicial Education	\$ -12,617
Judicial Qualifications Commission	\$ -100,000
Merit System Assessments	\$ -2,376
Department of Administrative Services	\$ 7,875
Total	\$ -107,118

FY 2019 Enhancement Requests	Amount Requested	Amount Funded
Institute for Continuing Judicial Education	\$ 34,571	
Council of Accountability Court Judges	\$ 77,062	
Judicial Council	\$ 163,289	
Total	\$ 274,922	

Adjustments	
Department of Administrative Services	\$ -16,027
Unemployment Insurance Claims	\$ 278
Merit System Assessments	\$ 569
Total	\$ -16,318

Year in Review continued

- The Judicial Council was directed by legislation to develop a uniform misdemeanor citation and complaint form for use by law enforcement, to promulgate rules for the use of such form, and to develop statewide minimum standards and rules for collection and transmission of certain juvenile court data.
- The Judicial Council was given authority by legislation to develop statewide minimum standards and rules for civil e-filing in superior and state courts and to develop rules for filing in areas declared to be in states of emergency.
- The AOC Director was named as a member of the Criminal Case Data Exchange Board.
- The Council supported initiatives from the Council of Probate Court Judges (SB 436), the Magistrates Retirement Fund (HB 571) and the Commission on Child Support (HB 654, passed as part of SB 427), all of which achieved final passage.

Section	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
10 Supreme Court	\$ 9,392,560	\$ 10,248,025	\$ 10,312,655	\$ 12,002,660	\$ 13,106,211	\$ 14,518,835
5 Court of Appeals	\$ 14,441,605	\$ 15,035,519	\$ 17,314,958	\$ 20,388,803	\$ 21,231,636	\$ 21,284,676
9 Superior Courts	\$ 62,255,828	\$ 64,909,147	\$ 65,136,540	\$ 71,957,668	\$ 72,758,445	\$ 73,598,466
7 Juvenile Courts	\$ 6,787,786	\$ 7,029,264	\$ 7,606,988	\$ 7,542,544	\$ 8,242,585	\$ 8,683,283
6 Judicial Council	\$ 12,322,112	\$ 13,461,113	\$ 15,411,761	\$ 14,751,818	\$ 15,586,915	\$ 15,845,519
Judicial Branch/ Courts Total	\$ 105,199,891	\$ 110,683,068	\$ 115,782,902	\$ 126,643,493	\$ 130,925,792	\$ 133,930,779
State Funds	\$ 19,920,261,481	\$ 20,836,744,620	\$ 21,828,789,407	\$ 23,739,270,238	\$ 21,447,337,811	\$ 26,226,914,974
% of State Funds	0.53%	0.53%	0.53%	0.53%	0.61%	0.51%
% of State Funds Change	-0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.08%	

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

Standing Committees

Standing Committees and their memberships are determined by Supreme Court order. Committees may include advisory members appointed, as needed, by each committee chair. Advisory members may be heard but are non-voting.

Budget

Staff to Committee: Maleia Wilson

Authorized by Judicial Council Bylaws, Created by Supreme Court Order

Name	Role	Location	Position
Harold D. Melton	Presiding Justice	Statewide	Chair
Charles J. Bethel	Court of Appeals	Statewide	Vice Chair
Stephen Kelley	Superior Court Judge	Brunswick Circuit	Member, President-Elect of the Council of Superior Court Judges
Nancy Bills	State Court Judge	Rockdale County	Member, President-Elect of the Council of State Court Judges
Philip S. Spivey	Juvenile Court Judge	Baldwin	Member, President-Elect of the Council of Juvenile Court Judges
Sarah Harris	Probate Court Judge	Bibb County	Member, First Vice President of the Council of Probate Court Judges
Glenda Dowling	Magistrate Court Judge	Pierce County	Member, First Vice President of the Council of Magistrate Court Judges
Matthew McCord	Municipal Court Judge	City of Stockbridge	Member, President-Elect of the Council of Municipal Court Judges
Maria Golick	State Court Judge	Cobb County	Advisory Member, Budget Chair of Council of State Court Judges
Mike Greene	Probate Court Judge	Jones County	Advisory Member, Budget Chair of Council of Probate Court Judges
Keith Barber	Municipal Court Judge	Statesboro	Advisory Member, Budget Chair of Council of Municipal Court Judges
Cynthia Clanton	Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, JC/AOC
Shannon Weathers	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of Superior Court Judges
Bob Bray	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of State Court Judges
Eric John	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of Juvenile Court Judges
Kevin Holder	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of Probate Court Judges
Sharon Reiss	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of Magistrate Court Judges

Mission

The Budget Committee handles the initial review of Judicial Council, AOC, and all subprogram budgets and recommends continuation funding and enhancement requests to the Judicial Council for approval.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

STANDING COMMITTEES *CONTINUED***Access, Fairness, Public Trust and Confidence (AFPTC)**

Staff to Committee: Tabitha Ponder

Authorized by Judicial Council Bylaws, Created by Supreme Court Order

Name	Role	Location	Position
Robert Benham	Supreme Court Justice	Statewide	Co-Chair
Carol W. Hunstein	Supreme Court Justice	Statewide	Co-Chair
Britt Grant	Supreme Court Justice	Statewide	Advisor
Michael Boggs	Supreme Court Justice	Statewide	Advisor
Joseph Booth	Superior Court Judge	Piedmont Circuit	Superior Court Representative
Verda Colvin	Superior Court Judge	Macon Circuit	Superior Court Representative
Tony DelCampo	Attorney	Statewide	Hispanic Bar Association
Sara L. Doyle	Court of Appeals Judge	Statewide	Court of Appeals Representative
V. Sharon Edenfield	Attorney	Statewide	State Bar, Young Lawyers Division
Gail S. Tusan	Superior Court Judge	Atlanta Circuit	Superior Court Representative, July 1 - Feb 1
Belinda Edwards	Superior Court Judge	Atlanta Circuit	Superior Court Representative, Feb 1-June 30
Jana Edmondson-Cooper	Attorney	Statewide	Commission on Interpreters
Lori Gelchion	Attorney	Fulton County	Georgia Association of Women Lawyers Representative
LaTisha Dear Jackson	Municipal Court Judge	City of Stone Mountain	Municipal Court Representative
Coy Johnson	Attorney	Fulton County	Gate City Bar Association Representative
Tracy Johnson	Office of Dispute Resolution	Fulton County	Clerk/Court Administrator Representative
Monica Khant	Attorney	Fulton County	Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association Representative
Cassandra Kirk	Magistrate Court Judge	Fulton County	Magistrate Court Representative
Joy Lampley-Fortson	Attorney	Fulton County	Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys Representative
Jane Morrison	State Court Judge	Fulton County	Stonewall Bar Association
Robert V. Rodatus	Juvenile Court Judge	Gwinnett Circuit	Juvenile Court Representative
Will T. Simmons	District Court Administrator	6th Judicial District	Clerk/Court Administrator Representative
David M. Sneed	Attorney	Fulton County	State Bar of Georgia Representative
Jason B. Thompson	State Court Judge	Fayette County	State Court Representative

Court Reporting Matters

Staff to Committee: Christopher Hansard

Authorized by Judicial Council Bylaws, Created by Supreme Court Order

Name	Role	Location	Position
Christopher McFadden	Court of Appeals Judge	Statewide	Chair
Kathy Palmer	Superior Court Judge	Middle Circuit	Superior Court Representative
Verda M. Colvin	Superior Court Judge	Macon Circuit	Superior Court Representative
Jane Morrison	State Court Judge	Fulton Circuit	State Court Representative
John K. Edwards	State Court Judge	Lowndes County	State Court Representative
Robin W. Shearer	Juvenile Court Judge	Western Circuit	Juvenile Court Representative
Linnie Darden, III	Juvenile Court Judge	Atlantic Circuit	Juvenile Court Representative
Sarah S. Harris	Probate Court Judge	Bibb County	Probate Court Representative
W. Allen Wigington	Magistrate Court Judge	Pickens County	Magistrate Court Representative
James Anderson	Municipal Court Judge	City of Norcross	Municipal Court Representative

▲ *Mission*

The Court Reporting Matters Committee acts on behalf of the Judicial Council in handling appeals from decisions of the Board of Court Reporting; reviews and recommends changes to court reporting rules and fee schedules; approves Board of Court Reporting opinions; and recommends candidates for Board of Court Reporting membership.

◀ *Mission*

The Access, Fairness, Public Trust and Confidence Committee improves the public's trust by focusing on access and fairness through the elimination of systemic barriers in the judicial system related to gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, indigence, and language.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA**STANDING COMMITTEES** *CONTINUED***Education and Training**

Staff to Committee: Stephanie Hines

Authorized by Judicial Council Bylaws, Created by Supreme Court Order

Name	Role	Location	Position
Brian Rickman	Court of Appeals Judge	Statewide	Chair
A. Gregory Poole	Superior Court Judge	Cobb County	Superior Court Representative
Nancy Bills	State Court Judge	Rockdale County	State Court Representative
Stacey K. Hydrick	State Court Judge	DeKalb County	State Court Representative
C. Gregory Price	Juvenile Court Judge	Rome Circuit	Juvenile Court Representative
T.J. Hudson	Probate Court Judge	Treutlen County	Probate Court Representative
Mary Kathryn Moss	Magistrate Court Judge	Chatham County	Magistrate Court Representative
Margaret Washburn	Municipal Court Judge	City of Sugar Hill	Municipal Court Representative

Mission

The Standing Committee on Education and Training recommends best practices in training and education of trial court judges to the Judicial Council.

Grants

Staff to Committee: Meisa Pace

Authorized by Judicial Council Bylaws, Created by Supreme Court Order

Name	Role	Location	Position
William T. Boyett	Superior Court Judge	Conasauga Circuit	Chair
Melanie Cross	Superior Court Judge	Tifton Circuit	Vice Chair
Anne Barnes	Court of Appeals Judge	Statewide	Court of Appeals Representative
Jeannette L. Little	State Court Judge	Troup County	State Court Representative
Bill Bartles	Juvenile Court Judge	Flint Circuit	Juvenile Court Representative
Gary Nobles	Probate Court Judge	Twiggs County	Probate Court Representative
Cassandra Kirk	Magistrate Court Judge	Fulton County	Magistrate Court Representative
Graham McKinnon	Municipal Court Judge	Hall County	Municipal Court Representative
Verda M. Colvin	Accountability Court Judge	Macon Circuit	Accountability Court Representative
Linda Klein	Attorney	Fulton County	State Bar Representative
Jennifer Thomas	Georgia Commission on Family Violence	Statewide	Advisory Member
Jody Overcash	District Court Administrator	7th Judicial District	Advisory Member

Mission

The Standing Committee on Grants administers grant funds awarded to the Judicial Council or Administrative Office of the Courts, and reviews applications for those funds. This Committee is a successor to the Judicial Council Domestic Violence Committee.

GRANTS COMMITTEE MILESTONES FOR 2018

The Committee authorized funds:

- Providing 5,900 families with civil legal services
- Safeguarding 3,014 children
- Obtaining 3,510 Temporary Protective Orders
- Providing 709 clients with housing assistance

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

STANDING COMMITTEES *CONTINUED***Judicial Workload Assessment**

Staff to Committee: Christopher Hansard

Authorized by Judicial Council Bylaws, Created by Supreme Court Order

Name	Role	Location	Position
David T. Emerson	Superior Court Judge	Douglas Circuit	Chair
Russell Smith	Superior Court Judge	Mountain Circuit	Vice-Chair
Stephen Kelley	Superior Court Judge	Brunswick Circuit	1st District Representative
Joe Bishop	Superior Court Judge	Pataula Circuit	2nd District Representative
Edward Lukemire	Superior Court Judge	Houston Circuit	3rd District Representative
Asha Jackson	Superior Court Judge	Stone Mountain Circuit	4th District Representative
Doris L. Downs	Superior Court Judge	Atlanta Circuit	5th District Representative
Dusty Hightower	Superior Court Judge	Coweta Circuit	6th District Representative
William T. Boyett	Superior Court Judge	Conasauga Circuit	7th District Representative
Kathy Palmer	Superior Court Judge	Middle Circuit	8th District Representative
Timothy Hamil	Superior Court Judge	Gwinnett Circuit	9th District Representative
Sheryl B. Jolly	Superior Court Judge	Augusta Circuit	10th District Representative
Jason T. Harper	State Court Judge	Henry County	State Court Representative
LeRoy Burke, III	Juvenile Court Judge	Eastern Circuit	Juvenile Court Representative
Annie Dorris Holder	Probate Court Judge	Calhoun County	Probate Court Representative
Robert Turner	Magistrate Court Judge	Houston County	Magistrate Court Representative
Garland C. Moore	Municipal Court Judge	City of Conyers	Municipal Court Representative
William T. Simmons	6th Judicial Court Administrator	Coweta Circuit	Advisory Member
Bob Nadekow	8th District Court Administrator	Middle Circuit	Advisory Member
Tina Blankenship	President of Council of Superior Court Clerks	Webster County	Advisory Member
April Garrett	Chair, Second District Superior Court Clerks	Cook County	Advisory Member
Todd Ashley	Deputy Director, Prosecuting Attorneys' Council	Statewide	Advisory Member

Mission

The Judicial Workload Assessment Committee determines the methodology for analysis of data collected through annual trial court case counts. Additionally, based on staff studies, the Committee makes recommendations to the Judicial Council as to the need for additional judicial personnel.



Technology

Staff to Committee: Tyler Mashburn

Authorized by Judicial Council Bylaws, Created by Supreme Court Order

Name	Role	Location	Position
Harold D. Melton	Presiding Justice	Statewide	Chair
David T. Emerson	Superior Court Judge	Douglas Circuit	Vice Chair
Ken Shigley	Attorney	Fulton County	State Bar Representative
Jeff Kuester	Attorney	Fulton County	State Bar Representative
Jorge Basto	Administrative Office of the Courts	Fulton County	AOC Representative
Sheila Studdard	Clerk of Superior Court	Fayette County	Council of Superior Court Clerks Representative
Cindy Mason	Clerk of Superior Court	Columbia County	Clerks' Cooperative Authority Representative
Carter Brown	Clerk of Superior Court	Walker County	Clerks' Cooperative Authority Representative
Carla McMillian	Court of Appeals Judge	Statewide	Court of Appeals Representative
Stephen Kelley	Superior Court Judge	Brunswick Circuit	Superior Court Judge Representative
Diane Bessen	State Court Judge	Fulton County	State Court Judge Representative
Greg Price	Juvenile Court Judge	Rome Circuit	Juvenile Court Judge Representative
Keith Wood	Probate Court Judge	Cherokee County	Probate Court Judge Representative
James Altman	Magistrate Court Judge	Fulton County	Magistrate Court Judge Representative
Margaret Washburn	Municipal Court Judge	City of Sugar Hill	Municipal Court Judge Representative
T.J. Bement	District Court Administrator	10th District	Council of Court Administrators Representative
Jesse Stone	State Senator	23rd District	Senate Representative
Vacant	State Representative		House Representative
Vacant	Governor's Office		Governor's Representative
Dennis Dunn	Attorney General's Office	Fulton County	Attorney General's Representative

Mission

The Standing Committee on Technology provides guidance and oversight for the Judicial Council's technology initiatives.



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
STANDING COMMITTEES CONTINUED

Strategic Plan

Staff to Committee: Jessica Farah
 Authorized by Judicial Council Bylaws, Created by Supreme Court Order
 Includes subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness and Continuity of Judicial Operations

Name	Role	Location	Position
W. Allen Wigington	Magistrate Court Judge	Pickens County	Chair
Sara Doyle	Court of Appeals Judge	Statewide	Co-Chair
Horace Johnson	Superior Court Judge	Alcovy Circuit	Member
Greg Fowler	State Court Judge	Chatham County	Member
James R. Whitfield	Senior Juvenile Court Judge	Statewide	Member
Chase Daughtrey	Probate Court Judge	Cook County	Member
James M. Anderson III	Municipal Court Judge	Norcross	Member (Jan – present)
E. R. Lanier	Municipal Court Judge	Norcross	Member (July – Dec)
Keith Blackwell	Supreme Court Justice	Statewide	Advisory Member
Michael Boggs	Supreme Court Justice	Statewide	Advisory Member

Mission

The mission of the Strategic Plan Standing Committee is to improve justice in all Georgia courts through collaboration, innovation, and information. The Judicial Council and AOC lead this collaboration on policy across Georgia’s courts. The committee implements the initiatives of the strategic plan through the staff of the AOC.

Guiding Principles:

- Uphold the independence and integrity of the judiciary;
- Promote efficient and effective administration of justice;
- Support informed, fact-based decisions that affect the courts;
- Collaborate with key stakeholders in judicial, executive, and legislative branches.

The Legislation Committee supported the multi-year development of bench cards based on legislation passed in recent years. These cards are valuable to facilitate a more uniform application of probation and bail rules.

SETTING FINES, FEES, AND RESTITUTION
 O.C.G.A. §§ 17-14-05(a), 11-1-12, 42-8-40(a)(1)

If fines, restitution, or probation supervision fees are imposed, the amount should be adjusted to the defendant's circumstances, including:
 • The defendant's financial resources and income;
 • The defendant's financial obligations and dependent(s);
 • The defendant's family and probation status;
 • The defendant's employment, assets, and liabilities;
 • The defendant's ability to pay the amount imposed. If

CONVICTING FINES & FEES TO COMMUNITY SERVICE
 O.C.G.A. § 16-10-10(b), 42-8-40(a)(2)

The court may convert fines, surcharges, or probation supervision fees to community service. The number of service hours may be determined by the court, surcharges, or fees by the court, and may not exceed more than 30 days before probation.

PAROLE CONDITIONS O.C.G.A. § 42-9-101(1)

Parole conditions shall be based on the best interests of the offender and the protection of the community. The court shall consider the best interests of the offender under the courts'...

Legislation

Staff to Committee: Tracy Mason

Authorized by Judicial Council Bylaws, Created by Supreme Court Order

Name	Role	Location	Position
Harold D. Melton	Presiding Justice	Statewide	Chair
Stephen L. A. Dillard	Chief Judge	Statewide	Vice Chair
Kathy Palmer	Superior Court Judge	Middle Circuit	Member, President of the Council of Superior Court Judges
Gregory Fowler	State Court Judge	Chatham County	Member, President of the Council of State Court Judges
James Whitfield	Juvenile Court Judge	Cobb County	Member, President of the Council of Juvenile Court Judges
Rooney Bowen	Probate Court Judge	Dooly County	Member, President of the Council of Probate Court Judges
James Griner	Magistrate Court Judge	Screven County	Member, President of the Council of Magistrate Court Judges
LaTisha Dear Jackson	Municipal Court Judge	City of Stone Mountain	Member, President of the Council of Municipal Court Judges
William Hamrick	Superior Court Judge	Coweta Circuit	Advisory Member, Legislative Chair of Council of Superior Court Judges
Wesley Tailor	State Court Judge	Fulton County	Advisory Member, Legislative Co-Chair of Council of State Court Judges
Al Wong	State Court Judge	DeKalb County	Advisory Member, Legislative Co-Chair of Council of State Court Judges
Bradley Boyd	Juvenile Court Judge	Fulton County	Advisory Member, Legislative Chair of Council of Juvenile Court Judges
Chase Daughtrey	Probate Court Judge	Cook County	Advisory Member, Legislative Chair of Council of Probate Court Judges
Alex Atwood	Magistrate Court Judge	Glynn County	Advisory Member, Legislative Chair of Council of Magistrate Court Judges
Charles Barrett	Municipal Court Judge	City of Duluth	Advisory Member, Legislative Chair of Council of Municipal Court Judges
Cynthia Clanton	Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, JC/AOC
Shannon Weathers	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of Superior Court Judges
Bob Bray	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of State Court Judges
Eric John	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of Juvenile Court Judges
Kevin Holder	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of Probate Court Judges
Sharon Reiss	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of Magistrate Court Judges
Brian “Buck” Rogers	President	Statewide	Advisory Member, State Bar of Georgia

Mission

The Legislation Committee reviews legislation affecting the judicial branch and recommends policy positions to the Judicial Council where appropriate.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

Ad Hoc Committees

The Council Chair establishes ad-hoc committees to conduct the business of the Council. Each ad-hoc committee chair appoints committee members. Each ad-hoc committee must include one current Council member. Advisory members may be heard but shall not be entitled to vote.

Misdemeanor Bail Reform

Staff to Committee: James Rodatus and Robert Aycock | Authorized and Created by the Supreme Court

Name	Role	Location	Position
Wayne Purdom	State Court Judge	DeKalb County	Chair
Michael Boggs	Justice	Statewide	Liason
Mary Kathryn Moss	Magistrate Court Judge	Chatham County	Member
Bob Bray	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of State Court Judges
Sharon Reiss	Executive Director	Statewide	Advisory Member, Council of Magistrate Court Judges
T. J. BeMent	District Court Administrator	Tenth Judicial Administrative District	Advisory Member
Brenda Weaver	Superior Court Judge	Appalachian Circuit	Member
Melodie Clayton	State Court Judge	Cobb County	Member
Russ McClelland	State Court Judge	Forsyth County	Member
Ben Studdard	State Court Judge	Henry County	Member
Mark Mitchell	State/Municipal Court Judge	Thomas County	Member
Michael Barker	Magistrate Court Judge	Chatham County	Member
Bob Turner	Magistrate Court Judge	Houston County	Member
Berryl Anderson	Magistrate/Municipal Court Judge	DeKalb County	Member
W. Allen Wigington	Magistrate/Probate Court Judge	Pickens County	Member
Rooney Bowen	Probate Court	Dooley County	Member
Matthew McCord	Municipal Court Judge	Stockbridge	Member

Mission

The Ad Hoc Committee on Misdemeanor Bail Reform is responsible for researching nationwide bail practices, interviewing interested stakeholders in Georgia, and producing a report on the Committee's findings to be shared with the Judicial Council and the Council on Criminal Justice Reform.

Process Servers

Staff to Committee: Christopher Hansard

Authorized by Judicial Council Bylaws, Created by Judicial Council Chair

Name	Role	Location	Position
Shawn LaGrua	Superior Court Judge	Atlanta Circuit	Chair
Samuel D. Ozburn	Superior Court Judge	Alcovy Circuit	Superior Court Representative
James G. Tunison	Superior Court Judge	Southern Circuit	Superior Court Representative
Ann B. Harris	Superior Court Judge	Cobb Circuit	Superior Court Representative
Alison T. Burleson	Superior Court Judge	Ocmulgee Circuit	Superior Court Representative
David P. Darden	State Court Judge	Cobb County	State Court Representative
Cathy McCumber	District Court Administrator	4th District	Advisory Member

Mission

The Ad Hoc Committee on Process Servers is responsible for updating the Judicial Council's rules and regulations for Georgia's Certified Process Server Program and makes any other recommendations to the Judicial Council regarding process servers that the Committee deems appropriate.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA**AD HOC COMMITTEES** *CONTINUED***Records Retention**

Staff to Committee: Christopher Hansard

Authorized by Judicial Council Bylaws, Created by Judicial Council Chair

Name	Role	Location	Position
Nels S. D. Peterson	Supreme Court Justice	Statewide	Chair
Billy Ray	Court of Appeals Judge	Statewide	Vice Chair
Maureen Gottfried	Superior Court Judge	Chattahoochee Circuit	Superior Court Representative
Sheryl Jolly	Superior Court Judge	Augusta Circuit	Superior Court Representative
Jeannette Little	State Court Judge	Troup County	State Court Representative
Kiesha Storey	State Court Judge	DeKalb County	State Court Representative
Robin Shearer	Juvenile Court Judge	Western Circuit	Juvenile Court Representative
Joe Wyant	Juvenile Court Judge	Coweta Circuit	Juvenile Court Representative
Ann Jackson	Probate Court Judge	Fayette County	Probate Court Representative
Pam Ferguson	Probate Court Judge	Clayton County	Probate Court Representative
Bill Brogdon	Magistrate Court Judge	Gwinnett County	Magistrate Court Representative
Mike Burke	Magistrate Court Judge	Walton County	Magistrate Court Representative
Garland C. Moore	Municipal Court Judge	City of Conyers	Municipal Court Representative
Matthew Campbell Jordan	Municipal Court Judge	City of Atlanta	Municipal Court Representative
Teresa Harper	Superior Court Clerk	Upton County	Superior Court Clerk Representative
Quentin LaMont Marlin	Attorney	Chatham County	State Bar Representative
Dena Adams	Superior Court Clerk	White County	Advisory Member
Todd Ashley	Prosecuting Attorneys' Council	Fulton County	Advisory Member
Joy Conner	Superior Court Clerk	Washington County	Advisory Member
Taylor Jones	Council of Accountability Court Judges	Fulton County	Advisory Member
Tracy Johnson	Comm. on Dispute Resolution	Fulton County	Advisory Member
Doug Rollo	Georgia Archives	Fulton County	Advisory Member
Jimonique Rodgers	Public Defender Council	Fulton County	Advisory Member
Robin Rooks	Court Administrator	Bell-Forsyth Circuit	Advisory Member
Randi Strumlauf	Court Reporter	Fulton County	Advisory Member
Jeff West	Court Administrator	Gwinnett County	Advisory Member

Mission

The Ad Hoc Committee on Records Retention recommends changes to the judicial branch record retention schedules and makes other recommendations to the Judicial Council regarding records retention.

CONNECTED
BOARDS,
COMMITTEES,
COMMISSIONS,
AND COUNCILS

CONNECTED BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND COUNCILS**Council of Accountability Court Judges**

Taylor Jones, Executive Director
gaaccountabilitycourts.org

Vision

Making Accountability Courts work for all Georgians.

Mission

To improve the quality, accessibility and administration of Accountability Courts. The CACJ strives to set goals that include achievable expectations; make efficient use of resources that adhere to evidence-based research and leading practices, work to enhance public safety, and that are transparent to all.

Highlights

- During FY 18, CACJ's Standards and Certification Committee (SCC) continued to certify and peer review the state's accountability courts. The SCC certified the veterans treatment courts for the first time, in addition to continuing the certification

Leadership

Chief Judge Stephen Goss Chair – Dougherty Superior Court;

Chief Judge Brenda S. Weaver Vice-Chair – Appalachian Judicial Circuit;

Judge Jason J. Deal Immediate Past Chair

process for adult felony drug, mental health, DUI/OUI, and family treatment courts.

- The peer review process continued for mental health courts. During that time, the adult felony drug court peer review process was expanded, at no cost to the state, to include national educational resources. Peer review materials were developed for the DUI/OUI courts and family treatment courts, and those reviews are now under way. CACJ continues to provide technical assistance by request or for those

Accountability Court team members were honored at the 2018 Training Conference. (Left to right) Scot Dean – Probation Officer for the Tallapoosa Circuit Drug Court, Judge D. Scott Smith – Presiding Judge of the Cherokee Judicial Circuit Drug Court, Molly Laughlin – Coordinator for the Enotah Felony Drug Court – South (Honorable Tommy Day Wilcox Award recipient), David Wood – Coordinator for the

Chatham County DUI Court, Melissa Himes – Prosecutor for the Troup County Mental Health Court, Tracy Wilson, LPC – Treatment Provider for the Carroll County Drug Court, Tamara Jones – Case Manager for the Fulton County Family Treatment Court, Veronica Williams – Law Enforcement Officer for Newton County Adult Felony Drug Court, and Chris Van Rossem – Defense Attorney for the Hall County H.E.L.P. Court.





The CACJ Training Session this year included a vendor fair, creating opportunities for learning, networking and comparison shopping for services.

The CACJ hosted its annual training conference in Athens, GA from Sunday, 9/17/17 to Tuesday, 9/19/17. Accountability Court treatment providers participated in a role play exercise during a *Seeking Safety* training provided by the CACJ.

courts identified as having a need through the certification and peer review processes.

- In addition to the annual training conference the CACJ hosted 19 additional evidence-based training events to include: Cognitive-Behavioral Interventions for Substance Abuse; Seeking Safety; a Drug Court Planning Initiative Training sponsored by NDCI; and Operational Tune-Up trainings (also hosted by NDCI) for Adult Felony Drug Courts, Veterans Treatment Court, DUI Courts, and Family Treatment Courts.
- The CACJ Funding Committee awarded grant funds to 149 Accountability Court programs in FY18.
 - The CACJ implemented the Treatment Fidelity Monitoring Program in FY18. The CACJ is working to improve the effectiveness of the evidence-based programming utilized in Accountability Courts. Fidelity monitoring contributes to participant behavior change and reduced recidivism rates.



Mr. Josh Becker, Chief Certification Officer, facilitates a session for court coordinators at the annual coordinators training forum. The session highlighted CACJ's Peer Review.

CONNECTED BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND COUNCILS *CONTINUED***Commission on Dispute Resolution**

Tracy Johnson, Executive Director
godr.org

Mission:

The Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution is a policy-making body appointed by the Supreme Court of Georgia charged with leading a statewide system of court alternative dispute resolution (ADR) programs. There are currently over 40 court ADR programs in Georgia offering high-quality, cost-effective alternatives to traditional litigation. These services cover 93 of the 159 counties and utilize neutrals registered through the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution in a range of categories that include general civil mediation, domestic relations mediation, specialized domestic violence, arbitration, early neutral evaluation, juvenile dependency and juvenile delinquency. As of June 30, 2018, there were 2,472 registered neutrals. The partnership between neutrals, programs, and the Commission creates a comprehensive network that benefits taxpayers, litigants, attorneys, judges, and courts.

Highlights:

The 24th Annual ADR Institute and 2017 Neutrals' Conference was held Friday, December 8, 2017, at the State Bar of Georgia. There were 288 attendees in total. The keynote speaker was Brad Heckman, Chief Executive Officer of the New York Peace Institute, with his presentation "Strange Bedfellows: Experiences Embedding Mediation in Unlikely Places, From the NYPD, to Post-Revolutionary Eastern Europe, to NASA and Beyond." Here, the Georgia Supreme Court Commission on Dispute Resolution and

Leadership:**CHAIRPERSON****Judge Charles E. Auslander III****CHAIRPERSON-ELECT****Judge Jane C. Barwick****COMMISSION MEMBERS:****Justice Keith R. Blackwell****Justice Britt C. Grant****Judge Amanda H. Mercier****Emily S. Bair, Esq.****Raymond G. Chadwick, Jr., Esq.****Mary Donovan, Esq.****Judge C. Andrew Fuller****Herbert H. (Hal) Gray, III, Esq.****Melissa C. Heard, M.S.S.W.****Timothy Hedeem, Ph.D.****Judge Stefani R. Lacour, Esq.****Judge M. Cindy Morris, Esq.****Patrick T. O'Connor, Esq.****Rep. Jay Powell, Esq.****Edith B. Primm, Esq.****Vjollca Prroni Young, LL.M.**

the Dispute Resolution Section of the State Bar of Georgia also presented the 2017 Chief Justice Harold G. Clarke Award to Wayne R. Thorpe, Esq., in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of alternative dispute resolution in Georgia.

- Joint effort by the Commission on Dispute Resolution and Georgia Commission on Family Violence to update the mediation rules concerning screening practices for cases in which intimate partner violence/abuse (domestic



The Supreme Court of Georgia has appointed Superior Court Judge Cindy Morris, Conasauga Judicial Circuit and Mr. Hal Gray, Esq. as new members and Judge Jane C. Barwick as Chair-Elect to the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution. Justice Britt C. Grant administered the oath at the January 31 meeting.

violence) may be present continued to gain momentum in 2017. The Commissions share a common priority of safety for victims of domestic violence, and further news regarding progress of their collaborative work is expected to be announced in 2018.

- The Commission on Dispute Resolution is pleased to announce the successful implementation of improvements to the Registrar for the 2017 renewal season. Advancements are aimed to ease use and enhance user experience for neutrals but also include a brand new component for training programs.

- Ms. Karlie Sahs joined the office in July 2017 as the new Program Coordinator.

- October 15-21, 2017, was Dispute Resolution Week, marked by proclamation signed by Governor Deal.

- The Commission recognized parting members Judge J. Carlisle Overstreet and Herbert (Hugh) Bell at the November 8, 2017 meeting for their dedicated service.



The 2018 Chief Justice Harold G. Clarke Award was given to R. Wayne Thorpe, Esq., (center). Mr. Thorpe has been a full-time ADR neutral since 1998. He has served as mediator, arbitrator, facilitator, special master, and case evaluator in more than 2,000 cases. Presenting the award are Bob Berlin, President, Dispute Resolution Section of the State Bar of Georgia (left) and Tracy Johnson, Executive Director, Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution (right).



CONNECTED BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND COUNCILS *CONTINUED***Committee on Justice for Children**

Authorized and Created by the Supreme Court
 Staff to the Committee: Jerry Bruce
j4c.georgiacourts.gov

Name	Role	Location	Position
David Nahmias	Supreme Court Justice	Statewide	Chair
Kim Anderson	Attorney	Fulton County	Member
Michael Boggs	Supreme Court Justice	Statewide	Member
W. Bradley Bryant	Georgia Student Finance Commission	Fulton County	Member
Christopher Carr	Attorney General	Statewide	Member
Lindsay Caulfield	Grady Health System	Fulton County	Member
Stephen Louis A. Dillard	Court of Appeals	Statewide	Member
Darice M. Good	Attorney	Fulton County	Member
Britt Hammond	Superior Court Judge	Toombs Circuit	Member
Duaine Hathaway	Georgia CASA	Fulton County	Member
Amanda Health	Juvenile Court Judge	Augusta Circuit	Member
Sharon Hill	Georgia State University	Fulton County	Member
Glen Jackson	Co-Founder, Jackson Spalding	Fulton County	Member
Lisa Jones	Juvenile Court Judge	Southwestern Circuit	Member
Michael Key	Juvenile Court Judge	Coweta Circuit	Member
Nealie McCormick	Georgia Council on American Indian Concerns	Mitchell County	Member
Gary McGiboney	Georgia Department of Education	Fulton County	Member
Avery Niles	Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice	Statewide	Member
Mary Margeret Oliver	State Representative	DeKalb County	Member
Virginia Pryor	Georgia Division of Family and Children Services	Statewide	Member
Tom Rawlings	Georgia Office of the Child Advocate	Statewide	Member
Juliette Scales	Juvenile Court Judge	Atlanta Circuit	Member
Phil Spivey	Juvenile Court Judge	Ocmulgee Circuit	Member
Catherine Vandenberg	Atlanta Legal Aid	Fulton County	Member
Talley Wells	Georgia Appleseed Center for Law and Justice	Statewide	Member
James Whitfield	Juvenile Court Judge	Cobb Circuit	Member
Wendell Willard	State Representative	Fulton County	Member
Robert Wright	Bishop, Episcopal Diocese, Atlanta	Fulton County	Member
Stephany Zaic	Attorney	Towns County	Member

Left to right: GA CASA's Angela Tyner, moderating a panel of J4C staff, committee members and the chair: Jerry Bruce; Tom Rawlings; Judge Juliette Scales; and Justice David Nahmias



Mission

Striving to improve justice for children and families within the child welfare legal system.

Highlights

- Co-Sponsored a Child Welfare Legal Summit in November 2017, in partnership with the Office of the Child Advocate and the Division of Family and Children Services with over 800 attendees. Numerous committee members attended and participated. Committee Chair, Justice David Nahmias, was the luncheon keynote speaker and committee member Justice Michael Boggs made closing remarks.
- Launched a partnership with the Georgia Public Defender Council to provide parent attorneys in Coweta County as a pilot project. This project will provide an opportunity to test whether counsel have more independence, but also more training and accountability than under our current system of judge-appointed attorneys. Costs will also be evaluated.
- Continued enhancement of the Court Process Reporting System (a child-specific data sharing system between the judicial and legislative branches) to receive court orders.
- Continued support for the Cold Case Project (a collaborative and specialized review effort for children with long stays in foster care).
- Coordinated a Peer Review Project to bring attention to child representation and participation issues.
- Promoted awareness of the importance of the work with the annual Hines awards for

excellence given in 2017 to one child welfare attorney and one agency case manager at the annual meeting in June of the Georgia State Bar. The awards were presented by Justice David Nahmias of the Georgia Supreme Court, the current chair of our CIP committee. A separate award was given to a member of the Child Protection and Advocacy Section, named for the late Judge Willie Lovett, Child Welfare Law Specialist and Fulton County Juvenile Court Judge.

- Provided multiple educational opportunities including six Multi-Disciplinary Child Abuse and Neglect Institutes, two Court Improvement Initiative Meetings, scholarships and support for the Council of Juvenile Court Judges bi-annual conferences.



JC/AOC Director Cynthia Clanton and Justice David Nahmias congratulating the 2018 winners of the Chief Justice P. Harris Hines Child Advocacy Award. This year's honorees are Demetria Campbell, Outstanding Case Manager, and Christopher Hemphfling, Outstanding Attorney.

CONNECTED BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND COUNCILS *CONTINUED***Georgia Commission on Child Support**

Created and authorized by O.C.G.A. § 19-6-50, 53

Staff to Commission: Patricia Buonodono

csc.georgiacourts.gov

Name	Role	Location	Position
R. Michael Key	Juvenile Court Judge	Coweta Circuit	Chair
Timothy Barr	State Representative	District 103	House of Representatives Member 1
Beth Beskin	State Representative	District 54	House of Representatives Member 2
Anne Elizabeth Barnes	Appellate Judge	Georgia Court of Appeals	member
Charles Clay	Attorney	Fulton County	member
Kathleen Connell	Attorney	Cobb County	member
Chuck Hufstetler	State Senator	District 52	State Senate Member 1
Emanuel Jones	State Senator	District 10	State Senate Member 2
Lisa C. Jones	Juvenile Court Judge	Southwestern Circuit	member
Shawn LaGrua	Superior Court Judge	Atlanta Circuit	member
Todd Markle	Superior Court Judge	Atlanta Circuit	member
Emory Palmer	Superior Court Judge	Coweta Circuit	member
Ronald “Rick” Smith		Cobb County	member
Dr. Roger Tutterow	Economist	Kennesaw State University	member
Wendy Williamson	Attorney	Chatham County	member

Mission

The Child Support Commission was created by statute for the purpose of studying and collecting information and data relating to awards of child support and to create and revise the child support obligation table. The Commission conducts comprehensive reviews of the child support guidelines, economic conditions, and all matters relevant to maintaining effective and efficient child support guidelines that will serve the best interest of Georgia’s children and take into account the changing dynamics of family life.

The Commission trains judges, attorneys, mediators and the public around the state; develops and maintains the state’s child support calculator and worksheets; and proposes legislation when it deems an amendment to the guidelines is necessary.

Highlights

The Child Support Commission sponsored legislation in 2018 that removed the requirement that parties file multiple worksheets on every case. Multiple worksheets are now discretionary, and have a two-year limitation on a child aging out of eligibility in order to be considered by the Court. Staff began working on the federal quadrennial review that is due in 2018, pulling orders from the month of October 2017 and compiling data. Staff also continued to train all around the state on the new online child support calculator and updates to the law, putting on 31 trainings during the year, including one large regional training in each judicial district in Georgia.

We also support the Department of Human Services, Division of Child Support Services' Parental Accountability Courts by providing a database for the court coordinators to use in keeping information about their participants. This year, that information was used to create a research report on the effectiveness of those courts, with some astounding and positive numbers. The Division of Child Support Services received a national award based on collaboration for their work with the Judiciary and the Judicial Council/AOC on these courts.



Left to right: Elaine Johnson, Judge Rucker Smith, Patricia Buonodono



Left to right: Judge Richard Waters, Elaine Johnson, Judge Judson Green, Patricia Buonodono, and Chief Judge Donald Gillis.

CONNECTED BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND COUNCILS *CONTINUED*
GEORGIA COMMISSION ON INTERPRETERS

Georgia Commission on Interpreters

Staff to Commission: John Botero
 Authorized and Created by the Supreme Court
coi.georgiacourts.gov

Name	Role	Location	Position
Keith R. Blackwell	Supreme Court Justice	Statewide	Chair
Clyde Reese	Court of Appeals Judge	Statewide	Vice Chair
Meng Lim	Superior Court Judge	Tallapoosa Circuit	Superior Court Representative
Dax E. Lopez	State Court Judge	DeKalb County	State Court Representative
Robert L. Waller, III	Juvenile Court Judge	Gwinnett Circuit	Juvenile Court Representative
Joseph Bledsoe	Probate Court Judge	Heard County	Probate Court Representative
Ruth R. McMullin	Magistrate Court Judge	Gwinnett County	Magistrate Court Representative
Mazi Mazloom	Municipal Court Judge	City of Marietta	Municipal Court Representative
Bert Reeves	State Representative	Cobb County	General Assembly Representative
Jana J. Edmondson-Cooper	Attorney	Fulton County	State Bar Representative
B.J. Pak	Attorney	Gwinnett County	State Bar Representative
Christopher Paul	Attorney	Bartow County	State Bar Representative
Stephen Nevels	Public	Jackson County	Non-Attorney Representative
Pilar Archila	Public	Laurens County	Non-Attorney Representative
Maria Ceballos-Wallis	Public	DeKalb County	Non-Attorney Representative

Philippe DuMoulin leads discussion among interpreters at the Commission's orientation workshop. Professionalism is a key focus for the JC/AOC in ensuring fair and equitable treatment for every citizen entering a courtroom.



Mission

To provide interpreter licensing, regulatory, and educational services for Georgia courts so they can ensure the rights of non-English speaking persons.

Highlights

- The Commission on Interpreters has been working on revising the current rules and regulations to provide more comprehensive guidance to court professionals, the courts and other stakeholders.
- The Commission on Interpreters enacted a Memorandum of Understanding with the Atlanta Association of Interpreters and Translators (AAIT) to provide low-cost training for candidate interpreters who are seeking national certification.

- The administrative staff for the Commission on Interpreters has been actively seeking more training opportunities for judges, attorneys, and court administrators to instruct them on the importance of using professional interpreters for parties who need an interpreter to ensure equal access to justice.
- The Commission on Interpreters has increased the number of times it offers the National Center for State Courts’ Language Access Coordinators’ oral exam certification to ensure that more people are provided an opportunity to become certified for the language in which they test.
- The administrative staff of the Commission on Interpreters has been working closely with their counterparts in South Carolina and Florida to create a Southern States Collaborative Group that will tackle the common challenges all three states face in recruiting and certifying candidate interpreters.

The Interpreters Orientation Workshop in Nov. 2017 was held by the Judicial Services Office of Court Professionals. John Botero, Program Manager, and Bianca Bennett, Project Coordinator, taught and led discussion for incoming interpreters.



CONNECTED BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND COUNCILS *CONTINUED***Board of Court Reporting**

Staff to Board: John Botero

Authorized and Created by statute. | bcr.georgiacourts.gov

Reports to the Judicial Council's Court Reporting Matters Standing Committee

Name	Role	Location	Position
John K. Edwards	State Court Judge	Lowndes County	Chair
Cynthia H. Clanton, Esq.	Director of the Judicial Council/ Administrative Office of the Courts	Fulton County	Board Secretary
Daniel Gershwin	Freelance Court Reporter, Machine Shorthand	Fulton County	Board Member
Cheryl Gilliam, RMR	Official Reporter	Fulton County	Board Member
Kevin King	Freelance Court Reporter, Machine Shorthand	Fulton County	Board Member
John K. Larkins, Jr., Esq.	Attorney, State Bar Representative	Fulton County	Vice-Chair
John Bell Manly, Esq.	Attorney, State Bar Representative	Chatham County	Board Member
Randi Strumlauf, CCR, CER	Freelance Court Reporter, Voice Writer	Gwinnett County	Board Member
Brenda H. Trammell	Superior Court Judge	Ocmulgee Circuit	Board Member

Mission

The Georgia General Assembly established the Board of Court Reporting of the Judicial Council of Georgia to ensure the integrity and competency of the court reporting practice. The Board of Court Reporting establishes and enforces standards that govern court reporters and provides a forum for an exchange of ideas and educational services.

Highlights:

- Providing a forum for an exchange of ideas and educational services.
- Concentrating on updating its rules and regulations, and its advisory opinions.
- Actively encouraging and working with new members in giving them the necessary tools to succeed in their profession.

REPORTS FROM
APPELLATE COURTS
AND TRIAL COURT
COUNCILS

REPORTS FROM APPELLATE COURTS AND TRIAL COURT COUNCILS**Supreme Court of Georgia**

gasupreme.us

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN DECADES, the Supreme Court of Georgia has entered an era in which “nothing is constant but change.” As of January 2017, the state’s highest court grew to nine justices, up from the seven it had since 1945. With the retirement of the previous Chief Justice, the year 2017 brought P. Harris Hines as Chief Justice, and three new justices: Michael P. Boggs, Nels S.D. Peterson, and Britt C. Grant. In April 2018, Justice Grant was nominated by the President to become a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. The U.S. Senate subsequently confirmed her, and she no longer serves on the state’s highest court. Also by the end of 2018, both Chief Justice Hines and Justice Carol W. Hunstein will have retired. Therefore, by January 2019, the Georgia Supreme Court again will have three new justices, and a new Chief Justice, Harold D. Melton.

CHANGE IN JURISDICTION At the same time, the Legislature changed the types of appeals the Georgia Supreme Court reviews, shifting a number of categories from the state’s highest court to the state’s intermediate appellate court, the Georgia Court of Appeals. The categories transferred by 2016 legislation include cases involving divorce, wills, and titles to land.

MOST PRODUCTIVE HIGH COURT Despite the changes in makeup and jurisdiction, the Georgia Supreme Court remains one of the most productive – if not the most productive – state Supreme Court in the nation, based on the number of opinions published each year. In a recent survey of 26 states, conducted by the Massachusetts Supreme Court, the Supreme Court of Georgia produced the highest number

The Supreme Court listening to an attorney’s arguments during an off-site court session at the University of Georgia.



"FIAT JUSTITIA. RUAT CAELUM"



of written opinions per justice in 2016 – more than any other state surveyed. Georgia’s justices annually wrote 50.14 opinions each compared to the second highest-producing state, Maine, whose justices wrote 27.43 opinions each year. This supports the conclusion of a 2008 national study by the University of Chicago Law School that ranked Georgia the most productive high court in the country.

LARGE CASELOAD The Georgia Supreme Court granted 47 percent more petitions for *certiorari* in 2017 than in 2016 (such petitions are requests to appeal decisions by the intermediate Court of Appeals and are among the most complex cases the Supreme Court reviews); it decided six percent more cases involving the discipline of lawyers in 2017; and in a recent five-year period, the percentage of direct appeals involving murder cases – the largest single block of appeals decided by the Supreme Court – rose from approximately 27 percent to 36 percent. The Georgia Supreme Court’s oral argument caseload is also high. Compared to courts of last resort in other large states with populations comparable to Georgia’s, and in states contiguous to Georgia, the Georgia Supreme Court hears oral arguments in more cases and on more days than any highest level state court other than the New York Court of Appeals.

The 2018 Georgia Supreme Court

Standing, L to R: Justice Nels S.D. Peterson, Justice Keith R. Blackwell, Justice Michael P. Boggs, Justice Britt C. Grant.

Seated, L to R: Justice Carol W. Hunstein, Presiding Justice Harold D. Melton, Chief Justice P. Harris Hines, Justice Robert Benham, Justice David E. Nahmias.



Supreme Court Justices participating in the groundbreaking of the new Georgia Judicial Center, set to open in 2019.



The Justices “robing up” for oral arguments at the University of Georgia.

REPORTS FROM APPELLATE COURTS AND TRIAL COURT COUNCILS *CONTINUED***Court of Appeals of Georgia**

gaappeals.us

Mission and Goals

The Court of Appeals of Georgia is the court of first review for most civil and criminal cases heard by the trial courts. Established in 1906, the Court's mission is to provide access to justice in an unbiased forum by fairly and promptly resolving appeals. The Court is committed to being accountable to the citizens of the State, and one of its goals is to increase public trust and confidence in the judiciary.



Court of Appeals judges at the swearing-in of Judges Brown and Gobeil. Front row, L-R: Judge Carla Wong McMillian, Chief Judge Stephen Louis A. Dillard, Judge E. Trenton Brown, III, Judge Elizabeth Gobeil, Governor Nathan Deal, Presiding Judge Sarah L. Doyle. Second row: Presiding Judge Christopher J. McFadden, Judge William M. Ray, II, Judge Amanda H. Mercier, Presiding Judge John J. Ellington.



Judge Branch being sworn into the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit by Chief Judge Dillard, attended by sisters Amy Branch Munn and Ginny Branch Stelling.

Highlights

- New judicial building design finalized and construction begun
- Implementation of electronic voting by judges
- Facilitation of electronic payment of costs and document delivery
- Revision of the Court's Citizens' Guide to assist self-represented litigants
- Conversion of historical case files from microfilm to digital media
- Restoration and expansion of Central Staff Attorney pool
- Digitization of most historical court records
- Restoration of Deputy Court Administrator position
- Cyber-security strengthened and regularly updated
- Disaster recovery software implemented

Most of the COA judges are active public speakers at CLEs and civic organizations. In addition they serve on multiple boards, committees, and commissions, including:

Commission on Interpreters
State Bar's SOLACE Committee
Mercer University Board of Trustees
Walter F. George Foundation Board
Lamar Inn of Court Executive Board,
Access to Justice Committee
National Association of Women Judges
Court Reform Council
...and many others

UPON THE INTEGRITY WISDOM AND
INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY DEPEND
THE SACRED RIGHTS OF FREE MEN
AND WOMEN



COURT OF APPEALS 2018 MILESTONES

- MORE THAN 3,100 FILINGS
- 1,064 DIRECT CRIMINAL APPEALS
- 1,214 DIRECT CIVIL APPEALS
- 822 APPLICATIONS DOCKETED
- 1,360 OPINIONS ISSUED
- MORE THAN 90 OPINIONS PER JUDGE ON AVERAGE
- THREE NOMINATIONS TO FEDERAL BENCH
- ONE JUDGE ELEVATED TO FEDERAL APPEALS COURT (11TH U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS)
- ONE JUDGE SEATED IN FEDERAL TRIAL COURT (U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA)



In 2009, when Georgia first enabled electronic filing in the appellate court, approximately 5% of records were processed electronically.



By 2018, 65% of all documents filed in the Court are submitted electronically, including trial court records, saving printing and postage costs and significantly reducing lag time between trial court decisions and the docketing of appeals.

Standing, Left to right:

Charles J. Bethel, Judge

Clyde L. Reese, Judge

Brian M. Rickman, Judge

Elizabeth Lee Branch, Judge (appointed to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit)

William M. Ray, II, Judge

Carla Wong McMillian, Judge

Amanda H. Mercier, Judge

Tilman E. (Tripp) Self, Judge (appointed to the U. S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia)

Seated, Left to right:

Sara L. Doyle, Presiding Judge

M. Yvette Miller, Presiding Judge

Gary Blaylock Andrews, Judge

Stephen Louis A. Dillard, Chief Judge

Anne Elizabeth Barnes, Presiding Judge

John J. Ellington, Presiding Judge

Christopher J. McFadden, Presiding Judge

Not Pictured:

E. Trenton Brown, III, Judge

Elizabeth Gobeil, Judge

REPORTS FROM APPELLATE COURTS AND TRIAL COURT COUNCILS *CONTINUED***Council Of Superior Court Judges**

Executive Director: Shannon Weathers
 georgiasuperiorcourts.org

Vision:

Judicial Excellence; Accessible, Effective, and Efficient Superior Courts.

Mission:

The Council of Superior Court Judges' mission is to provide leadership and support to preserve the ability of the Courts to meet their constitutional and statutory responsibilities and further the administration of justice while functioning as a liaison with other courts and the other two branches of Government.

The Council provides payroll and travel reimbursements; budget administration and accounting; leave entry, benefit coordination, and other human resources needs for all judges and their state-paid staff; and management of all superior court statewide accounting functions.

The Council also provides legal support for required publications such as the Uniform Rules for Superior Courts and Pattern Jury Instructions; statewide legal support for judges handling death penalty habeas corpus cases; logistics for seminars and meetings; and numerous other critical statewide functions for superior courts.

The Council office also serves as the hub for legislative tracking, meeting coordination, and monitoring during the legislative session.

Goals:

Over the next five years, the Council will seek sufficient funding to provide state paid law clerks for the 45 Superior Court judges who do not already have a state or county paid law clerk. The Council also will seek a pay raise for law clerks.

Leadership

President

Judge Stephen Kelley,
Brunswick Judicial Circuit

President Elect

Judge Shawn LaGrua, Atlanta Judicial Circuit

Secretary Treasurer

Judge Brian Amero, Flint Judicial Circuit

Immediate Past President

Judge Kathy Palmer, Middle Judicial Circuit

Highlights:

Judge Stephen Goss, outgoing president of the Council of Accountability Court Judges, received the 2018 Emory Findley Award for "Outstanding Judicial Service."

Rule 22: After years of work and receiving feedback from many stakeholders, the Council of Superior Court Judges and the Supreme Court finalized a new Superior Court rule to address the issue of recording of court proceedings and the use of electronic devices in



Below: Council President Kathy Palmer at the December 2017 Judicial Council meeting flanked by State Court Judge Gregory Fowler (Left) and Juvenile Court Judge James Whitfield (Right).



courtrooms by attorneys, parties, jurors, witnesses, and spectators.

Accountability Courts: Superior Court judges have been leaders in establishing accountability courts. With the addition of the courts in the Lookout Mountain Circuit and the Oconee Circuit, there are now accountability courts in all 49 judicial circuits.

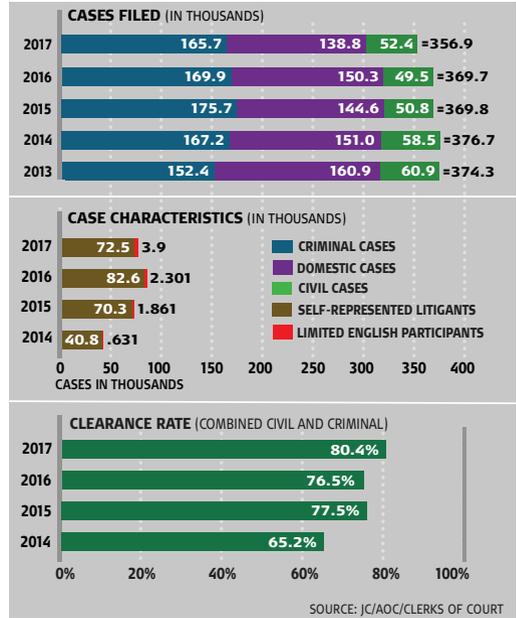
Court Security: Along with the Georgia Sheriffs' Association and the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia, the Council of Superior Court Judges published revised Georgia Standards for the Security of Courthouses and Other Court Facilities.

Staffing: During the recession, many law clerk positions were eliminated. With the assistance of the Governor and the Legislature, the Council has restored some of these positions and created others. Of the 214 active Superior Court Judges, only 45 lack either a state or county paid law clerk.

Mentoring Program/New Judges Orientation: In cooperation with the Institute for Continuing Judicial Education, the Council has strengthened its New Judges Orientation program and

Swearing in Ceremonies: Left to right (top): John A. "Trea" Pipkin, III, Flint Judicial Circuit; T. Craig Earnest, Pataula Judicial Circuit; Clint G. Bearden, Northeastern Judicial Circuit. Left to right, (bottom) Kathryn L. Powers, Clayton Judicial Circuit; Howard C. Kaufold, Jr., Oconee Judicial Circuit; Regina Quick, Western Judicial Circuit.

SUPERIOR COURTS—CASE FILINGS



established a mentoring program for new judges.

Business Courts: CSCJ President Judge Stephen Kelley created a Special Committee on Business Courts to explore the feasibility of implementing business courts state-wide. The committee is charged with developing a plan to accomplish the intent of the Legislature to create a process for the efficient resolution of complex business cases at a cost savings to the taxpayer.



REPORTS FROM APPELLATE COURTS AND TRIAL COURT COUNCILS *CONTINUED***Council of State Court Judges**

Executive Director: Bob Bray
statecourt.georgiacourts.gov

Mission And Goals

“Impartial Courts - Judicial Excellence - Accessible and Efficient Justice.” The Council consists of 129 active judges, who serve in 71 counties, and a number of Senior Judges and Judges Emeritus. Each year the Council develops a Strategic Business Plan to further its mission toward the improvement of State Courts, the quality and expertise of its judges, to maintain the impartiality of the judiciary and to ensure the fair, efficient administration of justice. The four Strategic Objectives of the Council are to:

1. Support the State Courts
2. Enhance Effectiveness and Continuity of our Council
3. Support the Judiciary as a whole
4. Foster Relationships within the Judiciary and with other branches of government
5. Serve, inform and interact with the public

Leadership

Judge Nancy Bills, President

Judge Joseph C. Iannazzone, President-Elect

Judge T. Russell McClelland, Secretary

Judge Wesley B. Taylor, Treasurer

Judge Gregory Fowler, Past President



Judge Nancy Bills receiving the leadership gavel from Judge Gregory Fowler as she assumed the presidency of the Council in the Spring of 2018.

Below, left to right: Judge Ralph Powell, Judge Ethelyn N. Simpson, Judge Kent Lawrence, Judge Jeanette Little, Judge Charlie Wynne, Council Executive Director Bob Bray, and Judge Charles Auslander.



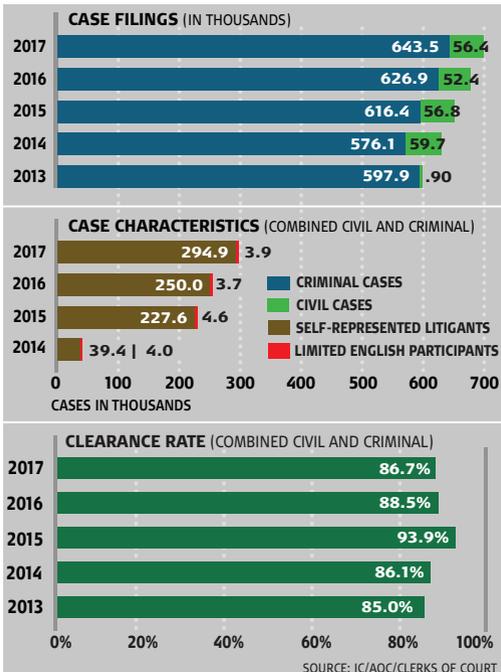
Highlights

- “Judge for the Week” program – Judges attend committee meetings and make themselves available to answer questions posed by legislators and to express concerns and comments to legislators about bills being considered.
- Time Study (with State Court, Superior Court Judges, and Judicial Council’s Judicial Workload Assessment Committee): Judges keep track of time that it takes to process cases.
- State Court Judges work group on misdemeanor bail reform:
 - Consulted with many stakeholders including Governor Deal and courts outside Georgia;
 - Issued final report in August;
 - Recommendations incorporated in current new law and will have repercussions statewide and nationally.



Top: Judge Nancy Bills and Superior Court Judge Tangela Barrie. Above: Judges Melodie Clayton (Sr. Judge, Cobb County), Janis Gordon (DeKalb County) and Vi Bennett (Wayne County) entertain their peers with songs of satire and mirth. Below: Judge Ben Studdard of Henry County teaching at a Council of State Court Judges conference.

STATE COURTS—CASE FILINGS



REPORTS FROM APPELLATE COURTS AND TRIAL COURT COUNCILS *CONTINUED*

Council of Juvenile Court Judges

Executive Director: Eric John
 cjc.georgiacourts.gov

Mission: The Juvenile Court's mission is to serve the community by assisting children and families in need and to protect the community by administering individual justice and deterring delinquent behavior through the court and community-based services from the Programs arm of the Court and the Department of Juvenile Justice probation services.

Vision: The Juvenile Court's vision is to achieve excellence by providing quality services for the positive development of children, the safety of the community and the preservation of the family unit.

The Council of Juvenile Court Judges provides support to the juvenile court judges through legal research services, legislative tracking, and specialized programs to assist in protecting the best interests of children and the state.

Highlights

- Family Treatment Accountability Courts (there are now 17 courts) grew from the realization that juvenile cases affect the whole family.
- The use of juvenile detention has decreased as incentives from the State of Georgia have encouraged the use of local community resources, such as counseling and other programs, as opposed to removing the children from their community. The hope is that as juvenile detention drops, so will recidivism.
- Great strides have been made in the Juvenile Data Exchange (JDEX) initiative to centralize data on juvenile offenders so counties can share records and judges anywhere in the state can have access to full background information. As

Leadership

Judge Philip Spivey, President

Judge Juliette Wiltshire Scales, President-Elect

Judge Lisa C. Jones, Vice-President

Judge C. Gregory Price, Secretary

Judge Render Heard, Treasurer

Judge James R. Whitfield Past-President

each county was required to develop and fund its own computer system, interoperability slowed adoption. This is being methodically solved by integrating the separate county data into one central database.

- A position for a Children In Need of Supervision (CHINS) Coordinator was funded by the legislature this year. Previously, the burden fell on school systems to coordinate with counties and centralize information regarding these children. Now, this responsibility will fall under one position, allowing for the burden to be taken off of schools, and more centralized governance.



Left: Judge John B. Sumner, Juvenile Court Judge, a 16 year veteran of the Juvenile Court bench, is a persuasive advocate for DFCS and evidence based case management. His Youtube video on the topic is at <https://youtu.be/J49UoKpFJQ>. Right: Judge Vincent Crawford also made a Youtube video to tell a compelling child welfare system success story. See: <https://youtu.be/zgqPnmqDnjo>

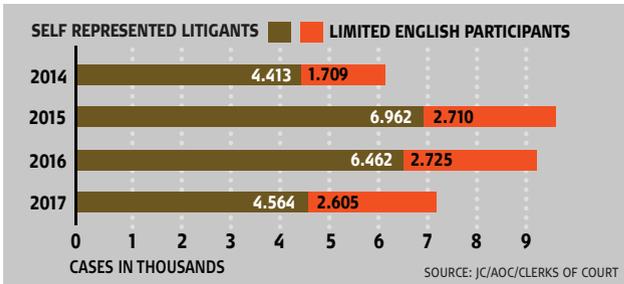
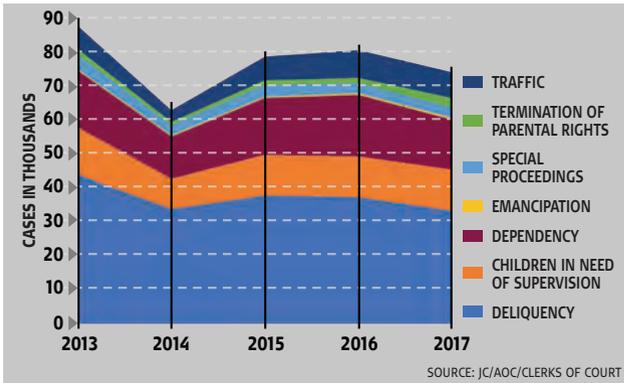


Juvenile Court Judge Philip Spivey, with his wife Gail, is sworn in as President of the Council of Juvenile Court Judges, St. Simons, May 7, 2018.



Floyd County Juvenile Court Judge Greg Price received the 2018 “Lovett Award” for dedication to Child Protection and Advocacy. The award is named for the late Judge Willie Lovett of Fulton County.

JUVENILE COURTS—CASE FILINGS



FAMILY TREATMENT COURTS



There are now 17 CJCC-funded Family Treatment Courts across the state that served more than 300 participants in 2018 alone.

REPORTS FROM APPELLATE COURTS AND TRIAL COURT COUNCILS *CONTINUED***Council of Probate Court Judges**

Executive Director: Kevin Holder
 gaprobate.gov

Mission

Our Council's vision is excellence in the administration of justice in every probate court. Our Council's mission is to advance the common interests of and assist probate courts in fulfilling their responsibilities. Finally, our Council's guiding principles are to ensure that probate courts fulfill their statutory responsibilities, demonstrate integrity, respect the independence and diversity of each court, function collaboratively, continuously improve service to our constituency and engage all members of the Council.

Highlights

- Created a mandatory certification program for probate judges with traffic jurisdiction
- Updated and revised the Council's strategic plan

Leadership

Judge Sarah Harris, President

Judge T.J. Hudson, President-Elect

Judge Kelli Wolk, First Vice-President

Judge Rooney Bowen, III, Past President

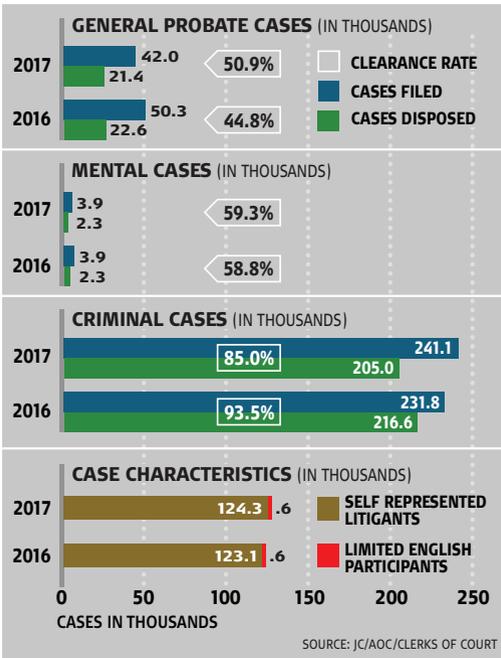
Judge Darin McCoy, Secretary-Treasurer

-
- Held a leadership retreat to chart our the Council's main priorities
 - Increased the Council's focus on self-represented litigants
 - Created an ad hoc committee to examine Title 15, which ultimately led to passage of SB 436
 - Created best practice guidelines to promote uniformity among probate courts

In Georgia's Probate system, each court is unique, driven in part by the needs of its local populace. Yet overall there is an abiding interest in uniform justice statewide – and in making the courts accessible to lay people.



PROBATE COURTS—CASE FILINGS



Below, left to right: Chief Judge Dillard swears in: Judge Sarah Harris, President; Judge Darin McCoy, Secretary-Treasurer (via video); Judge Kelli Wolk, First Vice President; Judge T. J. Hudson, President-Elect (seated due to injury); Judge Rooney Bowen, III, Immediate Past President (not pictured).

Above, top: 2018 Probate Court Judges Day at the Capitol. Middle, bottom: Traffic Certificate Study Committee planning meeting during the summer of 2017 in Young Harris.



REPORTS FROM APPELLATE COURTS AND TRIAL COURT COUNCILS *CONTINUED***Council of Magistrate Court Judges**

Executive Director: Sharon Reiss
 georgiamagistratecouncil.com

Mission and Goals:

Magistrate court, also called small claims court and sometimes the people's court, is an informal court that handles money claims of less than \$15,000. This court offers a quick and inexpensive process to resolve complaints.

The Council of Magistrate Court Judges supports community justice by:

- Improving the magistrate courts and the administration of justice;
- Assisting the chief magistrates, magistrates, and senior magistrates throughout the state in the execution of their duties;
- Training and promoting chief magistrates, magistrates, and senior magistrates.

Case type examples include: dispossessory; evictions; four types of criminal misdemeanors; probable cause hearings; setting bond and then binding over to other courts, and some fraud cases.

The Council of Magistrate Court Judges work to give citizens tools and information to make their experience as simple and smooth as possible. When clamants arrive with paperwork already filed, everyone gets a dividend of time.

Highlights

- The Council hosts bi-annual training for all Magistrate Court Judges and but also Chief School (a separate training just for Chief Magistrates). Topics include: law changes; ethics; filing; budgeting; staffing; scheduling; administration; IT support; and diversity to improve efficiency and leadership.
- The Council continued to work on tutorials and technology tools like the forms generator and web tutorials to improve the citizen experience.
- The Council judges win multiple awards for their hard work and dedication to the Council and the Administration of Justice.

Magistrate Judges recognized for excellence

Left to right: Chief Judge Mary Kathryn Moss, Chatham County, Judge of the Year; Chief Judge W. Allen Wigington, Pickens County, Warden Humanitarian Award; Judge Greg Douds, Cherokee County, Workhorse of the Year; Chief Judge Jimmy Griner, Screven County; Chief Judge Glenda Dowling, Pierce County, Lifetime Achievement; Chief Judge Joyette Holmes, Cobb County, Presidents Award; Chief Judge Beryl Anderson, DeKalb County, Presidents Award.





Leadership

Judge Glenda Dowling, Chief Magistrate, President

Judge Joyette Holmes, Chief Magistrate, First Vice President

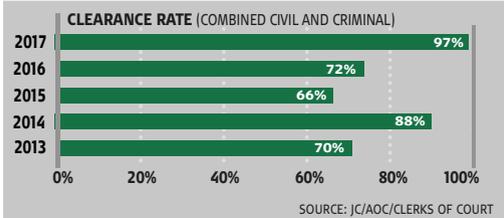
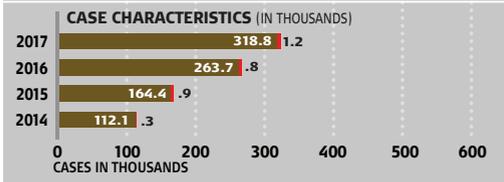
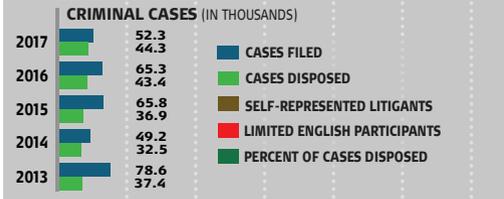
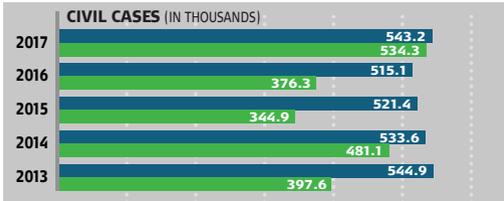
Judge Michael Barker, Second Vice President

Judge James M. Griner, Jr., Chief Magistrate, Immediate Past President

Judge Berryl A. Anderson, Chief Magistrate, Secretary

Judge Mary Kathryn Moss, Chief Magistrate, Treasurer

MAGISTRATE COURTS—CASE FILINGS



SOURCE: JC/AOC/CLERKS OF COURT

Georgia Magistrate Courts Training Council

The Georgia Magistrate Courts Training Council, which was created by statute in 1983, consists of six members and oversees the training and certification of Magistrate Judges. O.C.G.A. § 15-10-130 et seq. The Council, chaired by Chief Judge Mary Kathryn Moss (Magistrate Court of Chatham County) through April 2018 and succeeded by Judge Betsey Kidwell (Magistrate Court of Heard County) in April 2018, met eight times in FY 2018:

- September 22, 2017 – via GoTo Meeting
- October 1, 2017 – during the biannual recertification training held at St. Simons Island, GA
- November 13, 2017 – via GoTo Meeting
- December 14, 2017 – via GoTo Meeting
- January 16, 2018 – via GoTo Meeting
- January 30, 2018 – via GoTo Meeting
- April 22, 2018 – during the biannual recertification training held in Buford, GA
- June 29, 2018 – via GoTo Meeting

The Georgia Magistrate Courts Training Council submits this report pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-10-134

REPORTS FROM APPELLATE COURTS AND TRIAL COURT COUNCILS *CONTINUED***Council of Municipal Court Judges (CMuCJ)**

Staff to Council: LaShawn Murphy
municipal.georgiacourts.gov

Mission and Goals

To set standards and policies, and to provide information and education services to the Municipal Courts of Georgia so they can more efficiently and effectively operate their courts, administer justice, and serve the public.

Guiding Principles

- Be an advocate for the Municipal Courts and their Judges
- Provide professional and forward thinking leadership
- Be a reflection of the people we serve
- Encourage public understanding of the judiciary and the courts
- Uphold the Constitution and the law
- Maintain and enhance Judicial Council relations created in statute per O.C.G.A. § 36-32-40

Highlights

- Representatives of the Council of Municipal Court Judges and a municipal court administrator/chief clerk met on April 25 for a round table discussion at the State Bar of Georgia with a delegation of judges from the Republic of Georgia.

Leadership

Judge LaTisha Dear Jackson, *President*

Judge Matthew McCord, *President-Elect*

Judge Dale “Bubba” Samuels, *Vice-President*

Judge JaDawnya Baker, *Secretary*

Judge John “Clay” Davis, *Treasurer*

Judge Gary E. Jackson,
Immediate Past President

The meeting was sponsored by the law firm of Hall Booth Smith, P.C. Atlanta office in conjunction with the Open World Program.

- Implemented Georgia Council of Municipal Court Judges District Mentoring Program. In an effort to increase learning and networking opportunities for municipal court judges, CMuCJ has developed a cost-effective opportunity to provide support, guidance, and encouragement from and between fellow jurists through the CMuCJ District Mentoring Program.

Presiding Justice Melton swears in 2018-2019 Officers and District Representatives at the June business meeting in Savannah.



- The Council was authorized to formalize the Municipal Judges Savings Plan during the 2017 legislative session pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-32-41; it approved the plan in April of 2018 and started enrollment at the annual business meeting June 2018.
- Partnered with the Access, Fairness, Public Trust and Confidence Committee (AFPTCC) to include judicial trainings on Inclusion and Human Trafficking, as tracks in the annual trainings and the presentation of GA Reflections on Access and Fairness in the Courts, Part 2: Engaging the Faith Community as a follow-up to their 2016 Summit (GA Reflections on Ferguson).
- The Council recognized a number of municipal court judges with awards. Chief Judge Roger Rozen, Municipal Court of Marietta, received the Frost Ward Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes a municipal court judge who has made significant contributions to the Council of Municipal Court Judges over a long period of time.
- Chief Judge Willie Weaver, Sr., Municipal Court of Albany, was awarded the Special Recognition

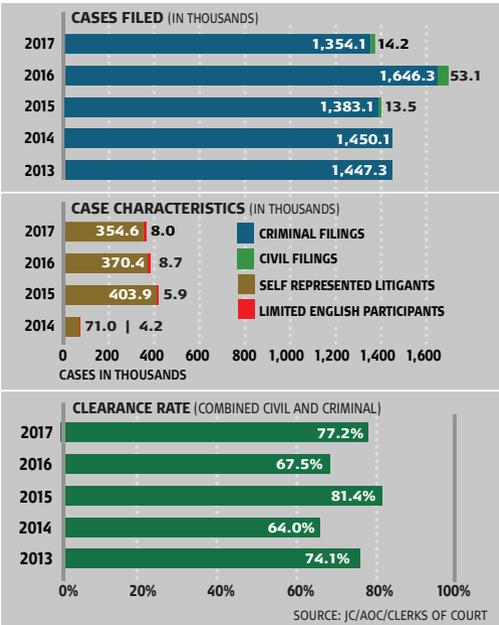


Top: Chief Judge Roger Rozen honored with the Frost Ward Lifetime Achievement Award from Judge LaTisha Dear Jackson, President, CMuJ, at the summer business meeting.
 Bottom: Special Recognition Award given to Chief Judge Willie Weaver, Sr for the Albany Works Program from Judge LaTisha Dear Jackson, President CMuJ, at the summer business meeting.

Award for the Albany Works Program, a collaborative pilot program between the City of Albany and its Municipal Court designed to provide alternative sentencing for individuals with misdemeanor charges, to reduce court recidivism, and to help citizens gain job readiness skills.

- At the June 21, 2018 Business meeting, members voted to adopt Uniform Rule 11, Use of Electronic Devices In Courtrooms And Recording of Judicial Proceedings that relates to the use of electronic devices in courtrooms and recording of judicial proceedings by representatives of the news media and other persons, and Uniform Rule 14, Interpreters and the Notification Form.

GEORGIA MUNICIPAL COURTS—CASE FILINGS



REPORTS FROM APPELLATE COURTS AND TRIAL COURT COUNCILS *CONTINUED***Georgia Municipal Courts Training Council**

The Georgia Municipal Courts Training Council, created in statute per O.C.G.A. § 36-32-22, consists of six members and oversees the training and certification of municipal court judges and chief clerks. The Council, chaired by Chief Judge Margaret Washburn (Municipal Court of Sugar Hill), met five times in FY 2018:

- September 21, 2017 – Via Conference Call
- October 6, 2017 – Athens, GA, in conjunction with the Fall Law and Practice Update
- January 26, 2018 – Atlanta, GA, in conjunction with the Council of Municipal Court Judges Executive Committee meeting
- April 12, 2018 – Warner Robins, GA, in conjunction with the Council of Municipal Court Judges Executive Committee meeting and Strategic Planning Session
- June 19, 2018 – Savannah, GA, in conjunction with the Summer Law and Practice Update

The Council developed and approved the training curriculum for mandatory annual municipal court judges training, focusing on such topics as Fees, Fines and Surcharges in the Adult Probation System; Judicial Ethics; Caseloads: Trends and Reporting Requirements and Georgia Courts Registrar; Human Trafficking Indicators; misdemeanor bail reform; probation; Implicit Bias; case law update; evidence; and, updates from the

Department of Driver Services. The Council issued certification to municipal court judges meeting the annual training requirement for CY 2017. Per statutory requirement, the Council also oversaw the training and certification of chief municipal court clerks. The training curriculum for chief clerks focused on such topics as Georgia's Open Records Act; Caseload Reporting/Georgia Courts Registrar; What Ferguson Has Taught Us; Tolling Orders; First Offender Discharge and Other Emerging Changes; Pro Se Litigants; Appeals Procedures and Bind Over of Cases; Failure to Appear Guidelines and Procedures; Ethics for Clerks; and, updates from the Department of Driver Services and the Georgia Crime Information Center. The Council issued certification to chief municipal court clerks meeting the annual training requirement for CY 2017.

The Georgia Municipal Courts Training Council submits this report pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-32-24.



Chief Judge Margaret Washburn, Chair, Municipal Courts Training Council.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

Judicial Appointments

Court of Appeals Appointments

E. Trenton Brown	05/16/18
Elizabeth Gobeil	06/05/18

Superior Court Appointments

Regina Quick	10/03/17	Western
Kathryn Powers	01/04/18	Clayton
T. Craig Earnest	01/09/18	Pataula
John A. "Trea" Pipkin	01/09/18	Flint
Howard C. Kaufold, Jr.	01/09/18	Oconee
Benjamin Land	02/07/18	Chattahoochee

State Court Appointments

Margaret L. Spencer	08/22/17	Clayton
Jeffery O. Monroe	08/22/17	Bibb
Robert W. Hunter	09/07/17	Richmond
Shalonda Jones-Parker	01/04/18	Clayton
Sam Edgar	10/23/18	Bacon
Brian Fortner	03/14/18	Douglas



January 4, 2018, Kathryn Powers sworn in as Superior Court Judge, Clayton Judicial Circuit.



Trent Brown takes the oath of office as Court of Appeals Judge, May 16, 2018.



Shalonda Jones-Parker swearing in as state court judge, January 4, 2018



Elizabeth Gobeil takes the oath of office as Judge of the Court of Appeals, June 5, 2018.

Demographics of the Georgia Judiciary

	Supreme Court (9 Justices)		Court of Appeals (15 Judges)		Superior Court (214 Judges)		State Court (129 Judges)		
White	5	2	8	4	147	36	87	23	female
Black	2		1	1	8	13	9	9	male
Asian				1	1		1		
Unknown					7	2			

	Juvenile Court (132 Judges)		Probate Court (169 Judges)		Magistrate Court (495 Judges)		Municipal Court (403 Judges)	
White	69	29	71	81	203	139	233	30
Black	7	8	4	7	27	40	22	19
Asian	1				1	2	3	
Native American					1	1		
2 or more races					1			1
unknown	9	9	3	3	35	45		95

Judicial Council Interns

Each year the Judicial Council makes internships available to rising college students in law, political science and other academic disciplines. They receive valuable training and exposure to our system of justice. Equally important is the value they bring to us in fresh perspective, insightful questions, and technical prowess.

The JC/AOC wishes to thank the interns who joined us during 2018.



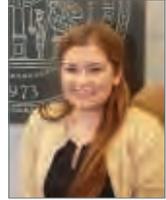
Siarra Carr



Timur Selimovic



Brandon Liu



Samantha Sherrod



Taylor Black



Nick Gettys

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Administrative Office
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