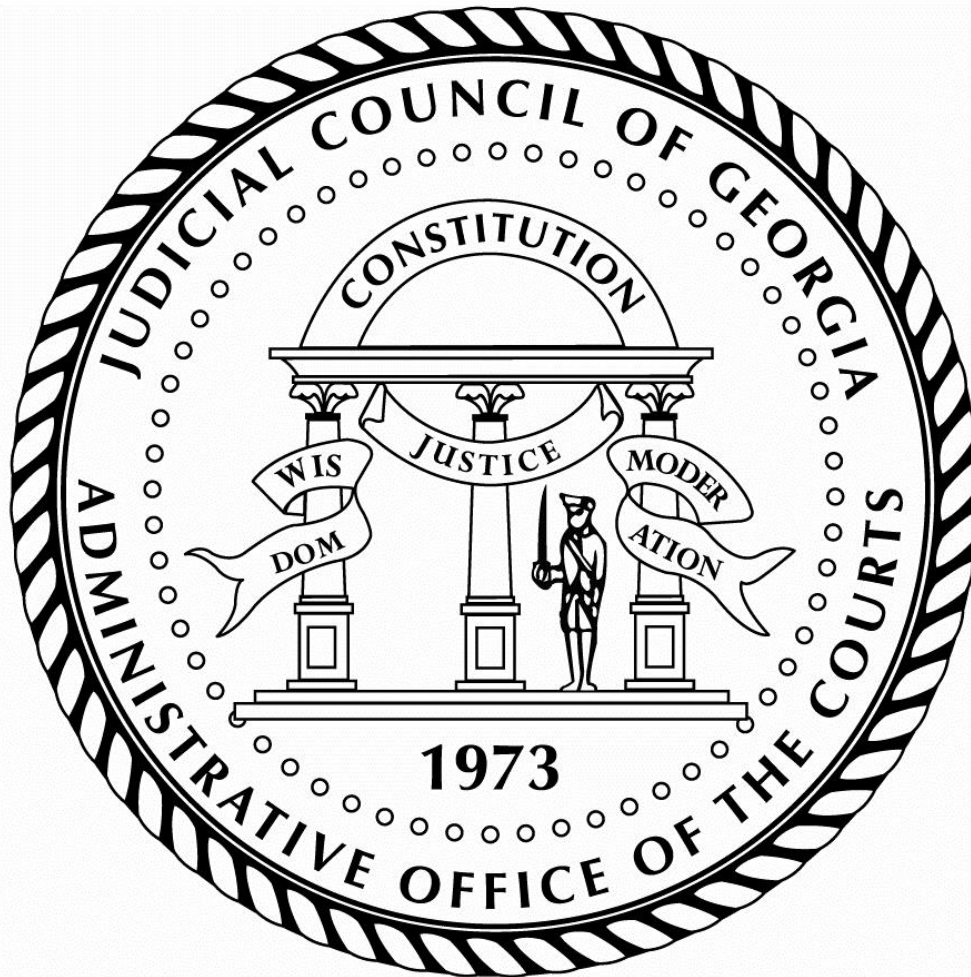


# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

Friday, February 14, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



**James H. "Sloppy" Floyd Building – Floyd Room**

2 Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive

West Tower, 20th Floor

Atlanta, GA 30334

**Judicial Council of Georgia  
General Session**

**James H. “Sloppy” Floyd Building – Floyd Room**  
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive  
West Tower, 20th Floor  
Atlanta, GA 30334

**Friday, February 14, 2020**  
10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

*Lunch will be served immediately following the Council meeting*

- 1. Preliminary Remarks and Introductions**  
(Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
- 2. Approval of Minutes, December 6, 2019** *(Action Item)* **TAB 1**  
(Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, Est. Time – 2 Min.)
- 3. Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission** *(Ethics Commission)*  
(Mr. David Emadi – Est. Time – 10 Min.)
- 4. Institute of Continuing Judicial Education** *(Action Item)* **TAB 2**  
(Mr. Doug Ashworth, Est. Time – 10 Min.)
- 5. Judicial Council Committee Reports**
  - A. Legislation Committee** *(Action Item)* **TAB 3**  
(Presiding Justice David E. Nahmias, Est. Time – 10 Min.)
  - B. Budget Committee** **TAB 4**  
(Ms. Maleia Wilson, Est. Time – 10 Min.)
  - C. Technology Committee** **TAB 5**
  - D. Cybersecurity Insurance for Judiciary Committee** **TAB 6**  
(Judge Christian Coomer and Ms. Tynesha Manuel, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
- 6. Report from Judicial Council/AOC** **TAB 7**  
(Ms. Cynthia H. Clanton, Est. Time – 10 Min.)
- 7. Reports from Courts, Councils & State Bar** **TAB 8**  
(Est. Time – 20 min.)
  - A. Supreme Court**
  - B. Court of Appeals**
  - C. Business Court**

- D. Council of Superior Court Judges**
- E. Council of State Court Judges**
- F. Council of Juvenile Court Judges**
- G. Council of Probate Court Judges**
- H. Council of Magistrate Court Judges**
- I. Council of Municipal Court Judges**
- J. State Bar of Georgia**

**8. Reports from additional Judicial Branch Agencies (Est. Time – 15 Min.)**

**TAB 9**

- A. Council of Accountability Court Judges**
- B. Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution**
- C. Council of Superior Court Clerks**
- D. Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism**
- E. Georgia Council of Court Administrators**
- F. Institute of Continuing Judicial Education**

**9. Old/New Business**

(Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, Est. Time – 5 Min.)

**10. Recognition of Outgoing Members**

**11. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment**

(Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, Est. Time – 5 Min.)

**Next Judicial Council Meeting**

Friday, April 24, 2020                      10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.                      The Classic Center/Athens, GA

**Judicial Council Meeting Calendar – 2020**

Friday, August 14, 2020                      10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.                      Columbus Convention & Trade Center/Columbus, GA  
 Friday, December 11, 2020                      10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.                      The Carter Center/Atlanta, GA

## Judicial Council Members

As of February 2020

### **Supreme Court**

Chief Justice Harold D. Melton  
Chair, Judicial Council  
507 State Judicial Building  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
404-657-3477/F 651-8642  
[meltonh@gasupreme.us](mailto:meltonh@gasupreme.us)

Presiding Justice David E. Nahmias  
Vice-Chair, Judicial Council  
501 State Judicial Building  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
404-656-3474/F 657-6997  
[nahmiasd@gasupreme.us](mailto:nahmiasd@gasupreme.us)

### **Court of Appeals**

Chief Judge Christopher J. McFadden  
47 Trinity Avenue, Suite 501  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
404-656-3450/ F 651-6187  
[mcfaddenc@gaappeals.us](mailto:mcfaddenc@gaappeals.us)

Vice Chief Judge Carla McMillian  
47 Trinity Avenue, Suite 501  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
404-656-3450/ F 651-6187  
[mcmillianc@gaappeals.us](mailto:mcmillianc@gaappeals.us)

### **Georgia State-wide Business Court**

Judge Walter W. Davis  
[walterwdavis@outlook.com](mailto:walterwdavis@outlook.com)

### **Superior Court**

Judge Shawn E. LaGrua  
President, CSCJ  
Atlanta Judicial Circuit  
185 Central Avenue SW, STE T8855  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
404-612-8460/F 612-2625  
[shawn.lagrua@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:shawn.lagrua@fultoncountyga.gov)

Chief Judge Brian Amero  
President-Elect, CSCJ  
Flint Judicial Circuit  
One Courthouse Square  
McDonough, GA 30253  
770-288-7901  
[bamero@co.henry.ga.us](mailto:bamero@co.henry.ga.us)

Judge Jeffrey H. Kight  
Waycross Judicial Circuit, 1<sup>st</sup> JAD  
Ware County Courthouse  
800 Church Street, STE B202  
Waycross, GA 31501  
912-287-4330/F 544-9857  
[jhkight@gmail.com](mailto:jhkight@gmail.com)

Judge James G. Tunison, Jr.  
Southern Judicial Circuit, 2<sup>nd</sup> JAD  
PO Box 1349  
Valdosta, GA 31601  
229-333-5130/F 245-5223  
[jgtunison@gmail.com](mailto:jgtunison@gmail.com)

Judge Arthur Lee Smith  
Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit, 3<sup>rd</sup> JAD  
PO Box 1340  
Columbus, GA 31902  
706-653-4273/F 653-4569  
[arthursmith@columbusga.org](mailto:arthursmith@columbusga.org)

Chief Judge Asha Jackson  
Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit, 4<sup>th</sup> JAD  
DeKalb County Courthouse, STE 6230  
556 N. McDonough Street  
Decatur, GA 30030  
404-371-2344/F 371-2002  
[afjackson@dekalbcountyga.gov](mailto:afjackson@dekalbcountyga.gov)

Chief Judge Christopher S. Brasher  
Atlanta Judicial Circuit, 5<sup>th</sup> JAD  
T8905 Justice Center Tower  
185 Central Avenue SW STE T-8905  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
404-612-4335/F 612-2569  
[chris.brasher@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:chris.brasher@fultoncountyga.gov)

Judge Geronda V. Carter  
Clayton Judicial Circuit, 6<sup>th</sup> JAD  
Harold R. Banke Justice Center  
9151 Tara Boulevard, Suite 4JC101  
Jonesboro, GA 30236  
770-477-3432/F 473-5827  
[geronda.carter@claytoncountyga.gov](mailto:geronda.carter@claytoncountyga.gov)

Judge Ralph Van Pelt, Jr.  
Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit, 7<sup>th</sup> JAD  
875 LaFayette Street, Room 206  
Ringgold, GA 30736  
706-965-4047/F 965-6246  
[chall@lmjc.net](mailto:chall@lmjc.net)

Chief Judge Donald W. Gillis  
Dublin Judicial Circuit, 8<sup>th</sup> JAD  
PO Box 2015  
Dublin, GA 31040  
478-275-7715/F 275-2984  
[gillisd@eighthdistrict.org](mailto:gillisd@eighthdistrict.org)

Chief Judge Jeffrey S. Bagley  
Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit, 9<sup>th</sup> JAD  
101 E. Courthouse Square, Suite 5016  
Cumming, GA 30040  
770-205-4660/F 770-250-4661  
[jsbagley@forsythco.com](mailto:jsbagley@forsythco.com)

\* Designee of CMCJ President-Elect, Judge Torri M. "T.J." Hudson.

Chief Judge Carl C. Brown, Jr.  
Augusta Judicial Circuit, 10<sup>th</sup> JAD  
735 James Brown Blvd., Suite 4203  
Augusta, GA 30901  
706-821-2347/F 721-4476  
[kcampbell@augustaga.gov](mailto:kcampbell@augustaga.gov)

#### **State Court**

Judge T. Russell McClelland  
President, CStCJ  
Forsyth County  
101 East Courthouse Square, STE 4016  
Cumming, GA 30040  
770-781-2130/F 886-2821  
[rmcclelland@forsythco.com](mailto:rmcclelland@forsythco.com)

Judge Wesley B. Tailor  
President-Elect, CStCJ  
Fulton County  
T3755 Justice Center Tower  
185 Central Avenue SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
404-613-4497  
[wes.tailor@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:wes.tailor@fultoncountyga.gov)

#### **Juvenile Court**

Judge Juliette Scales  
President, CJCJ  
Atlanta Judicial Circuit  
Romae T. Powell Juvenile Justice Center  
395 Pryor Street SW, STE 3056  
Atlanta, GA 30312  
404-613-4823/F 893-0750  
[juliette.scales@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:juliette.scales@fultoncountyga.gov)

Judge Lisa C. Jones  
President-Elect, CJCJ  
Southwestern Judicial Circuit  
Sumter County Courthouse  
PO Box 607  
Americus, GA 31709  
229-928-4569  
[judgelisacjones@outlook.com](mailto:judgelisacjones@outlook.com)

#### **Probate Court**

Judge Torri M. "T.J." Hudson  
President, CPCJ  
Treutlen County  
650 2<sup>nd</sup> Street S., STE 101  
Soperton, GA 30457  
912-529-3342/F 529-6838  
[tj4treutlen@yahoo.com](mailto:tj4treutlen@yahoo.com)

Judge Kelli M. Wolk  
President-Elect, CPCJ  
Cobb County  
32 Waddell Street  
Marietta, GA 30090  
770-528-1900/ F 770-528-1996  
[probatecourt@cobbcounty.org](mailto:probatecourt@cobbcounty.org)

#### **Magistrate Court**

Judge Michael Barker  
President, CMCJ  
Chatham County  
133 Montgomery Street, Room 300  
Savannah, GA 31401  
912-652-7193/ F 912-652-7195  
[mbarker@chathamcounty.org](mailto:mbarker@chathamcounty.org)

Judge Berryl Anderson\*  
President-Elect, CMCJ  
DeKalb County  
556 N. McDonough St., STE 1200  
Decatur, GA 30030  
404-371-4767/F 528-8947  
[baanderson@dekalbcountyga.gov](mailto:baanderson@dekalbcountyga.gov)

#### **Municipal Courts**

Judge Dale R. "Bubba" Samuels  
President, CMu CJ  
Municipal Court of Monroe  
PO Box 1926  
Buford, GA 30515  
678-482-0208/F 770-267-8386  
[bubba@bubbasamuels.com](http://bubba@bubbasamuels.com)

Judge Willie C. Weaver, Sr.  
President-Elect, CMu CJ  
Municipal Court of Albany  
P.O. Box 646  
Albany, GA 31702  
229-438-9455  
[wweaverlaw@aol.com](mailto:wweaverlaw@aol.com)

#### **State Bar of Georgia**

Mr. Darrell Sutton  
President, State Bar of Georgia  
351 Washington Ave., Suite 300  
Marietta, GA 30060  
678-385-0385/F 678-529-6199  
[dls@sutton-law-group.com](mailto:dls@sutton-law-group.com)

\* Designee of CMCJ President-Elect, Judge Torri M. "T.J." Hudson.



Judicial Council  
of Georgia

# STRATEGIC PLAN

FY 2020–2022

## VISION

To improve justice in all Georgia courts through **collaboration, innovation, and information.**

## MISSION

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

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Uphold the independence and integrity of the judiciary.

Promote efficient and effective administration of justice.

Use data to lead to data-driven services and programs for the Judicial Branch.

Collaborate and communicate with key stakeholders in judicial, executive, and legislative branches.



## 1 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1 IMPROVE CITIZEN EXPERIENCE WITH GEORGIA COURTS

### KEY INITIATIVES

#### 1.1 Modernize the regulations of Court professionals

Measurable action: Monitor and assist with the update of rules and regulations regarding Court Reporters and Court Interpreters (MT)

Measurable action: Report back to the Judicial Council (LT)

#### 1.2 Increase resources for public accessibility

Measurable action: Flesh out what public accessibility means (ST)

Measurable action: Frame what it would look like to help citizens with public accessibility as defined (MT)

#### 1.3 Educate citizens on the use of case-related filing technology

Measurable action: Create a toolkit of existing resources citizens can access from one portal which will provide information on Court-related questions (LT)

## 2 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2 IMPROVE COLLABORATION AND PLANNING

### KEY INITIATIVES

#### 2.1 Foster ongoing executive and legislative branch communications and initiatives of mutual interest

Measurable action: Monitor the communication and advocacy done on behalf of the Judiciary (ongoing)

#### 2.2 Improve the process for data collection and data integrity

Measurable action: Create a basic plan for the process of data collection to share with the various councils (MT)

Measurable action: Share with the councils and stakeholders to obtain buy-in (LT)

#### 2.3 Pursue flexibility and efficiency in judicial education

Measurable action: Study the possibilities for flexibility and efficiency in judicial education across different classes of court (MT)

Measurable action: Collaborate with ICJE to offer classes on topics requested by the Judicial Council such as sexual harassment prevention and ethics (MT)

Measurable action: Compile and maintain a listing of all trainings sponsored or provided by the JC/AOC (ST)

## 3 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3 PROMOTE THE WELLBEING, HEALTH, AND INTEGRITY OF THE JUDICIARY

### KEY INITIATIVES

#### 3.1 Develop a toolkit of wellness resources

Measurable action: Create a definition for “wellness” to be used when deciding which items belong in the toolkit (ST)

Measurable action: Create the toolkit, which will be a compilation of resources to support “wellness”, possibly including State Bar resources among others (LT)

#### 3.2 Communicate and promote the toolkit

Measurable action: Leverage relationships with ICJE and each Council to offer training on the toolkit to each Council for one year (LT)

Measurable action: Develop feedback survey for the trainings (LT)

Measurable action: Encourage a “wellness” event at each Judicial Council and court council meeting (LT)

## 4 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4 ENHANCE THE PROFESSIONAL AND ETHICAL IMAGE OF THE JUDICIARY

### KEY INITIATIVES

#### 4.1 Support Judges in Community Engagement

Measurable action: Continue to create and gather positive stories about the judiciary (ongoing)

Measurable action: Develop practical rules for social media engagement (ST)

#### 4.2 Develop a clearinghouse of resources for community engagement

Measurable action: Create the clearinghouse, which will be a compilation of existing resources members of the Judiciary can access when participating in community-facing programs (MT)

#### 4.3 Communicate and promote the clearinghouse

Measurable action: Set a schedule for communicating the clearinghouse; set a calendar with events to support community engagement (i.e. Constitution Day; book month) (LT)

## **Directions to the James H. “Sloppy” Floyd Building - Floyd Room**

2 Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive

West Tower, 20th Floor

Atlanta, GA 30334

*Note: Directions include parking information for the Pete Hackney Garage; however, you can park in any number of parking lots around the Capitol and then walk to the Floyd Building (see map attached). Parking will be provided for Judicial Council members in the Pete Hackney Garage, through the main entrance on Jesse Hill Jr. Drive.*

**Southbound on I-75/I-85:** Take Exit 248-A (MLK Jr. Dr.). Stay in right lane on exit ramp. Yield to the right onto Jesse Hill Jr. Drive. The entrance to the parking deck is on your right immediately after the pedestrian bridge (Pete Hackney Garage, \$10.00 per day). To enter the Floyd Building, you will need to show a valid picture I.D. ***The Floyd Room is on the 20th floor of the West Tower.***

**Northbound on I-75/I-85:** Take Exit 246 (Fulton Street). Take the right exit. Turn right at the traffic light. Move to the left lane. Turn left at the traffic light onto Capitol Avenue. Stay in the right lane. Stay on Capitol Ave. past the State Capitol on your left. Turn right at traffic light onto MLK Jr. Drive. Next, turn left at the traffic light onto Jesse Hill Jr. Drive. The entrance to the parking deck is on your right immediately after the pedestrian bridge (Pete Hackney Garage, \$10.00 per day). To enter the Floyd Building, you will need to show a valid picture I.D. ***The Floyd Room is on the 20th floor of the West Tower.***

**Westbound on I-20:** Take Exit 58A (Capitol Avenue). Stay in the right lane. Take a right onto Capitol Avenue. Stay on Capitol Ave. past the State Capitol on your left. Turn right at traffic light onto MLK Jr. Drive. Next, turn left at the traffic light onto Jesse Hill Jr. Drive. The entrance to the parking deck is on your right immediately after the pedestrian bridge (Pete Hackney Garage, \$10.00 per day). To enter the Floyd Building, you will need to show a valid picture I.D. ***The Floyd Room is on the 20th floor of the West Tower.***

**Westbound on I-20: Alternate Route** Take Exit 58B (Hill Street). Stay in the right lane. Take a right onto Hill Street. Get in the left lane. Stay on Hill Street past two traffic lights and after going under railroad tracks. At the next traffic light, turn left onto Decatur Street. At the second traffic light, turn left onto Jesse Hill Jr. Drive. The entrance to the parking deck is on your left immediately before the pedestrian bridge (Pete Hackney Garage, \$10.00 per day). To enter the Floyd Building, you will need to show a valid picture I.D. ***The Floyd Room is on the 20th floor of the West Tower.***

**Eastbound on I-20:** Take Exit 56B (Windsor St/Spring St). Continue on ramp to third traffic light. Turn left onto Central Ave. Stay in right lane. At the MARTA overpass traffic light (5-way intersection), take right onto Memorial Drive. Continue on Memorial Dr. to third traffic light. Turn left onto Capitol Avenue. Stay in right lane. You will pass the State Capitol on the left then turn right at the traffic light onto MLK Jr. Drive. Next, turn left at the traffic light onto Jesse Hill Jr. Drive. The entrance to the parking deck is on your right immediately after the pedestrian bridge (Pete Hackney Garage, \$10.00 per day). To enter the Floyd Building, you will need to show a valid picture I.D. ***The Floyd Room is on the 20th floor of the West Tower.***





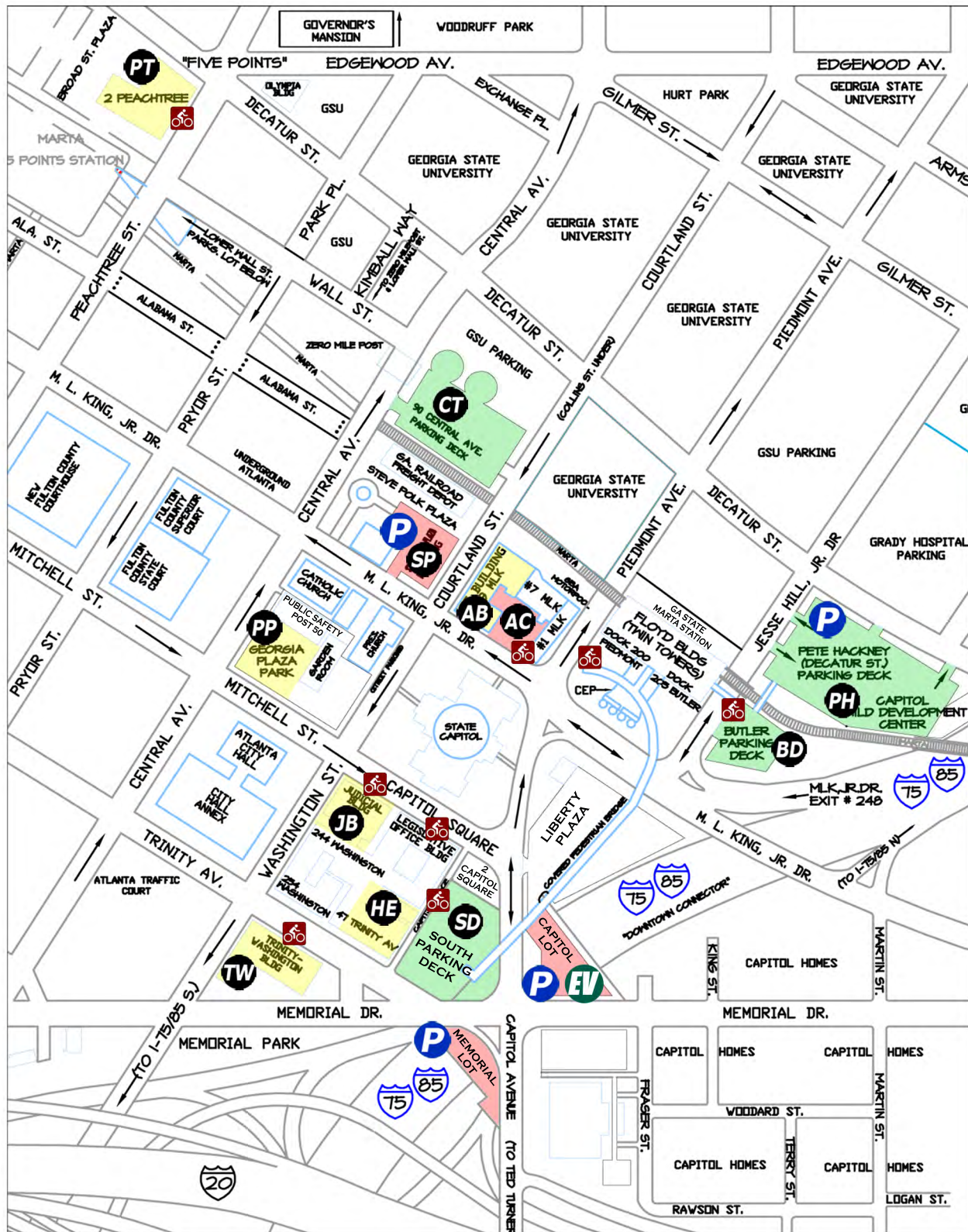
STATE GOVERNMENT COMPLEX

# CAPITOL HILL Parking Map

GEORGIA BUILDING AUTHORITY

- PT** 2 Peachtree
- CT** 90 Central
- AC** Agriculture Courtyard
- AB** Agriculture Building
- BD** Butler Deck
- HE** Health Deck
- JB** Judicial Building
- PP** Plaza Park
- PH** Pete Hackney
- SD** South Deck
- SP** Steve Polk
- TW** Trinity Washington
-  **Underground Parking**
-  **Multi-Level Deck Parking**
-  **Surface Lot/Courtyard Parking**
-  **Public Parking**
-  **Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**
-  **Bicycle Racks**
- 1 MLK/GBA (Piedmont Ave)**
- 2 Peachtree Building (Inside-Main Level)**
- Butler Deck (Inside-Level 1)**
- Coverdell Legislative Office Bldg/CLOB (Capitol Sq)**
- Floyd Building/Twin Towers (Piedmont Ave)**
- Judicial Building (Capitol Sq)**
- South Deck (Inside-Level 2)**
- TW Building (Trinity Ave)**

Rev 2/2017



## Access to the Floyd Building from Pete Hackney Parking Garage

1. Take elevator to Level 5 of the Pete Hackney garage
2. Take immediate right off the elevator to the pedestrian bridge  
(If you are walking *towards* the elevator, this will be a left)
3. Exit elevator and take pedestrian bridge across to the  
Butler Parking Garage
4. Make immediate right to the elevators
5. Take elevator to Level BR (bridge) of the Butler Parking Garage
6. Exit elevator and take pedestrian bridge to the Floyd Building  
(Access through two entry doors is open to the public)
7. You will enter the Floyd Building at the East Tower.
8. Walk across to the West Tower.
9. Check-in with security personnel and take elevator to the 20<sup>th</sup> floor
10. Meeting will be held in the Floyd Room

*Signs are posted throughout the Pete Hackney and Butler parking garages to direct you through these steps to the Floyd Building.*

*The Floyd Building is located at the corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and Piedmont Avenue.*



**Judicial Council of Georgia**  
**General Session**  
**The Carter Center Atlanta, GA**  
**December 6, 2019 • 10:00 a.m.**

**Members Present**

Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, Chair  
Presiding Justice David Nahmias  
Judge Brian Amero  
Judge Berryl Anderson<sup>1</sup>  
Judge Jeffrey Bagley  
Judge Michael Barker  
Judge Carl C. Brown  
Judge Geronda Carter  
Judge Donald W. Gillis  
Judge T.J. Hudson  
Judge Asha Jackson  
Judge Lisa C. Jones  
Judge Jeffrey H. Kight  
Judge Shawn LaGrua  
Judge Robert C. I. McBurney  
Judge T. Russell McClelland  
Chief Judge Christopher T. McFadden  
Vice Chief Judge Carla McMillian  
Judge Lori Duff (for Judge Dale “Bubba”  
Samuels)  
Judge Juliette Scales  
Judge Arthur Lee Smith  
Mr. Darrell Sutton  
Judge Wesley B. Taylor

Judge James G. Tunison, Jr.  
Judge Ralph Van Pelt  
Judge Willie C. Weaver  
Judge Kelli Wolk

**Staff Present**

Ms. Cynthia Clanton, Director  
Ms. Michelle Barclay  
Mr. Jorge Basto  
Mr. John Counts  
Ms. Shimike Dodson  
Mr. Christopher Hansard  
Ms. Stephanie Hines  
Ms. Noelle Lageaux-Alvarez  
Ms. Tynesha Manuel  
Mr. Tyler Mashburn  
Ms. Tracy Mason  
Ms. Tabitha Ponder  
Mr. Bruce Shaw  
Ms. Tara Smith  
Ms. Maleia Wilson

**Guests (Appended)**

**Call to Order and Welcome**

The meeting of the Judicial Council of Georgia (Council) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chief Justice Melton. He administered the Council’s oath to Judge Anderson and Judge Taylor, who were unable to attend the August meeting. Members and designees<sup>2</sup> identified themselves for the purposes of roll call, followed by staff and guests.

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<sup>1</sup> Designee for Judge T.J. Hudson, Council of Magistrate Court Judges

<sup>2</sup> See Members Present

## **Adoption of Minutes – August 23, 2019**

Chief Justice Melton directed the Council’s attention to the minutes of the August 23, 2019, meeting. He noted one necessary amendment, to add Vice Chief Judge McMillian’s name at the bottom of page one to the list of new members sworn in. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was offered by Presiding Justice Nahmias, followed by a second from Judge Scales. No discussion was offered, and the motion was approved without opposition.

## **Special Presentation**

Chief Justice Melton introduced Mr. David Allen, Chief Information Security Officer with the Georgia Technology Authority, to speak to the Council. Mr. Allen shared the state’s three-pronged, long-view cybersecurity strategy: improvement of cybersecurity on state networks; enabling a cyber-ready workforce; and, establishing and maintaining partnerships. He noted that his invitation to speak to the Council is an example of these partnerships. In conclusion, Chief Justice Melton presented Mr. Allen with a certificate of appreciation for his collaboration and work to support the JC/AOC in the aftermath of the June 2019 cyberattack.

## **Committee Reports**

Technology Committee. Chief Justice Melton presented amendments to the *Statewide Minimum Rules and Standards for Electronic Filing*. The first amendment, to Rule 11, replaces the word “acceptance” with “receipt,” and was approved without opposition. The second amendment, to Rule 2(b), adds subparagraphs (6) & (7), to require electronic filing service providers to participate in the Georgia Judicial Gateway Single Sign-On. Judge McBurney offered an amendment to fix a typo, and Justice Nahmias offered an amendment to replace “supra” with “above” for consistency purposes. The amendment was approved as amended without opposition. Mr. Sutton and Judge McBurney shared feedback regarding the rules; Chief Justice Melton asked that they send all questions and feedback to him.

Cybersecurity Insurance Committee. Judge Christian Coomer referred to the written report provided in the materials. He highlighted the organizational map of judicial branch agencies as a useful tool and encouraged everyone to reference it.

Sexual Harassment Prevention Committee. Justice Sarah Warren presented the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Harassment in the Judicial Branch of Government’s report and recommendations. The Committee also developed a 30-minute training video, in partnership with the Georgia Department of Administrative Services, that will be available for all judges and

court personnel. A clip of the video was shown to the Council. Among the Committee's recommendations are education and training and implementing or updating anti-harassment policies. A motion to adopt the Committee's report and recommendations was made by Justice Nahmias, with a second by Judge Scales. The motion was approved without opposition. Chief Justice Melton thanked Justice Warren and the Committee for their work on this important issue.

Judicial Workload Assessment Committee. Judge Emerson provided a recap of the Council's action at the August 23, 2019, meeting to table the proposed amendments to the *Judicial Council Policy on Superior Court Judgeships and Circuit Boundary Studies*, which included a provision in response to questions received from the General Assembly regarding a process for recommending the elimination of judgeship positions. Since that time, input and feedback have been received which resulted in a new recommendation to add Section 2.2.(5) to the Policy, providing a five-year implementation window. Chief Justice Melton stated the proposed language had been fully vetted. Judge Amero asked for clarification on the final language, as the printed materials did not reflect the redline version that had been distributed electronically a week prior to the meeting. Mr. Hansard stated that all instances of "removal" would be changed to "reduction." The amendment was approved without opposition, and Chief Justice Melton stated the final version would be circulated.

Chief Justice Melton called for a break at 11:04 a.m.; the meeting reconvened at 11:17 a.m.

Legislation Committee. Presiding Justice Nahmias reported that the Committee met on November 20 to continue preparing for the 2020 session. An updated draft of the previously acted upon item to update and modernize the Court Reporting Act and related statutes was presented. The newest draft includes additional clarifying changes and additional related statutes. Vice Chief Judge McMillian was recognized to speak to this item. She highlighted the revisions to the changes proposed in OCGA § 17-5-55 and noted the addition of OCGA § 15-14-6, specifically the elimination of the contingent expense allowance for court reporters working in single-county circuits. Judge LaGrua voiced the Council of Superior Court Judges' concern about eliminating the contingent expense. Chief Justice Melton recognized the committee report as a motion to reaffirm the Council's support of this item; Chief Judge McFadden offered a second. Judge Amero offered an amendment to remove the strikethrough at line 354 of the current draft, to remove the elimination of the contingent expense in single-county circuits. Presiding Justice Nahmias voiced his opposition to the amendment, stating the inclusion of the

recommendation in the *Judicial Council Policies and Fees for Court Reporting Services in Criminal Cases* and that the Committee is unaware of provisions in state government that allows for per diem to travel from home to place of work. A second was offered by Judge Jackson, and the amendment was adopted with one dissent (Presiding Justice Nahmias). Judge LaGrua inquired as to whether there will be a delayed implementation date; Justice Nahmias confirmed that is the intent and reminded the Council that it is the concept that is supported, not exact language. The motion to approve, as amended, carried without opposition.

Strategic Plan Committee. Judge Doyle presented the proposed strategic plan for FY 2020 – FY 2022 to the Council. In addition to continuing the existing three strategic objectives from the previous plan, the proposal includes a new strategic objective to “promote the wellbeing, health, and integrity of the judiciary.” The Chief Justice recognized the Committee report as a motion to approve; a second was offered by Judge LaGrua, and the strategic plan was adopted without opposition.

Court Reporting Matters Committee. Vice Chief Judge McMillian referred members to the written report provided in the materials.

### **Report from the Judicial Council/AOC**

Ms. Clanton delivered a report on the recent work of the Judicial Council/AOC. She spoke to the annual caseload reporting process scheduled to begin in January, several recent publications, recent events and activities coordinated through the Communications, Children Families, and the Courts Division, and various staff updates. Ms. Clanton closed her remarks by stating the AOC’s role as a service agency to the judiciary and thanked the Council for its support.

### **Reports from Appellate Courts and Trial Court Councils**

Supreme Court. Chief Justice Melton supplemented his written report with remarks, including the Court’s move to the new Nathan Deal Judicial Center the following week. The Chief Justice also recognized Justice Robert Benham’s announcement that he will be resigning effective March 1, 2020, and called Justice Benham a pioneer and a legend. The Chief Justice asked everyone to remember the friends who were lost this year and encouraged everyone to continue working together on behalf of the judiciary.

Court of Appeals. Chief Judge McFadden reported that the Court will hear its last oral arguments in the current building the following week. He also recognized the loss of Judge Goss this year.

Council of Superior Court Judges. Judge LaGrua referred members to the written report provided in the materials. She expressed appreciation to Judge Emerson and Mr. Hansard for their work on the amendments to the judgeship policy, to the members of her council for their participation in the process, and to Chief Justice Melton and Justice Bethel for their work and collaboration.

Council of State Court Judges. Judge McClelland referred members to the written report provided in the materials.

Council of Juvenile Court Judges. Judge Scales referred members to the written report provided in the materials. She also recognized the recent passing of Judge Benjamin Brinson.

Council of Probate Court Judges. Judge Hudson referred members to the written report provided in the materials.

Council of Magistrate Court Judges. Judge Barker referred members to the written report provided in the materials.

Council of Municipal Court Judges. Judge Weaver referred members to the written report provided in the materials and noted a gift of a commemorative gavel to each member in celebration of the Council's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

State Bar. Mr. Sutton delivered an oral report on behalf of the State Bar, which included a status report on the work to study mandatory professional liability insurance for members of the Bar.

### **Reports from Other Judicial Branch Agencies**

Council of Accountability Court Judges. Ms. Taylor Jones referred members to the written report provided in the materials and highlighted the courts who have been selected to serve as model drug courts.

Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution. Ms. Karlie Sahs referred members to the written report provided in the materials.

Council of Superior Court Clerks. Mr. Mike Holiman spoke to preparation for the upcoming legislative session and emphasized the clerks' appreciation to the Chief Justice and the Judicial Council for involving them in its work.

Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. Ms. Karlise Grier delivered a report on the current work of the Commission, including the Suicide Awareness Program scheduled on April 28, 2020.

Georgia Council of Court Administrators. Ms. Stephanie Hines referred members to the written report provided in the materials.

Institute of Continuing Judicial Education. Mr. Doug Ashworth referred members to the written report provided in the materials. He noted the report included ICJE's 2020 Master Calendar of Events.

**Old Business**

No old business was offered.

**New Business**

No new business was offered.

**Concluding Remarks**

Chief Justice Melton announced that the next Council meeting will be February 14, 2020, at the Sloppy Floyd Building in Atlanta.

**Adjournment**

Hearing no further business, Chief Justice Melton adjourned the meeting at 12:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy Mason  
Senior Assistant Director, Judicial Council/AOC  
For Cynthia H. Clanton, Director and Secretary

The above and foregoing minutes were approved on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Harold D. Melton  
Chief Justice



**Judicial Council of Georgia**  
**General Session**  
**The Carter Center Atlanta, GA**  
**December 6, 2019 • 10:00 a.m.**

**Guests Present**

Mr. David Allen, Georgia Technology Authority  
Mr. Doug Ashworth, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education  
Mr. Joe Baden, Third Judicial Administrative District  
Judge Amanda Baxter, Office of State Administrative Hearings  
Mr. Josh Becker, Council of Accountability Court Judges  
Mr. Tracy J. BeMent, Tenth Judicial Administrative District  
Mr. Bob Bray, Council of State Court Judges  
Mr. Walter Davis, Jones Day  
Mr. Richard F. Denney, First Judicial Administrative District  
Ms. Brenda Elwell, Georgia Court Reporters Association  
Judge David Emerson, Judicial Workload Assessment Committee  
Mr. Steven Ferrell, Ninth Judicial Administrative District  
Ms. Karlise Grier, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism  
Ms. Christine Hayes, State Bar of Georgia  
Mr. Kevin Holder, Council of Probate Court Judges  
Mr. Eric John, Council of Juvenile Court Judges  
Ms. Taylor Jones, Council of Accountability Court Judges  
Ms. Cheryl Karounos, Georgia Public Defender Council  
Ms. Natasha MacDonald, Council of Superior Court Judges  
Ms. Cathy McCumber, Fourth Judicial Administrative District  
Mr. Charles Miller, Council of Superior Court Judges  
Mr. David Mixon, Second Judicial Administrative District  
Ms. Charice Perloe, Georgia Court Reporters Association  
Mr. Robert Thornton, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council  
Ms. Jody Overcash, Seventh Judicial Administrative District  
Judge Rebecca Pitts, Council of Magistrate Court Judges  
Ms. Sharon Reiss, Council of Magistrate Court Judges  
Ms. Jimmonique Rodgers, Georgia Public Defender Council  
Ms. Karlie Sahs, Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution  
Ms. Christina Smith, Georgia Court of Appeals  
Mr. Robert Smith, Prosecuting Attorneys Council  
Ms. LeQuetta C. Walker, Georgia Court Reporters Association  
Ms. Kirsten Wallace, Council of Juvenile Court Judges  
Mr. Shannon Weathers, Council of Superior Court Judges  
Mr. Jeff West, Georgia Council of Court Administrators  
Ms. Emily Youngo, Council of Superior Court Judges



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** ICJE Board Of Trustees

**FR:** Douglas Ashworth, J.D., Executive Director, ICJE of Georgia

**RE:** Called ICJE Board Meeting (Phone Conference)  
Monday, February 10, 2020 at 12 Noon (EST)  
Dial In Number 1.800.719.7514  
Conference Code: 463544

**DATE:** January 30, 2020

**I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**There will be a Called Meeting of the ICJE Board of Trustees (via phone conference) on Monday, February 10, 2020, at 12 Noon (EST) for the purpose of considering proposed revisions to the ICJE By-Laws.**

Hon. Bonnie Chessher Oliver, ICJE Board Chair, has scheduled this Called Meeting for two reasons: (1) The version of the proposed revisions to the ICJE By-Laws unanimously approved by the ICJE Board on January 24, 2020, contains inadvertent scrivener's errors; and, (2) Delaying action until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting (Friday, March 27, 2020) would prevent the proposed ICJE By-Laws revisions from being presented to the next Judicial Council meeting on Friday, February 14, 2020. This Called Meeting is set pursuant to Article V, Meetings, Section 1, of the current ICJE By-Laws.

**II. PURPOSE OF CALLED MEETING/ACTION REQUESTED**

The purpose of the February 10, 2020, Called ICJE Board Meeting is consideration of the proposed revisions to the ICJE By-Laws. The action requested is an affirmative vote of the Board supporting the proposed revisions to the existing ICJE By-Laws, and authorizing the ICJE Executive Director to present the proposed revisions to the Judicial Council of Georgia on February 14, 2020.

**III. CURRENT ICJE BY-LAWS (EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2012) ARE ATTACHED**

The current ICJE By-Laws, effective January 1, 2012, are attached for reference.

**IV. PROPOSED REVISIONS TO ICJE BY-LAWS ARE ATTACHED**

Proposed revisions to the current ICJE By-Laws are attached for reference.

**V. SUMMARY – CONTENT AND PURPOSE OF PROPOSED REVISIONS.**

**For the full content of proposed revisions, please review the attached proposed revised By-Laws – here is a *summary* of proposed revisions:**

A. Proposed Revisions - Global Changes: 25 of the proposed revisions are offered for the purpose of making the ICJE By-Laws gender neutral. For example, the current term "Chairman" would be amended to "Chairperson". These changes are found as indicated throughout the proposed revisions to the By-Laws.

B. Proposed Revision To Article II – Membership, Section 3: The proposed revision deletes the specific reference to a calendar year, in this case, 1979.

C. Proposed Revision To Article II – Membership, Section 5: The proposed revision changes the description of the Supreme Court Liaison to the ICJE Board from "member" to "Justice".

D. Proposed Revision To Article III – Officers And Their Duties, Section 2: The proposed revision corrects an inadvertent grammatical error, replacing the current word "of" with the new word "or".

E. Proposed Revisions To Article III – Officers And Their Duties, Section 3: These proposed revisions reflect proposed policy changes regarding: (i) who may serve as Vice-Chairperson of the Board; and, (ii) provide that an Ex-Officio member who serves as Vice-Chairperson shall have full voting rights. The purpose of the proposed policy changes are to better provide for permanent representation among the leadership positions of the ICJE Board for the respective Deans of Georgia's law schools.

#### **VI. PROTOCOL FOR CONSIDERATION OF REVISIONS TO ICJE BY-LAWS**

ICJE exists by Order of the Supreme Court of Georgia, and the Supreme Court retains the inherent authority to amend ICJE By-Laws upon its own recommendation and/or motion. Subject to the inherent authority of the Supreme Court, the consideration of proposed revisions to ICJE By-Laws may include a three-step process: (1) Consideration by the ICJE Board of Trustees; (2) Consideration by the Judicial Council of Georgia; and, (3) Consideration by the Supreme Court of Georgia.

#### **VII. BRIEF HISTORY OF ICJE BY-LAWS**

The Supreme Court of Georgia entered an Order dated June 19, 1978, directing the Judicial Council of Georgia to file proposed By-Laws for the organization and government of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia. The Judicial Council responded to the Order by promulgating and filing proposed By-Laws with the Supreme Court of Georgia. On January 26, 1979, the Supreme Court of Georgia entered an Order creating the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education, including the adoption of By-Laws attached to the Order. There have been subsequent revisions to the ICJE By-Laws. The last revisions to the ICJE By-Laws were pursuant to an Order of the Supreme Court of Georgia entered on November 3, 2011, providing for an effective date of January 1, 2012, for the current ICJE By-Laws.

#### **VIII. RSVP AND DIAL IN INFORMATION:**

**RSVP TO:** Susan Nunnally [susan@icje.law.uga.edu](mailto:susan@icje.law.uga.edu)

**DIAL IN INFORMATION:** 1.800.719.7514; Conference Code: 463544.

Please plan to participate, a minimum of seven ICJE Board members are required in order to take action, pursuant to Article V, Meetings, Section 2.

- END -



# **CURRENT ICJE BY-LAWS**

**EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2012**

**AS ADOPTED BY THE SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA IN AN  
ORDER DATED NOVEMBER 3, 2011**

*This document contains the text of the current ICJE By-Laws, effective January 1, 2012, as adopted by the Supreme Court of Georgia in an Order dated November 3, 2011. ICJE exists by Order of the Supreme Court of Georgia, and the Supreme Court retains the inherent authority to amend ICJE By-Laws upon its own recommendation and/or motion.*

**BY-LAWS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING JUDICIAL EDUCATION OF GEORGIA\***

**Article I**  
**Name and Purpose**

**Section 1.** This Board shall be known as the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of the Judicial Council of Georgia.

**Section 2.** The purpose of this Board shall be to direct the activities of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia which will have primary responsibility for the continuing education of the judiciary of the courts of Georgia.

**Article II**  
**Membership**

**Section 1.** The membership shall be composed of eighteen members who shall be selected as follows:

- (1) The Court of Appeals of Georgia shall name one member for an initial one-year term.
- (2) The Council of Superior Court Judges shall name two judges as members. One shall serve for an initial one-year term and the other shall serve for an initial two-year term.
- (3) The Council of State Court Judges shall name one judge as a member for an initial three-year term.
- (4) The Council of Juvenile Court Judges shall name one judge for an initial term of one year.
- (5) The Council of Probate Court Judges shall name one judge as a member for an initial term of one year.
- (6) The State Bar of Georgia shall name one member, a non-judge, who shall serve for an initial two-year term.
- (7) The Judicial Council of Georgia shall name one member, who shall serve for an initial three-year term.

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- (8) The Superior Court Clerks Association of Georgia shall name one member, who shall serve for an initial one-year term.
- (9) The Council of Magistrate Court Judges shall name one judge as a member, who shall serve for an initial two-year term.
- (10) The Council of Municipal Court Judges shall name one judge as a member. The first appointee shall serve a two-year term.

#### **Ex officio Members**

- (11) If not otherwise a member, the Immediate Past Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia shall be an ex officio member of the Board.
- (12) The Immediate Past Chairman of the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia shall serve for a one-year term. In the event of a vacancy in this position, either by resignation or otherwise, the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia shall appoint a successor to serve the unexpired term.
- (13) The Dean of the University Of Georgia School Of Law shall be an ex officio member of the Board.
- (14) The Dean of the Emory University School of Law shall be an ex officio member of the Board.
- (15) The Dean of Mercer University School of Law shall be an ex-officio member of the Board.
- (16) The Dean of the Georgia State University College of Law shall be an ex-officio member of the Board.
- (17) The Dean of Atlanta's John Marshall Law School shall be an ex-officio member of the Board.

**Section 2.** At the conclusion of the specified term of any member, or upon the death, resignation, or disability of any member, the affected appointing group shall name his replacement either for a new term or for the remainder of the member's unexpired term. No regular member of the Board shall be eligible for reappointment after having served for two terms.

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**Section 3.** The terms of the members shall begin July 1, 1979, and shall run from that date for the period specified in Section 1 of this Article.

**Section 4.** After the expiration of the initial terms provided for herein, the terms of the members shall be for a period of three years. The provision of this article shall not apply to ex officio members.

**Section 5.** The Supreme Court will assign a member of this court as liaison to the Board of Trustees. The liaison person will provide the Board with a direct means of communication with the Supreme Court. Whenever possible the liaison person will attend the meetings of the Board. The Board will keep the liaison person fully informed of their activities.

### **Article III**

#### **Officers and their Duties**

**Section 1.** The officers of the Board shall be a Chairman, a Vice Chairman and a Secretary-Treasurer.

**Section 2.** Chairman. The Chairman shall call the meetings, notify members as required, preside at all meetings, name committees, represent the Board with respect to releases to the media and in dealing with private of governmental agencies, and perform such other duties and acts as usually pertain to his office.

**Section 3.** Vice-Chairman. The Vice-Chairman shall preside at meetings of the Board in the absence of the Chairman. Upon the death, resignation, or during the disability of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall perform the duties of the Chairman for the remainder of the Chairman's term or until his replacement shall have been named or until his disability ends, whichever first occurs.

**Section 4.** Secretary-Treasurer .The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the custodian of all books, papers, documents and other property of the Board, including money. He shall keep a true record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Board. He shall attend, along with the Chairman, to the business of the Board and shall keep an accurate record of all monies appropriated to and expended for the use of the Board. He shall assist in the preparation of correspondence, notices, policy statements and opinions of the Board as directed. While the Secretary-Treasurer shall be primarily responsible for the aforesaid duties, He may delegate the same to and be assisted by the Executive Director.

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**Article IV**  
**Nomination and Election of Officers**

**Section 1.** The Board shall annually elect its officers from its regular membership to serve a term of one year, said term to run from July 1 to June 30, immediately following the Board's annual meeting held in connection with the annual meeting of the State Bar of Georgia.

**Article V**  
**Meetings**

**Section 1.** Meetings of the Board shall be at such time and place as the Chairman may determine or upon written request of three members. The Board shall, in any event, meet no less than four times annually and shall meet for elections and other purposes at the State Bar Annual Meeting, when such meeting is conducted within the geographic boundaries of Georgia. Notices of all meetings other than the "annual" shall be given at least seven days in advance thereof. Notice shall include the time and place of said meeting.

**Section 2.** The members of the Board present, not less than seven, shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 3.** All binding action of the Board shall be by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

**Article VI**  
**Committees**

**Section 1.** There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer and one additional member of the Board to be designated by the Chairman. The Executive Committee shall have general supervisory charge of the affairs of the Institute in the interim between meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Institute, subject to the general policy guidelines which may be established by the Board of Trustees of the Institute.

**Section 2.** It shall be the privilege of the Chairman to name such committees as shall from time to time be necessary to further the aims and goals of the Board. Further, the Board may, in its judgment and discretion, establish standing committees where the need appears. Membership of the committees shall be fixed by the Chairman and shall be rotated annually unless otherwise decided by the Board.

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## **Article VII**

### **Duties and Power of the Board**

**Section 1.** The Board shall be the governing body of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia. It shall formulate policy, explore and secure sources of funding, and provide such supervision and administration as necessary, in order that the Institute carry out its responsibility of continuing judicial education.

## **Article VIII**

### **Miscellaneous Provisions**

**Section 1.** No salary or compensation shall be paid to any officer or member of the Board.

**Section 2.** Members shall receive, when funds are available, those actual and necessary expenses in carrying on the work of the Board.

**Section 3.** These by-laws may be amended at any meeting of the Board by a majority vote of the members of the Board present and voting.

**Section 4.** These updated by-laws shall become effective on January 1, 2012.

-END-

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# PROPOSED REVISIONS TO ICJE BY-LAWS

PRESENTED TO ICJE BOARD CALLED MEETING ON  
FEBRUARY 10, 2020

*This document contains the text of new proposed ICJE By-Laws presented to the ICJE Board at a called Board Meeting on February 10, 2020. It is the intent of the ICJE Board that this document supersede and replace the proposed By-Laws adopted at the January 24, 2020, ICJE Board Meeting, as this document corrects inadvertent scrivener's errors contained in the document approved at the January 24, 2020, ICJE Board Meeting. ~~Text in this document that is struck through~~ signifies text from the current By-Laws (effective January 1, 2012) that is proposed to be deleted. Text in this document that is underlined signifies text that does not exist in the current By-Laws (effective January 1, 2012) and is proposed to be added to the new proposed By-Laws. ICJE exists by Order of the Supreme Court of Georgia, and the Supreme Court retains the inherent authority to amend ICJE By-Laws upon its own recommendation and/or motion.*

**BY-LAWS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING JUDICIAL EDUCATION OF GEORGIA\***

**Article I  
Name and Purpose**

**Section 1.** This Board shall be known as the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of the Judicial Council of Georgia.

**Section 2.** The purpose of this Board shall be to direct the activities of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia which will have primary responsibility for the continuing education of the judiciary of the courts of Georgia.

**Article II  
Membership**

**Section 1.** The membership shall be composed of eighteen members who shall be selected as follows: **eleven (11) regular members who shall have full voting rights and seven (7) ex officio members who do not have voting rights unless specifically set out herein.**

**Regular Members**

- (1) The Court of Appeals of Georgia shall name one member for an initial one-year term.
- (2) The Council of Superior Court Judges shall name two judges as members. One shall serve for an initial one-year term and the other shall serve for an initial two-year term.
- (3) The Council of State Court Judges shall name one judge as a member for an initial three-year term.
- (4) The Council of Juvenile Court Judges shall name one judge for an initial term of one year.

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- (5) The Council of Probate Court Judges shall name one judge as a member for an initial term of one year.
- (6) The State Bar of Georgia shall name one member, a non-judge, who shall serve for an initial two-year term.
- (7) The Judicial Council of Georgia shall name one member, who shall serve for an initial three-year term.
- (8) The Superior Court Clerks Association of Georgia shall name one member, who shall serve for an initial one-year term.
- (9) The Council of Magistrate Court Judges shall name one judge as a member, who shall serve for an initial two-year term.
- (10) The Council of Municipal Court Judges shall name one judge as a member. The first appointee shall serve a two-year term.

#### **Ex officio Members**

- (11) If not otherwise a member, the Immediate Past ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson** of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia shall be an ex officio member of the Board **for a one-year term**.
- (12) The Immediate Past ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson** of the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia shall serve for a one-year term. In the event of a vacancy in this position, either by resignation or otherwise, the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia shall appoint a successor to serve the unexpired term.
- (13) The Dean of the University Of Georgia School Of Law shall be an ex officio member of the Board.
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(15) The Dean of Mercer University School of Law shall be an ex-officio member of the Board.

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(17) The Dean of Atlanta's John Marshall Law School shall be an ex-officio member of the Board.

**Section 2.** At the conclusion of the specified term of any member, or upon the death, resignation, or disability of any member, the affected appointing group shall name ~~his~~ a replacement either for a new term or for the remainder of the member's unexpired term. No regular member of the Board shall be eligible for reappointment after having served for two terms.

**Section 3.** The terms of the members shall begin July 1, ~~1979~~, and shall run from that date for the period specified in Section 1 of this Article.

**Section 4.** After the expiration of the initial terms provided for herein, the terms of the members shall be for a period of three years. The provision of this article shall not apply to ex officio members.

**Section 5.** The Supreme Court will assign a ~~member of this court~~ Justice as liaison to the Board of Trustees. The ~~liaison person~~ Justice will provide the Board with a direct means of communication with the Supreme Court. Whenever possible the ~~liaison person~~ Justice will attend the meetings of the Board. The Board will keep the ~~liaison person~~ Justice fully informed of ~~their~~ its activities.

### **Article III Officers and their Duties**

**Section 1.** The officers of the Board shall be a ~~Chairman~~ Chairperson, a ~~Vice Chairman~~ Vice-Chairperson and a Secretary-Treasurer.

**Section 2.** ~~Chairman~~ Chairperson. The ~~Chairman~~ Chairperson shall call the meetings, notify members as required, preside at all meetings, name committees, represent

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the Board with respect to releases to the media and in dealing with private or governmental agencies, and perform such other duties and acts as usually pertain to his this office.

**Section 3.** ~~Vice-Chairman~~ Vice-Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall be elected annually by the Board from the Deans who are ex officio members of the Board. The Vice-Chairperson shall have full voting rights and shall preside at meetings of the Board in the absence of the Chairperson. Upon the death, resignation, or during the disability of the ~~Chairman~~ Chairperson, the ~~Vice-Chairman~~ Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the ~~Chairman~~ Chairperson for the remainder of the ~~Chairman's~~ Chairperson's term or until his his or her replacement shall have been named or until his the disability ends, whichever first occurs.

**Section 4.** Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the custodian of all books, papers, documents and other property of the Board, including money. ~~He~~ He or She shall keep a true record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Board. ~~He~~ He or She shall attend, along with the ~~Chairman~~ Chairperson, to the business of the Board and shall keep an accurate record of all monies appropriated to and expended for the use of the Board. ~~He~~ He or She shall assist in the preparation of correspondence, notices, policy statements and opinions of the Board as directed. While the Secretary-Treasurer shall be primarily responsible for the aforesaid duties, ~~He~~ He or She may delegate the same to and be assisted by the Executive Director.

#### Article IV Nomination and Election of Officers

**Section 1.** The Board shall annually elect its officers from its regular membership to serve a term of one year, said term to run from July 1 to June 30, immediately following the Board's annual meeting held in connection with the annual meeting of the State Bar of Georgia the summer.

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## Article V Meetings

**Section 1.** Meetings of the Board shall be at such time and place as the ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson** may determine or upon written request of three members. The Board shall, in any event, meet no less than four times annually and shall meet for elections and other purposes at the ~~State Bar Annual Meeting, when such meeting is conducted within the geographic boundaries of Georgia~~ **annual meeting held in the summer**. Notices of all meetings ~~other than the "annual"~~ shall be given at least seven days in advance thereof. Notice shall include the time and place of said meeting.

**Section 2.** The members of the Board present, not less than seven, shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 3.** All binding action of the Board shall be by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

## Article VI Committees

**Section 1.** There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson**, ~~Vice-Chairman~~ **Vice-Chairperson** and Secretary-Treasurer and one additional member of the Board to be designated by the ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson**. The Executive Committee shall have general supervisory charge of the affairs of the Institute in the interim between meetings of the Board of ~~Trustees of the Institute~~, subject to the general policy guidelines which may be established by the Board ~~of Trustees of the Institute~~.

**Section 2.** It shall be the privilege of the ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson** to name such committees as shall from time to time be necessary to further the aims and goals of the Board. Further, the Board may, in its judgment and discretion, establish standing committees where the need appears. Membership of the committees shall be fixed by the ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson** and shall be rotated annually unless otherwise decided by the Board.

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*\*This document contains the text of new proposed ICJE By-Laws presented to the ICJE Board at a called Board Meeting on February 10, 2020. It is the intent of the ICJE Board that this document supersede and replace the proposed By-Laws adopted at the January 24, 2020, ICJE Board Meeting, as this document corrects inadvertent scrivener's errors contained in the document approved at the January 24, 2020, ICJE Board Meeting. ~~Text in this document that is struck through~~ signifies text from the current By-Laws (effective January 1, 2012) that is proposed to be deleted. Text in this document that is underlined signifies text that does not exist in the current By-Laws (effective January 1, 2012) and is proposed to be added to the new proposed By-Laws. ICJE exists by Order of the Supreme Court of Georgia, and the Supreme Court retains the inherent authority to amend ICJE By-Laws upon its own recommendation and/or motion.*

**Article VII  
Duties and Power of the Board**

**Section 1.** The Board shall be the governing body of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia. It shall formulate policy, explore and secure sources of funding, and provide such supervision and administration as necessary, in order that the Institute carry out its responsibility of continuing judicial education.

**Article VIII  
Miscellaneous Provisions**

**Section 1.** No salary or compensation shall be paid to any officer or member of the Board.

**Section 2.** Members shall receive, when funds are available, those actual and necessary expenses in carrying on the work of the Board.

**Section 3.** These by-laws may be amended at any meeting of the Board where the members have been given ten days previous notice in writing by a majority vote of the members of the Board present and voting. They shall become effective upon the approval of the Judicial Council and the Supreme Court.

~~**Section 4.** These updated by-laws shall become effective on January 1, 2012.~~

-END-

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*\*This document contains the text of new proposed ICJE By-Laws presented to the ICJE Board at a called Board Meeting on February 10, 2020. It is the intent of the ICJE Board that this document supersede and replace the proposed By-Laws adopted at the January 24, 2020, ICJE Board Meeting, as this document corrects inadvertent scrivener's errors contained in the document approved at the January 24, 2020, ICJE Board Meeting. ~~Text in this document that is struck through~~ signifies text from the current By-Laws (effective January 1, 2012) that is proposed to be deleted. Text in this document that is underlined signifies text that does not exist in the current By-Laws (effective January 1, 2012) and is proposed to be added to the new proposed By-Laws. ICJE exists by Order of the Supreme Court of Georgia, and the Supreme Court retains the inherent authority to amend ICJE By-Laws upon its own recommendation and/or motion.*





# Judicial Council of Georgia

## Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Harold D. Melton  
*Chair*

Cynthia H. Clanton  
*Director*

### Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Presiding Justice David E. Nahmias  
Chair, Standing Committee on Legislation

RE: Committee Report

DATE: January 31, 2020

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The following information provides the status of each item that the Judicial Council has taken a position of support on for the 2020 legislative session, as of January 31, 2020. Any updates will be reported at the Judicial Council meeting on February 14, 2020.

- I. Update and Modernize the Court Reporting Act and related statutes**  
**Judicial Council**  
OCGA Titles 5; 9; 15; 17  
Status: No legislation filed.
  
- II. Bond in misdemeanor family violence cases**  
**Council of Magistrate Court Judges**  
OCGA § 17-6-1  
Status: No legislation filed.

**III. Uniform Mediation Act**  
**Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution**

OCGA § 17-6-1

Status: No legislation filed.

The Committee met by teleconference on Friday, January 24, 2020, and voted to take a position of support on the following item on behalf of the Judicial Council:

**Gross and net settlement defined**  
**Council of State Court Judges/Judicial Council**

OCGA § 29-3-3

**Recommendation:** The Standing Committee on Legislation recommends the Judicial Council support legislation to clarify the meaning of “gross settlement” and define “net settlement” when the appointment of a conservator for a minor is required. *(Draft language and information attached)*

**Council/Organization: Council of State Court Judges**

**Subject Matter: When Appointment of Conservator in Settlement Required**

**Code Section(s): O.C.G.A. § 29-3-3**

**1. Overview:** Describe the proposal/legislation and its purpose.

Confusion still exists what is a “gross” or “net” settlement involving a minor to determine when a conservator is required to be appointed. The purpose of this proposed legislation is to clarify the meaning of “gross” and “net” settlement.

**2. Priority:** Is this legislation of high, medium or low importance to your council?

This legislation has medium importance to our Council. However, it affects other councils as well.

**3. Stakeholders & Constituents:**

- a. Describe the constituent and stakeholder groups that may be affected by this proposal (e.g., executive branch, other governmental entities, other agencies).
- b. Which are likely to support this request?
- c. Which are likely to oppose this request?
- d. Which have not voiced support or opposition?

This legislation affects courts that approves settlements of claims that involve a minor. Ex. Personal injury cases from an automobile accident. Some settlements do not require the appointment of a conservator, but allow the natural guardian to manage the funds for the minor. Other settlements of a substantial amount (more than \$15,000) require that a conservator be appointed for the minor.

The probate courts handle much of the conservator appointments, but the types of settlements can arise from state and superior court cases. Both Councils of the Probate and Superior Courts support this effort for clarification.

At this time we are unaware of any group that would oppose this request.

**4. Supporting data:** Summarize any supporting data, evaluations, and/or research for this request.

- 5. Additional impact:** Will this request require a constitutional amendment or new court rule? Explain why the purpose of the bill cannot be achieved without legislation, if applicable.

Not that we are aware of at this time.

- 6. Budget:** Will this legislation have a fiscal impact on the state? If yes, what is the projected expense? Has a White Paper been submitted to the Judicial Council Standing Committee on Budget (if applicable)? Will this legislation have a fiscal impact on counties or municipalities?

There is no fiscal impact on the state.

- 7. Other Factors:** Discuss any other relevant factors that should be considered, including experience in other states or whether similar legislation has been introduced in the past.

**DRAFT**

Section 29-3-3. "Gross and net settlement" defined; compromise of claim; finality of settlement

(a) For purposes of this Code section, the term "gross settlement" means the present value of all amounts paid or to be paid in settlement of the claim, including cash, medical expenses, expenses of litigation, attorney's fees, and any amounts paid to purchase an annuity or other similar financial arrangement. Gross settlement includes the total amount paid or to be paid on behalf of all settling parties.

(b) The term "net settlement" means the gross settlement reduced by the following:

(1) Attorney's fees, expenses of litigation, and medical expenses which are to be paid from the settlement proceeds; and

(2) The present value of amounts to be received by the minor after reaching the age of majority.

~~(bc)~~ If the minor has a conservator, the only person who can compromise a minor's claim is the conservator.

~~(ed)~~ ~~Whether or not~~ Regardless of whether a legal action has been initiated, if the proposed gross settlement of a minor's claim is \$15,000.00 or less, the natural guardian of the minor may compromise the claim without becoming the conservator of the minor and without court approval. ~~The natural guardian must qualify as the conservator of the minor in order to receive payment of the settlement if necessary to comply with Code Section 29-3-1. The natural guardian must qualify as the conservator of the minor in order to receive payment of the settlement if necessary to comply with Code Section 29-3-1.~~

~~(de)~~ ~~If no~~ Regardless of whether legal action has been initiated, ~~and if~~ the proposed gross settlement of a minor's claim is more than \$15,000.00, the settlement must be submitted for approval to the Probate court.

~~(ef)~~ If legal action has been initiated and the proposed gross settlement of a minor's claim is more than \$15,000.00, the ~~settlement must be submitted for approval to the conservator must seek approval from~~ the court in which the action is pending. The natural guardian or conservator shall not be permitted to dismiss the action and present the settlement to the Probate court for approval without the approval of the court in which the action is pending.

~~(fg)~~ If the proposed ~~gross gross~~ settlement of a minor's claim is more than \$15,000, but the net settlement is more than \$15,000.00, but the gross settlement reduced by:

~~(1) Attorney's fees, expenses of litigation, and medical expenses which shall be paid from the settlement proceeds; and~~

~~(2) The present value of amounts to be received by the minor after reaching the age of majority~~

## DRAFT

is \$15,000.00 or less, the natural guardian may seek approval of the proposed settlement from the ~~appropriate~~ court in which the action is pending without becoming the conservator of the minor, or from Probate court if there is no pending action. ~~The natural guardian must qualify as the conservator of the minor in order to receive payment of the settlement if necessary to comply with Code Section 29-3-1.~~ The natural guardian must qualify as the conservator of the minor in order to receive payment of the settlement if necessary to comply with Code Section 29-3-1.

(~~g~~h) If the proposed ~~net gross~~ settlement of a minor's claim ~~is more than \$15,000.00, but such gross settlement reduced by:~~

~~(1) Attorney's fees, expenses of litigation, and medical expenses which shall be paid from the settlement proceeds; and~~

~~(2) The present value of amounts to be received by the minor after reaching the age of majority~~

is more than \$15,000.00, the natural guardian may not seek approval of the proposed settlement from the ~~appropriate~~ court in which the action is pending without becoming the conservator of the minor.

(~~h~~i) If an order of approval is obtained from the Probate court, or a court in which the action is pending, based upon the best interest of the minor, the natural guardian or conservator shall be authorized to compromise any contested or doubtful claim in favor of the minor without receiving consideration for such compromise as a lump sum. Without limiting the foregoing, the compromise may be in exchange for an arrangement that defers receipt of part, not to exceed a total distribution of \$15,000.00 prior to a minor reaching the age of majority, or all of the consideration for the compromise until after the minor reaches the age of majority and may involve a structured settlement or creation of a trust on terms which the court approves.

(~~i~~j) Any settlement entered consistent with the provisions of this Code section shall be final and binding upon all parties, including the minor.

(k) It is within the discretion of the court in which the action is pending to hold a hearing to inquire into compliance with the requirements of this section, but a hearing is not required if compliance with the requirements is evident from the record.



## Judicial Council of Georgia

### Administrative Office of the Courts

**Chief Justice Harold D. Melton**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

**To:** Judicial Council Members

**From:** Standing Committee on Budget  
Justice Michael Boggs, Chair *M.B.*

**Date:** February 04, 2020

**Re:** Fiscal Year 2020 Judicial Council Budget and Financial Report

#### **Fiscal Year 2020 Judicial Council Budget and Financial Report as of December 31, 2019**

The Judicial Council Budget and Financial Report is attached for review.

#### **Amended Fiscal Year 2020 and Fiscal Year 2021 Judicial Council Budget Requests**

##### **House and Senate Joint Budget Hearings**

Legislative session began January 13, 2020. The Joint House and Senate Budget Hearings were held January 21-23, 2020. Chief Justice Melton was asked to share the budget requests for the Supreme Court and Judicial Council. In the hearing, the Chief Justice provided a status update on the Judicial Building, presented the Supreme Court and Judicial Council's budget requests and invited the members to the Nathan Deal Judicial Center ribbon cutting event.

##### **House Appropriations Subcommittee Hearing**

The Judicial Council attended the House Appropriations Subcommittee meeting on January 27, 2020 to request Fiscal Year 2021 continuation funding and one Amended Fiscal Year 2020 enhancement request in the amount of \$375,000 for Civil Legal Services for Kinship Care Families. The request for a Business Support Analyst was withdrawn. The Administrative Office of the Courts will repurpose a recently vacated position to fill the request. The total continuation funding with the one enhancement is \$16,946,037.

##### **Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Hearing**

Dates are forthcoming. The Standing Committee on Budget will communicate the dates, times and location of the Amended Fiscal Year 2020 and Fiscal Year 2021 budget hearings as soon as they are available.

##### **Attachments:**

Fiscal Year 2020 Judicial Council Budget and Financial Report

**Judicial Council Operations FY 2020**

**Budget as of December 31, 2019**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>FY 2020 Budget</b>	<b>YTD Expenditures</b>	<b>Remaining</b>	<b>Budget Spent</b>
<b>Administrative Office of The Courts</b>		<b>\$ 7,673,468</b>	<b>\$ 4,184,164</b>	<b>\$ 3,489,304</b>	<b>55%</b>
Legal Services for Domestic Violence	103	2,500,000	2,500,000	\$ -	100%
Georgia Council of Court Administrators	141	19,057	450	\$ 18,607	2%
Council of Municipal Court Judges	142	16,185	2,410	\$ 13,775	15%
Child Support Collaborative	174	119,000	56,185	\$ 62,815	47%
Council of Magistrate Court Judges	204	193,021	88,233	\$ 104,788	46%
Council of Probate Court Judges	205	185,454	112,935	\$ 72,519	61%
Council of State Court Judges	206	262,081	141,062	\$ 121,019	54%
Council of State Court Judges Ret.	207	2,623,814	281,203	\$ 2,342,611	11%
<b>Other Judicial Council Subprograms</b>		<b>\$ 5,918,612</b>	<b>\$ 3,182,478</b>	<b>\$ 2,736,134</b>	<b>54%</b>
Accountability Courts	195	700,070	342,729	\$ 357,341	49%
Accountability Courts - Peer Review Process	199	42,000	18,711	\$ 23,289	45%
Resource Center	500	800,000	400,000	\$ 400,000	50%
Judicial Qualifications Commission	400	826,943	430,568	\$ 396,375	52%
Inst of Continuing Jud Ed Operations	300	64,000	21,056	\$ 42,944	33%
Inst of Continuing Jud Ed Administration	301	545,943	120,214	\$ 425,729	22%
<b>Separate Judicial Council Programs</b>		<b>\$ 2,978,956</b>	<b>\$ 1,333,279</b>	<b>\$ 1,645,677</b>	<b>42%</b>
<b>TOTAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL</b>		<b>\$ 16,571,036</b>	<b>\$ 8,699,921</b>	<b>\$ 7,871,115</b>	<b>53%</b>





# Judicial Council of Georgia

## Administrative Office of the Courts

**Chief Justice Harold D. Melton**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

### Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, Chair

RE: Committee Report - Judicial Council Standing Committee on Technology

DATE: January 31, 2020

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The Judicial Council Standing Committee on Technology has not formally convened since the December 6, 2019, Judicial Council meeting.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2020, at the Nathan Deal Judicial Center.



# Judicial Council of Georgia

## Administrative Office of the Courts

**Chief Justice Harold D. Melton**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

### Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council

FROM: Judge Christian Coomer  
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Cybersecurity Insurance for the Judiciary

RE: Ad Hoc Committee on Cybersecurity Insurance for the Judiciary

DATE: January 28, 2020

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January 28, 2020, the Ad Hoc Committee on Cybersecurity Insurance for the Judiciary held its third meeting.

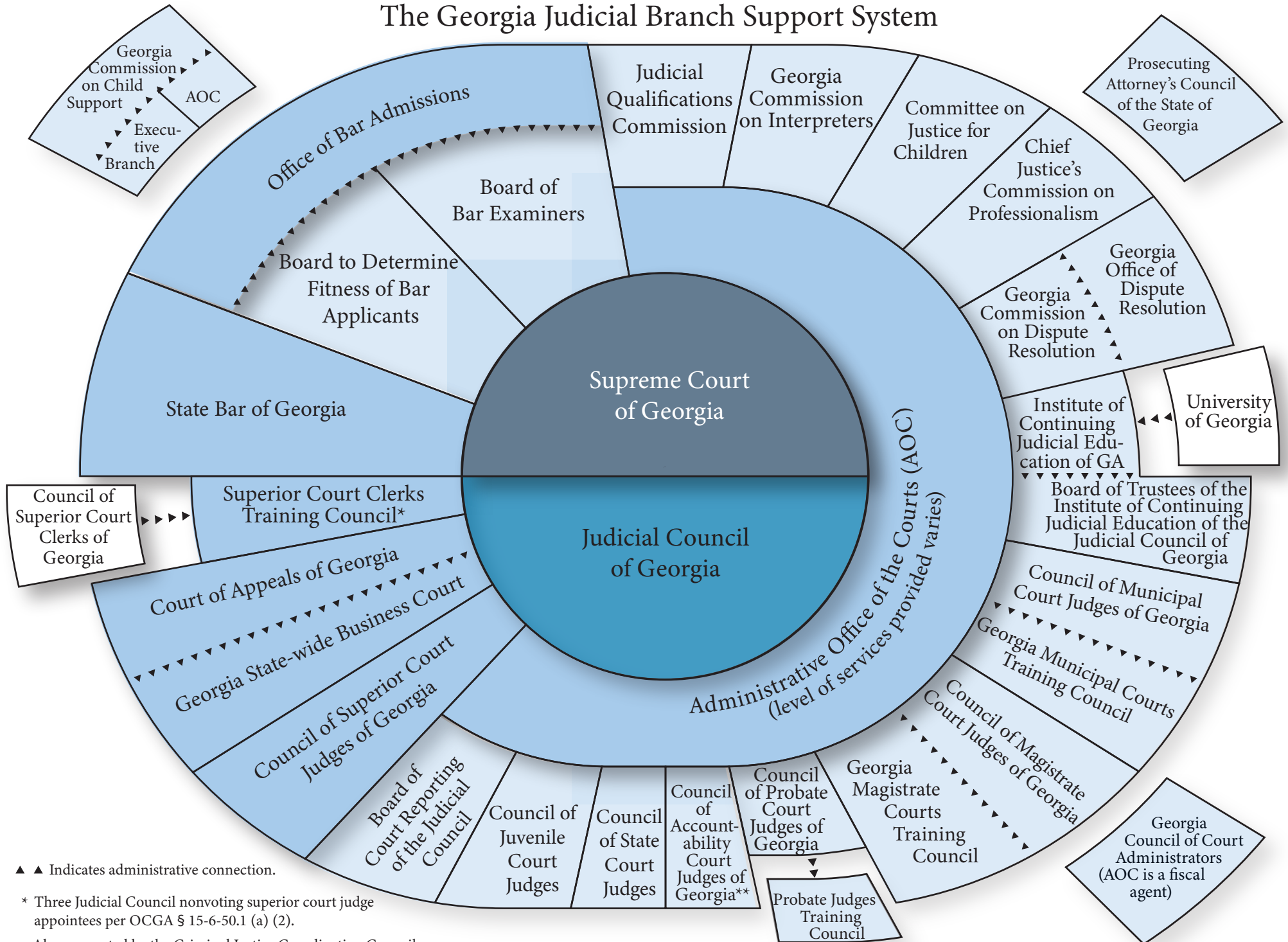
The Committee completed the following:

1. Updated the Organizational Map of all Judicial Agencies to note what entities need to be covered and included in a cybersecurity insurance policy. The attached organization chart was created by the Administrative Office of the Courts to identify all possible affiliated agencies attached to or supported by the Judicial Council of Georgia and/or the Administrative Office of the Courts.
2. Efforts to gather data necessary for the committee to make recommendations have been managed by Darron Enns at the AOC, including his work to identify the 32 agencies in issue and determining the various levels of interconnectivity and safeguards that exist within that set of entities. Additionally, the task of assimilating that sensitive, technical information into a digestible package that can be used to solicit meaningful insurance proposals from brokers has been assigned to a subcommittee chaired by committee member Phyllis Sumner, partner and Chief Privacy Officer at King & Spalding. The coordinated efforts of the AOC and the subcommittee will produce a series of options for the full committee to consider in making its final report to the Judicial Council.

3. Preliminary recommendations, including the possible creation or designation of a successor entity to continue general oversight of judicial branch cybersecurity insurance and preparedness, including maintaining detailed incident response plans (IRPs) for each judicial branch entity and a more general IRP for the entire judicial branch, after the dissolution of the Ad Hoc committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2020.

# The Georgia Judicial Branch Support System



▲ ▲ Indicates administrative connection.

\* Three Judicial Council nonvoting superior court judge appointees per OCGA § 15-6-50.1 (a) (2).

\*\* Also supported by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, an Executive Branch agency.



## Judicial Council of Georgia

### Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Harold D. Melton  
*Chair*

Cynthia H. Clanton  
*Director*

#### Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council of Georgia

FROM: Michelle Barclay, Division Director

RE: JC/AOC's Communications, Children, Families, and the Courts Division

DATE: February 14, 2020

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The Communications, Children, Families and the Courts Division of the JC/AOC serves as the hub for all communications and provides staff for the Supreme Court of Georgia Committee on Justice for Children, chaired by Presiding Justice David Nahmias; the Georgia Commission on Child Support, chaired by Troup County Juvenile Court Judge Michael Key; and the Access to Justice Committee of the Judicial Council, chaired by Justice Robert Benham. This Division assists with general grant work for courts in partnership with the legal staff in the Director's Division.

Following is a brief synopsis of the current work.

- **Committee on Justice for Children (J4C):** Federal grant funding for 2020 is underway and will last until December 31, 2020. Federal funding is in place through 2021. The priorities for J4C now include:
  - Multi-Disciplinary Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (MD-CANI): The Institute is a Georgia-specific iteration of a national Child Abuse and Neglect Institute provided by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. MD-CANI Planning place in August 2016 and brought together stakeholders from across the state for a two-day introduction to the CANI curriculum. MDCANI Part 1 is an intensive, two-day immersion training in local jurisdictions, now expanded to include judges and all stakeholders, which covers the law and best practices in the first 75 days of a dependency case. MDCANI Part 2 is another intensive, two-day training for local jurisdictions, this time focusing on issues related to child wellbeing and permanency. On August 8-9, 2019 a run-through of Part 2 took place in Athens with our core jurisdictions observing and providing feedback. As of January 31, 2020, we provided MD-CANI Part 1 & 2 training to 54 jurisdictions.
  - The Court Process Reporting System (CPRS) provides a daily snapshot of data relating to every child in foster care, permitting judges, attorneys, and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) to stay up-to-date on every factor related to

the child's permanency plan. The system also allows for uploading and e-filing of court orders, which are then sent to the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) every day, resulting in improvement of outcomes when the State seeks federal reimbursement for a portion of foster care expenses (by being able to easily account for all the court orders). In partnership with Georgia CASA, CPRS is also developing a CASA-specific module to allow case-tracking, report dissemination, and periodic reporting to national CASA. The J4C recently received a grant from the Zeist Foundation for this CASA-specific module, which is now in the testing phase. As of 2019, all Special Assistant Attorneys General (SAAGs) representing DFCS must upload all court orders to CPRS; CPRS in turn transmits these orders daily to the DFCS SHINES system. It is estimated by DFCS that using CPRS to upload orders will save the State some \$4 million dollars each year; this is the amount typically lost in federal IV-E reimbursements due to unavailability of court orders when the state is audited by our federal partners.

- The Cold Case Project is a joint project of J4C, the Office of the Child Advocate (OCA), and the Division of Family and Children Services. The Project identifies children in foster care whose cases are not moving toward permanency via a computer model and convenes the stakeholders to review substantive due process rights of the children and to brainstorm solutions to permanency roadblocks. At our May 2019 meeting, J4C members voted to take steps to move Cold Case legislatively to OCA, so that funding would go directly to OCA if all approvals go through on July 1, 2020.
  - The Court Improvement Initiative brings together leading juvenile court judges and their stakeholders twice a year. J4C reviews the best-practice model with each jurisdiction individually, and each jurisdiction reports on its efforts to implement best practices. Each meeting includes a session for judges to review data for each jurisdiction and J4C moderates discussions on best-practice implementation in light of needs revealed by the data.
  - J4C also sponsors the Hines Awards for child welfare attorneys and DFCS case managers to highlight the importance of this work. 2019 awards were given at the State Bar meeting in Orlando, Florida to attorney Anissa Patton and DFCS case manager Jasmine Spratling. Nominations are open for 2020.
  - J4C is sponsoring a Georgia Child Welfare Law Specialist meeting on March 4-6, 2020. Our last meeting in 2019 was attended by over 50 attorneys. We currently have some 60 GA Georgia attorneys who are Child Welfare Legal Specialist (CWLS) certified.
  - J4C, DFCS and OCA sponsored the third annual statewide Child Welfare Law Summit on Nov. 13-15, 2019, with nearly 650 participants. Planning for the 4<sup>th</sup> Summit for November 2020 is underway.
  - **The next J4C Committee meeting will be in May of 2020.**
- **Communications:** Improving communication can improve justice in all Georgia courts through collaboration and innovation, so it is a priority under the Judicial Council Strategic Plan. Since the ransomware attack in June 2019, we have built a new Courts Journal platform: <https://georgiacourtsjournal.org/> and we have restored the archives of stories and videos. We are still promoting and creating positive content about Georgia's

judicial branch, all courts, and judges through our social media pages. Our aim with all stories about the judicial branch is to instill faith in our state's system of justice and the rule of law. We are exploring creating civics kits to help fulfill that aim in partnership with the Georgia Department of Education and the State Bar of Georgia. Our platforms are: <http://georgiacourts.knack.com/gcd2/>; (<https://www.facebook.com/GACourts>; <https://twitter.com/Gacourts>; YouTube channel-<https://tinyurl.com/y9x6d32x>

- Child Support Commission: The Commission staff works collaboratively with Georgia's Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) in several areas, including supporting the Parental Accountability Courts (PAC), providing a website for self-represented litigants with resources on Georgia's Income Deduction Order (IDO) process (<https://georgiacourts.gov/ido/>), providing an online child support calculator for court and public use, and generally supporting the process and the law surrounding child support.
  - Parental Accountability Court evaluation: We continue to support and train PAC coordinators on use of the database to produce statistical evidence of the efficacy of those courts. JC/AOC's Research Division did a pilot study in 2018 of the results of data collected over a three-year period, which was shared with DCSS and all PAC judges. A second study is underway now on six more courts in the Alcovy, Appalachian, Coweta, Flint, Northeastern, and Southwestern Judicial Circuits.
  - Legislation: The Commission submitted proposed legislation for 2019 that passed addressing several items: Adoption Assistance Payments as an Exclusion to Gross Income; Amend O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(f)(4)(A) to remove "40 hour/minimum wage" language (to ensure federal compliance); and the Addition of "or the Jury" in appropriate locations, along with corrections to grammar and punctuation. Staff include these changes in the training curriculum. The Commission has not submitted legislation for the 2020 session.
  - Child Support Calculator: Courts, attorneys, mediators and the public are using the online calculator deployed on August 8, 2016. Internet connectivity within the courthouses is still a problem around the state. The Excel calculators were retired on October 1, 2018. Commission staff is providing training on the online calculator throughout the state. The trainings include an update on child support case law, the correct use of multiple child support worksheets, use of the low income deviation, imputed income, and income withholding.
  - Study Committees: The Child Support Commission established two study committees to begin work in 2019 for a period of no more than two years that are chaired by members of the Commission. The Low Income Deviation Study Committee is chaired by Superior Court Judge Emory Palmer, and the Parenting Time Deviation Study Committee is chaired by Private Attorney Kathleen Connell. The purpose of the study committees is to explore whether changes, including the potential of adding formulas to the calculations, should be made specifically to the Low Income Deviation, O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(i)(2)(B), and the Parenting Time Deviation, O.C.G.A. § 19-6-15(i)(K). Surveys have been developed for judges, attorneys and the general public, and can be found at <https://georgiacourts.gov/csc/>.
  - The next Child Support Commission mtg will be April 17, 2020.

- **Access to Justice Committee (A2J):** The mission of the Access to Justice (A2J) Committee is to improve the public's trust in the judicial branch by focusing on access and fairness through the elimination of systemic barriers related to gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, indigence, and language. The A2J Committee, is currently working on several projects:
  - Judge Rodatus, Judge Cassandra Kirk and Georgia State University Law Intern, Timur Selimovic who is also a fellow with the University's Center for Access to Justice, and previously served with the A2J Committee, recently finalized the Self-Help Resources Tool Kit for Georgia Judges. This project will provide information on a variety of self-help service delivery models. This toolkit was disseminated during the Judicial Council's meeting on April 26, 2019 and given to some religious leaders in SWGA during our first two Expungement Clinics. We are in the process of updating this resource and will present the proposed changes during our next Committee meeting in February.
  - The A2J Committee is partnering with and has adopted the State Bar's Justice for All (JFA) Strategic Plan and suggested projects. Foundational work of the strategic plan was initiated at our May Summit, a follow-up to our 2016 Summit (GA Reflections on Ferguson): GA Reflections on Access and Fairness in the Courts. Part 2: Engaging the Faith Community. We were able to identify various religious organizations throughout the State of Georgia to participate in the event and study. Foundational surveys and fact-gathering interviews were conducted with the faith-based community leaders to assess what current practices, if any, are in place. Work to assist the Dougherty County Law Library in creating a prototype at the local level for assisting self-represented litigants is underway. The Committee will focus on a combination of strengthening local law libraries, online forms for self-filing, local pop-up legal clinics, and low bono models of attorney representation, with the assistance of Mike Monahan, Judge Kristina Blum, the Georgia Technology Authority and the Director from the Dougherty County Law Library. Additionally, the AOC's Research Division will create and assist with the metrics of the model's effectiveness. The A2J Committee received an additional grant in the amount of \$40,000 from the State Bar of Georgia via the JC/AOC to be used for the ongoing initiatives in the JFA Strategic Plan. This continued funding is the result of a partnership between the State Bar's Justice for All Committee and the A2J Committee. On April 13, 2019, the A2J Committee held its first Pop-up Legal Clinic for Expungements, which served over 280 attendees. Our second Clinic served over 200 attendees and was held on July 26, 2019 in Valdosta, GA. The A2J Committee partnered with local and statewide volunteer lawyers, the State Bar of Georgia, Park Ave. United Methodist Church, local Solicitor's/DA's Office, and The Georgia Justice Project. Our next Clinic will be late February (TBD) in Rome, GA.
  - The A2J Committee collaborated with the State Bar's Unauthorized Practice of Law section and the Indigent Defense Committees to prepare a combination UPL Counter Card for court personnel and a Right to Counsel Bench card for judges. This card is being disseminated throughout Georgia's Judiciary.
  - The A2J Committee's Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) working group collaborated with several ADA attorney specialists to create a Best Practices for



DHH Courthouse Accessibility counter card. This counter card is for all court personnel, and its purpose is to instruct on the ADA required steps that must be taken if someone presents with a DHH need. The 3rd draft was submitted for final review during our December Committee meeting and changes were suggested by the Commission on Interpreters. This project will be ready for production prior to our February Committee meeting.

- The A2J Committee internally distributed a final draft of the Georgia-specific guide for judges on the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act for review. The A2J Committee partnered with Emory University, Georgia State University and the State Bar of Georgia Military-Veterans Law Section on this project. The Guide was distributed during the previous JC meeting, and the SCRA Guide companion bench card is currently being finalized.
- Similar guides have been created in other states, and you can find one similar state-specific guide at this link:  
[https://mckinneylaw.iu.edu/practice/clinics/\\_docs/IndianaJudgesGuide.pdf](https://mckinneylaw.iu.edu/practice/clinics/_docs/IndianaJudgesGuide.pdf). Any judges interested in learning more about the project or possibly participating in the project should contact Tabitha Ponder at [tabitha.ponder@georgiacourts.gov](mailto:tabitha.ponder@georgiacourts.gov).
- **The next A2J Committee meeting will be on February 19, 2020.**



## Judicial Council of Georgia

### Administrative Office of the Courts

**Chief Justice Harold D. Melton**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

#### Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council of Georgia

FROM: Cynthia Clanton, Director; Jessica Farah, Senior Staff Attorney

RE: Affidavit of Public Officer

DATE: February 5, 2020

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The Judicial Council's Administrative Office of the Courts (JC/AOC), after discussions with the Georgia Attorney General's Office, was informed that, **starting January 1, 2021**, the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission (Ethics Commission) will require members of each state board, commission, council or authority to file an Affidavit of Public Officer per O.C.G.A. § 21-5-50(a)(2). In previous years, based on discussions with executive branch attorneys, the JC/AOC had advised that members of judicial branch boards, commissions, councils or authorities did not need to file the Affidavit of Public Officer.

Affidavits of Public Officer are to be filed prior to January 31 of each year. Some of you may already file the Affidavit because of other roles you have in state government service. If that is the case, your membership on the Judicial Council should be included when you file annually. Multiple memberships can be listed on the same Affidavit. The Affidavits are filed directly with the Ethics Commission rather than with a local election superintendent or municipal clerk, as some personal financial disclosure statements are filed. The Affidavit is separate from any personal financial disclosure statement that you may file as an elected official.

If you have never previously filed with the Ethics Commission, the first step is to request login credentials from the Ethics Commission for the web-based reporting system. Credentials are requested through a one-page application that must be notarized and submitted to the Ethics Commission. A copy of the application is also attached.

Should you have any questions regarding the Affidavit of Public Officer, David Emadi, Executive Director, Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission, will be at the February 14, 2020, Judicial Council meeting. Mr. Emadi may also be reached at (404) 463-1980.

Attachment

**ELECTRONIC FILING ACCESS CODE APPLICATION**

Forms must be mailed or hand delivered to:  
Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission  
200 Piedmont Ave S.E. / Suite 1402 – West Tower / Atlanta, GA 30334

This form will allow the Commission to grant access to its online e-Filing system by emailing you a Filer ID and Password.

**INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED • IF FORM IS HANDWRITTEN, IT MUST BE LEGIBLE. • PLEASE PRINT**

Select Form Type:     Original                       Amended  
  
I AM A:                       Candidate       Public Officer       Lobbyist       Non Candidate Committee  
 Qualifying Officer: Filing Office \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vendor Gift: Vendor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Office/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Initial

I understand that with the filing of this application a Filer ID & password will be sent to my above email address. I understand this confidential PIN number assigned to the above named person and only the Commission staff and the listed person will have access to this confidential number.

**Verification    Must Be Notarized**

State of \_\_\_\_\_, County of \_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned do hereby swear or affirm that the information in this application is complete, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I acknowledge that report I submit electronically in the future I shall verify as complete, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTARY PUBLIC (SIGN NAME): \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT NOTARY'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

This document was sworn to or affirmed and subscribed before me on \_\_\_\_\_

***For Office Use Only***

Filer ID

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Supreme Court  
State of Georgia**

NATHAN DEAL JUDICIAL CENTER

Atlanta 30334

**Supreme Court Report  
Judicial Council Meeting  
February 14, 2020**

In December 2019, we began a new era when we moved into the new Nathan Deal Judicial Center. The Court, the Office of Bar Admissions, and the Office of the Reporter of Decisions, moved during a long weekend – closing the Court on Friday, opening in the new building the following Monday, December 16. The Court of Appeals moved in later that month. Even before the sawdust cleared and the boxes were unpacked, many people came to tour the beautiful building, and I look forward to many of you visiting as well.

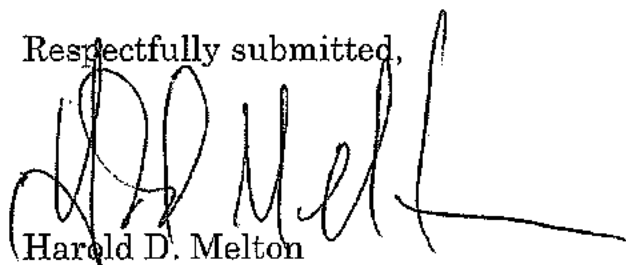
One of the first groups the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals hosted was the Georgia General Assembly. On January 29, up to 100 legislators signed up for a Legislative Breakfast and Tour. Due to legislative business, while not all attended, those who came seemed to enjoy the event. We gathered in the sixth floor rotunda with its dramatic view of the State Capitol Building before gathering in the Supreme Court’s beautiful new courtroom where I introduced the members of our Court and Chief Judge Christopher McFadden introduced the members of the Court of Appeals. We took the opportunity to showcase the furniture in our new building that was designed and built by Georgia prison inmates, showing a video created by the Department of Corrections that chronicles the creation of this fine furniture. I hope you get to see the various pieces. We have created a Fact Sheet about the building (please see the attached) which details many of the furnishings built by the inmates. One of the most spectacular, in my opinion, is the Chief Justice’s conference room table, which has the Court seal embedded in the center. Also of note are the courtroom chairs we brought from our old courtroom that inmates reupholstered and embroidered with a stunning Court seal. Miraculously, as the Fact Sheet says, this building came in “on time and under budget.” How many construction projects can make such a claim?

The same day as our Legislative Breakfast and Tour, we also hosted “Media Day,” which was an equally well-received event. In addition to local and state media, among those who participated were former Governor Nathan Deal – after whom the building is named, Corrections Commissioner Timothy Ward, and a former inmate who designed much of the furniture now in the new building. It was the first time Gov. Deal saw the inside of the building and he explained to media why the building was so important, noting that the “importance of the Judiciary cannot be overstated.”

On Tuesday, February 11, we held the official dedication of the Nathan Deal Judicial Center. We were honored to have Native Son Justice Clarence Thomas of the Supreme Court of the United States as the keynote speaker. Justice Thomas is from Pin Point, Georgia and has served on the nation’s highest court for 28 years. Others attending the historic event were Governor Brian Kemp, former Governor Deal, federal and state judges, including members of the Judicial Council, constitutional officers, legislators, and others. More than 400 attended the invitation-only event.

As I mentioned in a previous report, my friend and colleague Justice Benham will step down from the Court later this month when he officially retires March 1. As many of you are aware, Justice Benham is a historic member of our Court as he was the first African American appointed to the state’s highest court in its more than 140 years. Recently, the Georgia Senate honored Justice Benham with a resolution commending him as a “champion of justice” and praising him for his “deep personal commitment to the citizens of Georgia.” We will all miss him, and I am deeply privileged to have served with such a special friend and jurist.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. D. Melton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Harold D. Melton

Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Georgia

# FACT SHEET: THE NATHAN DEAL JUDICIAL CENTER

**“This job is on schedule and under budget.”**

Marvin Woodward, Deputy Director, Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission, from Dec. 3, 2019 Daily Report

- ▶ The Nathan Deal Judicial Center is the **first state building in Georgia history dedicated solely to the judiciary.**
- ▶ **The six-story, 215,000-square-foot building sits on six acres of land and houses the state’s two appellate courts:** the Supreme Court of Georgia, the state’s highest court, and the Court of Appeals of Georgia, the state’s intermediate appellate court. The building also will house the new statewide Business Court.
- ▶ **The Georgia Building Authority owns and manages** the Nathan Deal Judicial Center; the courts lease it.
- ▶ **The building was designed and constructed to be a “hundred-year building,”** i.e. built to last a century – the vision of former Gov. Nathan Deal, who secured the funding and won the legislature’s support.
- ▶ The architectural firms that designed the building and provided interior design were a joint venture between **Robert A.M. Sterns and Stevens & Wilkinson.** The construction manager was **Gilbane Building Company,** which managed a team of 41 subcontractors.
- ▶ **Most of the building’s exterior is made from precast concrete,** which was less costly than limestone or marble; the bottom portion of the building is Georgia granite. Remnants of white Georgia marble from the Georgia Archives building were used in the front courtyard. **The columns in the Supreme Court courtroom are made of North Georgia marble** that was mined in the town of Nelson.

## Plans for the new building have been in the works for more than a decade.

Discussions began years ago about the need for new space for Georgia’s appellate courts, which had been sharing building space with the executive branch since 1956. History:

Steve Stancil (then Executive Director, Georgia Building Authority) met with then-Gov. Sonny Perdue to review recommendations for funding the planning, programming, and design of judicial space needs.

September 2009

The General Assembly approved borrowing \$7.3 million to design a new judicial building for the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals and begin site preparation on the land where the Georgia Archives building sat.

2014

Groundbreaking ceremony in torrential rain storm. Justices, judges, and then-Gov. Deal attended.

Aug. 31, 2017

Georgia House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly to name the new building the Nathan Deal Judicial Center.

Feb. 6, 2019

November 2010

Four possible sites were identified. None included the eventual site chosen: the abandoned Georgia Archives building, known as the “White Cube.”

March 5, 2017

Georgia Archives building demolished in a controlled implosion while a crowd of 1,400 looked on.

Nov. 27, 2018

“Topping Out Ceremony” in which the final steel beam of the building was signed by the Justices and Judges, then hoisted to the top of the building’s steel frame, marking the halfway point of construction.

December 2019

Supreme Court Justices and staff, and Court of Appeals Judges and staff moved into their new offices at 330 Capitol Ave., S.E.



*“It is our hope that this handcrafted furniture will not only symbolize the new beginning for the judicial center; but also the work of our offenders. They have now become a part of history because of these skills they learned during incarceration; and it is those learned skills that will hopefully assist them to reenter society as productive citizens.”*

Georgia Department of Corrections Commissioner, Timothy C. Ward

**A number of pieces of furniture in the new building were designed and constructed by Georgia prison inmates** through Georgia Correctional Industries (GCI), which sells the furniture. Among the pieces purchased from GCI are:

- ▶ Large wooden table in the Chief Justice’s Banc Room where the Supreme Court meets to discuss and vote on opinions. An image of the Supreme Court seal is embedded in the table top. The table was made by inmates through the Georgia Department of Corrections Ware State Prison Woodworking Program whose graduates earn a cabinetry certificate.
- ▶ Twenty-five wooden conference tables that can be grouped or separated in the Judicial Conference Room, which is used by both courts.
- ▶ Wooden desks and filing cabinets for some Court of Appeals staff.
- ▶ Nine Justices’ chairs in the Supreme Court courtroom that were reupholstered by inmates at Montgomery State Prison and embroidered by inmates at Hancock State Prison.

Inmates also constructed:

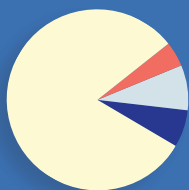
- ▶ Tall wooden standing desks for the Justices’ chambers, modeled after the standing desk favored by Thomas Jefferson.

**The purchase of furniture built by inmates has allowed the courts to support the mission of rehabilitation while securing prime furnishings that will stand the test of time at a cost- effective price.**

**To further cut down on costs**, Supreme Court Justices and Court of Appeals Judges brought with them furniture from their former chambers to mix with new furniture that has been purchased for their new, larger offices. Examples:

- ▶ Six of the nine Justices brought their old desks;
- ▶ Chief Justice Harold D. Melton brought the chairs and table that were used by the late Chief Justice Hines;
- ▶ Judge Clyde L. Reese kept the leather sofa retired Judge Gary Blaylock Andrews had used for 25 years;
- ▶ Justice Sarah H. Warren has the couch, table, and chairs that were once used by former Chief Justices Sears, Hunstein, and Thompson;
- ▶ Presiding Justice David E. Nahmias and other Justices brought personally owned furniture they used in prior offices;
- ▶ Judge Sara L. Doyle’s desk previously belonged to retired Judge J.D. Smith, who left a note in it for her;
- ▶ Most of the furniture from the old building has been repurposed for other space within the Courts. Most Supreme Court staff got no new furniture.

The building had a **budget of \$131 million:**



- **\$106M** Construction
- **\$6M** Demolition of the Archives Building
- **\$10.5M** Design, special inspections, testing and commissioning
- **\$8.5M** Furniture, equipment, IT, audio visual equipment, security, and moving costs

The building came in **\$1 million under budget**



THE COURT OF APPEALS  
OF THE  
STATE OF GEORGIA  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

CHAMBERS OF  
CHRISTOPHER J. McFADDEN  
CHIEF JUDGE

(404) 656-3452  
mcfaddenc@gaappeals.us

Court of Appeals Report  
Judicial Council Meeting  
February 14, 2020

The Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court are settling into our new accommodations in the Nathan Deal Judicial Center. We are grateful for the support that has enabled us to work in such a magnificent, efficient space. The Court of Appeals judges particularly appreciate having all of their immediate staff working within their chambers and of having our clerk's office in the same building.

The formal building dedication was held on Tuesday, February 11. Justice Clarence Thomas, who is the circuit justice for the Eleventh Circuit, gave the dedication address.

We encourage you to visit and let us show you around the building. Feel free to contact me at [mcfaddenc@gaappeals.us](mailto:mcfaddenc@gaappeals.us), our clerk of court, Steve Castlen, at [castlens@gaappeals.us](mailto:castlens@gaappeals.us) or any of my colleagues whenever you have the opportunity to come by.

The court economized as much as we reasonably could in furnishing our new space. We brought all of the usable furniture we could from the old Judicial Building, including historic pieces such as the antique revolving bookcases (that were not antique when we bought them) and judges' desks which have been passed along through the decades.

The court also commissioned a number of furniture pieces from Georgia Correctional Industries. These desks and file cabinets are beautifully made and were

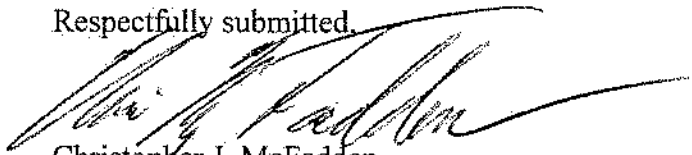


less expensive than lesser-quality commercial options. Buying from G.C.I. supported that program's goals of saving taxpayer money and returning former inmates to society with marketable skills.

The court continues to hold oral arguments in communities outside Atlanta. Our first offsite argument of 2020 will be next week at Albany State University. Presiding Judge Sara Doyle, Albany native Judge Ken Hodges, and I will hear those arguments. Feel free to contact me if you would like to have the court hold arguments in your community.

Court of Appeals judges continue their work on commissions, Judicial Council committees and outreach to civic groups, as I know all of you do as well.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris J. McFadden", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Christopher J. McFadden

Chief Judge

Court of Appeals of Georgia



## **Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia**

Suite 104, 18 Capitol Square, Atlanta, Georgia 30334

(404) 656-4964 Fax (404) 651-8626

### **Council of Superior Court Judges Report to Judicial Council February 2020**

The Council of Superior Court Judges held its annual meeting and winter training seminar in Athens, Georgia, January 21-24, 2020. Approximately 250 judges and senior judges attended. The educational seminar presented by the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education (ICJE) included a death penalty course and a judging and humanities immersion. The seminar also include the following programs: self-represented litigants; report from the Department of Corrections; national report on the opioid crisis; equitable caregiver custody statute; drafting orders in family law cases; media coverage/high profile cases; motions for new trial in criminal cases; appeals from probate court; social media; GBI/GCIC update; adoption law update; parental accountability court; court interpreters/ Model Administrative Protocol; case assistance exchanges regarding criminal, civil, and domestic cases; internet security and behavioral threat assessment; sexual harassment prevention; an update from the Judicial Qualifications Commission; case law update; human trafficking; alternative dispute resolution; and evidence. Highlights of the conference included a panel including the United States Attorneys of the Northern, Middle, and Southern Districts of Georgia and a luncheon speech from Judge Tripp Self of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

At the annual meeting, Judge J. Wade Padgett of the Augusta Judicial Circuit was elected to the position of President-Elect of the Council and Judge Arthur L. Smith of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit was elected to the position of Secretary-Treasurer. Their terms will begin on May 1, 2020, along with that of incoming President, Judge Brian J. Amero.

Each year, the Council recognizes deserving judges with the Emory Findley Award. The award, named after the late Judge Emory Findley, recognizes judges for their outstanding leadership and dedication to the continued improvement of our court system. This year's recipients were Judge Daniel Coursey of the Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit and Judge William T. Boyett of the Conasauga Judicial Circuit. The presentations took place on January 23, 2020 at the winter conference.

Governor Brian Kemp appointed Judge James Prine to the bench of the Southern Judicial Circuit to replace the retiring Judge Harry Jay Altman, II. Governor Kemp is currently working to fill the vacancy in the Enotah Judicial Circuit created by the retirement of Judge N. Stanley Gunter as well as to appoint a judge to fill the new judgeship in the Griffin Judicial Circuit.



**Council of State Court Judges**  
*Impartial Courts • Judicial Excellence • Accessible and Efficient Justice*

**Report of the Council of State Court Judges**  
**Judicial Council Meeting**  
**February 14, 2020**

*Staff*

*Bob Bray*  
*Executive Director*

*Executive Committee*

*Judge T. Russell McClelland*  
*President (Forsyth)*

*Judge Wesley B. Taylor*  
*President-Elect (Fulton)*

*Judge Alvin T. Wong*  
*Secretary (DeKalb)*

*Judge R. Violet Bennett*  
*Treasurer (Wayne)*

*Judge Nancy Bills*  
*Immediate Past President (Rockdale)*

*District 1*  
*Judge Gregory V. Sapp (Chatham)*

*District 2*  
*Judge R. Violet Bennett (Wayne)*

*District 3*  
*Judge John K. Edwards, Jr. (Lowndes)*

*District 4*  
*Judge Jeffrey B. Hanson (Bibb)*

*District 5*  
*Judge Alan W. Thrower (Baldwin)*

*District 6*  
*Judge John G. Breakfield (Hall)*

*District 7*  
*Judge Ronald B. Ramsey, Sr. (DeKalb)*

*District 8*  
*Judge Allen Dee Morris (Cherokee)*

The Council conducted its New Judge Orientation in Athens, Georgia on January 27<sup>th</sup> through January 29<sup>th</sup>. Three recently appointed state court judges were in attendance: DeKalb County State Court Judge Kimberly A. Alexander (Traffic Division); DeKalb County State Court Judge Kimberly K. Anderson (Jury Division) and Bibb County State Court Judge Sharrell F. Lewis.

The Council was made aware of a need to correct a statute that was causing some judges confusion about settlements with minors and when a conservator was required to be appointed. Judge Greg Sapp (Chatham) and Judge David Darden (Cobb) drafted some corrective language and then joined with Council of Probate Court Judges, Judge Sarah Harris (Bibb) and Judge Alice Padgett (Evans) to complete the draft that was recently approved by the Judicial Council Legislative Committee to submit for support to the Judicial Council.

The State Court of Bibb County received a grant from the Swift, Certain, & Fair (SCF) program of the Bureau of Justice Assistance to reduce recidivism for domestic violence offenders. The State Court has implemented intensive probation with “swift, certain, and fair” sanctions and incentives. The program requires each probationer to submit to a clinical assessment, and the Court imposes conditions on the probationer to address the specific behavioral disorders/needs of the probationer. The program removes barriers, by paying for the clinical assessment and for most of the imposed types of interventions. With the removal of barriers, the Court demands timely performance of the conditions. By identifying the right treatment regimen and getting each participant through that regimen, we seek to protect victims and to accomplish the goal of eliminating recidivism among these participants.



Front Row (Left to Right)

Donyale Leslie- Assistant Solicitor-General Bibb County; Ashley Foster- Bibb County S-G Victim Witness Advocate; Rebecca Grist – Solicitor-General – Bibb County- Steve Knowles (Not Pictured) – Assistant Solicitor-General – Bibb County; Lori Dodson- SCF Contract Defense Attorney; Amanda Richardson- SCF Contract Defense Attorney

Second Row (Left to Right)

Derek Marchman- SCF Grant Evaluator/Research Partner; Bruce Conn- SCF Clinician LMFT; **Judge Jeffery Monroe** – Macon Judicial Circuit, Superior Court (former State Court Judge/SCF lead); **Chief Judge Jeff Hanson** – State Court of Bibb County; Amy Hartley – Chief Probation Officer, Bibb County State Court Probation; Jack Côté –SCF Program Coordinator/Probation Officer, Bibb County State Court Probation

Respectfully submitted,

*T. Russell McClelland*

Judge T. Russell McClelland, President



**COUNCIL OF JUVENILE COURT JUDGES  
OF GEORGIA**

**REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF JUVENILE COURT JUDGES  
JUDICIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
February 14, 2020**

The Council lost three judges to retirement just before the end of the year. Judge Peggy H. Walker of Douglas County retired and was replaced by her longtime Associate Juvenile Court Judge, Michelle Harrison. Judge Walker served as President of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Courts Judges in 2015. Judge Brad Boyd of Fulton County retired after 46 years of service in the juvenile courts that started as a probation officer. Judge Boyd was replaced by Associate Juvenile Court Judge, Chis Yokom, and the superior court judges of Fulton County created another judgeship and appointed Associate Juvenile Court Judge, Wenona Belton, to that position. Judge Jennifer McKinzie of the Augusta Circuit retired and was replaced by Judge Charles Evans, who was an Associate Juvenile Court Judge in the circuit.

The Council continues to work with the legislature and various stakeholders on HB 440 that proposes to raise the age of juvenile court jurisdiction to include 17-year old's. Although the judges are in general agreement that this would be a logical move to include children up to the age of majority, the fiscal impact of the legislation would have to be studied and a process put in place to handle these older offenders that previously have not been part of the juvenile court's jurisdiction.

Honorable Juliette Scales, President, 2019-2020  
Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia



# Council of Probate Court Judges of Georgia

Judge T. J. Hudson  
*President (Treutlen)*

Judge Kelli Wolk  
*President Elect (Cobb)*

Judge Kerri Carter  
*First Vice President (Dade)*

Judge Darin McCoy  
*Secretary-Treasurer (Evans)*

Judge Sarah Harris  
*Immediate Past President (Macon-Bibb)*

## Report to Judicial Council of Georgia February 14, 2020

The following is a summary of activities and current initiatives by the Council of Probate Court Judges:

### **Probate Judges' Day at the Capitol**

Our Council hosted Probate Judges' Day at the Capitol on February 4, 2020. Over fifty probate judges gathered at the Capitol for our morning briefing, photograph with Governor Brian Kemp and our afternoon luncheon catered by The Varsity. Overall, this event, as in years past, was an unqualified success and it was great to fellowship with our legislators, their respective staff members and our colleagues in the judiciary.

### **Retiring Judges and New Judges**

On December 31, 2019, Judge Kenneth Powell of the Bleckley County Probate Court retired after 23 years of service. Judge Powell was respected among his colleagues and his presence will be missed. Judge Jonathan Fordham was appointed to replace Judge Powell. In his previous role, Judge Fordham served as an assistant district attorney at the Oconee Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office. On January 2, 2020, Judge Mary Cranford of the Coweta County Probate Court retired after 35 years on the bench. Our Council named the newly established annual award for probate clerks in Judge Cranford's honor, as Judge Cranford was the driving force behind statewide training for probate clerks. Judge Carrie Markham was appointed to replace Judge Cranford. Previously, Judge Markham served as the associate probate judge and a civil litigation attorney. Finally, on January 31, 2020, Judge Patrice Underkofler of the Putnam County Probate Court retired after 23 years of service. Judge Underkofler never hesitated to help a colleague and was an active member of our Council. Judge Karen Owen, who previously served as the associate probate judge, replaced Judge Underkofler. We would like to thank our retiring judges for their service and we look forward to welcoming our newest judges.

### **159 Probate Court Visits**

Last year, when I was sworn in as our Council's president, I made a pledge to visit all 159 probate courts during my term and I am happy to report that between June 2019 and December 2019, in 37 calendar days, I was able to achieve this goal. Kevin Holder, our Council's executive director, was with me for the journey and it was well worth the time and energy that was required to travel across our entire state. The number one takeaway for me was being able to share time with our judges in the communities in which they work and live.

Respectfully submitted,

Judge T. J. Hudson  
President, Council of Probate Court Judges of Georgia



# Council of Magistrate Court Judges

244 Washington St., S.W., Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30334-5900  
(404) 656-5171 • Fax (404) 651-6449  
Georgiamagistratecouncil.com

Executive Director  
Sharon Reiss

President  
Judge Michael Barker  
Chatham County

President-Elect  
Judge TJ Hudson  
Treutlen County

Vice-President  
Judge Bobby H. Smith, III  
Long County

Secretary  
Judge Berryll A. Anderson  
DeKalb County

Treasurer  
Judge Jennifer Lewis  
Camden County

Immediate Past President  
Judge Glenda Dowling  
Pierce County

District One  
Judge Scott Lewis  
Judge Gary Browning

District Two  
Judge Beth Carter  
Judge Bryan Cavanaugh

District Three  
Judge Angela Sammons  
Judge James Thurman

District Four  
Judge Phinia Aten  
Judge Curtis Miller

District Five  
Judge Lillian Caudle  
Judge Cassandra Kirk

District Six  
Judge Wanda Dallas  
Judge Rebecca Pitts

District Seven  
Judge Brandon Bryson  
Judge Jennifer Inmon

District Eight  
Judge Mike Greene  
Judge Rizza O'Connor

District Nine  
Judge Bill Brogdon  
Judge Gene Cantrell

District Ten  
Judge Caroline Power  
Judge Deborah L. Green

Members-at-Large  
Judge Melanie Bell  
Judge Shawn Rhodes

## Council of Magistrate Court Judges Report for Judicial Council

The Council of Magistrate Court Judges has had a busy January. Our salary bill dropped the first week of session and our bond bill just after that. We have been working hard on Magistrate Day at the Capitol which was held on the same day as Probate Day, February 4. Magistrates had a breakfast and the Probates had a lunch. Legislators were well fed by the judiciary on February 4. The day was an overall success as we were able to pass out our popular gavel cookies and served a full breakfast to the legislators that visited.

The Council leadership will be attending our new judge's school the last week in February by visiting with the new judges during dinner and teaching a class during the week. The Chief Magistrate School was held the second week in February in Jekyll and was well attended.

The Technology Committee is in the process of gathering all emails of judges wishing to participate in the new Google Groups. It has been a slow process since there are over 500 judges that we need to gather emails from and then input into the system. We hope to have most everyone moved over by our Spring training and Annual meeting in late March.

The Rules Committee passed a new rule dealing with the Servicemembers Relief Act forms for civil cases in mid January. The rule has been out for comment and will be submitted to the Supreme Court when that has passed.

After passage of HB 307, the AMV statutes changed in September and leadership has had to deal with many questions from both judges and towers confused by the new law. A few special committees were appointed to handle some of these questions and since December, there seems to be less confusion.

Finally, the Wizard is complete with the AMV being the last forms to be integrated into the system. Tyler Technologies, our partner finished the integration and the leadership of the Council is reviewing and tweaking so that it will go live in February.

**PLACE HOLDER: COUNCIL OF  
MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES**



**PLACE HOLDER: STATE BAR OF  
GEORGIA**



# Council of Accountability Court Judges

**Chief Judge Kathlene F. Gosselin**  
*Executive Committee Chair*  
*Northeastern Judicial Circuit*

**Taylor Jones**  
*Executive Director*

## **Council of Accountability Court Judges Report to Judicial Council February 2020**

In the time since the Council of Accountability Court Judges (CACJ) last reported to the Judicial Council, the CACJ held its Semi-Annual meeting for the members of the CACJ. The CACJ is pleased to report the following Council accomplishments and activity.

- CACJ released accountability court certification applications in December 2019. Each court that is subject to apply for certification or re-certification returned their application back to the CACJ on January 24, 2020. The CACJ Standards and Certification Committee is scheduled to review the applications on February 21, 2020.
- CACJ has received notice of intent to apply for state fiscal year 2021 funding from eleven (11) new, implementation courts that wish to begin operations on July 1, 2020. These new, implementation programs consist of mental health courts, veteran's treatment courts, family treatment courts, and juvenile accountability courts.
- The CACJ Training Committee is hosting several trainings in March 2020 to support the further development of Georgia's accountability courts. A refresher training for mental health courts is planned; the National Drug Court Institute (NDCI) is returning to Georgia to facilitate a tune-up training for drug and family treatment courts; and further still, Justice for Vets is set to provide a tune-up training for the veteran's treatment court programs.
- A memorandum of understanding between CACJ and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government (CVIOG) has recently been put into place to execute a Certified Accountability Court Coordinator Training program. The program will include eight (8) courses for a total of forty-five (45) hours. Course content includes accountability and advocacy, communication, succession planning and delegation, team and group dynamics, conflict management, financial concepts, grant administration, and procurement and grant management. The course will be a mixed offering of online and in-person courses. CACJ and CVIOG are working to launch the first in-person course in August 2020. Once court coordinators complete the certification program, each will be better positioned to execute program operations, pursue and manage grant funds, and successfully plan for long-term program sustainability.
- CACJ has worked closely with Ms. Alison Lerner, an AOC staff attorney, to draft the CACJ Rules and Regulations. CACJ voted to approve the Rules and Regulations during its Semi-Annual meeting on January 24, 2020. Implementation of the Rules and Regulations is planned for July 1, 2020. CACJ is very thankful for the dedicated service and support Ms. Lerner has been able to provide.

The CACJ continues to work closely with the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to further develop the Accountability Courts of Georgia under the guidance and expertise of Judges. CACJ appreciates each agency's partnership and continued support for Georgia's accountability courts.



## GEORGIA COMMISSION ON DISPUTE RESOLUTION

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### **Chair**

Judge Jane C. Barwick

### **Chair-Elect**

Judge M. Cindy Morris

### **Executive Director**

Tracy B. Johnson

### **Program Manager**

Karlie Sahs

### **Commission Members**

Justice Keith R. Blackwell

Justice John J. Ellington

Judge Amanda H. Mercier

Judge Charles E. Auslander, III

Emily S. Bair, Esq.

Mary Donovan, Esq.

Judge C. Andrew Fuller

Herbert H. (Hal) Gray III, Esq.

Melissa C. Heard, MSSW

Nicole Woolfork Hull, Esq.

Patrick T. O'Connor, Esq.

Edith B. Primm, Esq.

Judge Renata D. Turner

Randall Weiland

Peggy McCoy Wilson

The following is an update on the initiatives and activities for the Commission on Dispute Resolution:

### **New Membership Roles**

At the January 29 meeting, Justice John J. Ellington swore in new Chair-Elect, Judge M. Cindy Morris, Superior Court, Conasauga Judicial Circuit and new member Ms. Peggy McCoy Wilson. The Commission is thankful to the AOC for providing meeting space.

### **2019 Registration Renewal Season**

Last year's on-time registration renewal period ended December 31. A total of 2,209 "neutrals"- mediators, arbitrators, and evaluators- renewed prior to the deadline. The late renewal period will end on April 30. Registration categories include: general civil, domestic relations, specialized domestic violence, arbitration, early neutral evaluation, juvenile delinquency, and juvenile dependency. Neutrals who wish to conduct court-ordered or court-referred ADR sessions must be registered pursuant to the Supreme Court ADR Rules. Currently, there are approximately 2,930 registered neutrals in Georgia.

### **ADR Institute**

The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual ADR Institute and 2019 Neutrals' Conference was held Friday, December 13, at Georgia State University School of Law. There were nearly 250 attendees in total. Ms. Melissa C. Heard received the 2019 Chief Justice Harold G. Clarke Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the field of alternative dispute resolution in Georgia.

### **New Website: GODR.ORG**

The Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution is pleased to announce the launch of a new website. The new site is highly functional, easy to navigate, relevant, accessible, and optimized for all devices including mobile phones. In appreciation, we would like to acknowledge the creative geniuses behind the product: GODR staff, Ms. Karlie Sahs; and JC/AOC IT staff, Mr. Sterling Perry and Ms. Julianna Tyler.

### **New Rules for Mediating Cases Involving Issues of Domestic Violence**

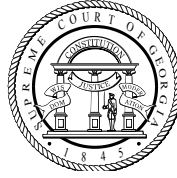
The new rules take effect January 1, 2021. This year, the Commission is sponsoring 45 trainings in 21 locations for mediators and court program staff. We are thankful to all the Court ADR Programs for their assistance in securing venues and assisting with logistical items. We are also appreciative of the Superior Court Judges Council for allowing the Commission to present this topic on January 24, at the 2020 Winter Conference in Athens.

### **Upcoming Commission Meeting Date**

The next Commission meeting date is May 6, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. at the Nathan Deal Judicial Center. Meeting information as well as previous minutes are posted on the GODR website at [www.godr.org](http://www.godr.org).

# CHIEF JUSTICE'S COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

Hon. Harold D. Melton, Chief Justice  
Supreme Court of Georgia, Chair



Karlise Y. Grier  
Executive Director

## Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council of Georgia  
FROM: Karlise Y. Grier, Executive Director  
RE: Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism  
DATE: February 14, 2020

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The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism, the first body of its kind in the nation, was created in 1989 by the Supreme Court of Georgia with the primary charge to enhance professionalism among Georgia's judges and lawyers. Chief Justice Harold D. Melton serves as the current Chair of the Commission. Other judges who serve on the Commission are as follows: Judge Clyde L. Reese II for the Court of Appeals of Georgia; Judge Meng H. Lim (Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit) for the Council of Superior Court Judges; and Judge Susan E. Edlein (Fulton County State Court) for the Council of State Court Judges. Judge William McCrary Ray II has been appointed to serve on the Commission for the federal judiciary. Justice Sarah Hawkins Warren is a very active advisor to the Commission. You will find a complete list of Commission members, advisors, and liaisons at the Commission's web site at [www.cjcpga.org](http://www.cjcpga.org).

The Commission expresses its gratitude to Vice Chief Judge Carla Wong McMillian who recently stepped down from the Commission as she assumes more responsibilities at the Court of Appeals of Georgia. We appreciate your service Judge McMillian and we welcome Judge Reese as our newest Commission member.

**SUICIDE AWARENESS PROGRAM**

The Commission seeks **Satellite Viewing Locations throughout the State of Georgia** for a **Suicide Awareness Program** that will be held on **Tuesday, April 28, 2020, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.** in person at the State Bar of Georgia Auditorium in Atlanta, with videoconferencing to Savannah and Tifton. In an effort to make the program as accessible as possible to all Georgia lawyers and judges, the Commission seeks additional Satellite Viewing Locations throughout the State. **The deadline to register to serve as a Satellite Viewing Location is on or before February 21.** The program offers three hours of CLE credit, including 1 hour of professionalism. The cost of the program is \$25 for lawyers who want the CLE credit and FREE for all others, including both lawyers and non-lawyers. Members of the legal community who are not lawyers are encouraged to participate.

The members of the planning team for the program are **Judge Clyde L. Reese II**, Court of Appeals of Georgia (State Bar of Georgia SOLACE Committee Co-Chair); **Judge Render Heard**, Tifton County Juvenile Court (State Bar of Georgia SOLACE Committee Co-Chair), **Judge Shondeana Crews Morris**, Superior Court of DeKalb County (State Bar of Georgia Suicide Prevention Committee Chair) and Mr. Joe Chancey, Managing Partner, Drew Eckl Farnham.

The confirmed moderator for the event is Ms. Sally Q. Yates. Currently confirmed speakers include Ms. Robin Frazer Clark, Ms. R. Javoyne Hicks, Dr. Ben Hunter, Mr. Eric Lang, **Judge Bill Reinhardt** and **Judge Wesley B. Tailor**. Please share the flyer and information about the program found at the link [here \(http://cjcpga.org/suicide-awareness-program/\)](http://cjcpga.org/suicide-awareness-program/) with your networks. Letters from Judge Reese and Mr. Chancey, a flyer, and information about the Satellite Viewing Locations are also attached hereto as “Exhibit A.”

The Commission is providing staff support for the program. The Administrative Office of the Courts is providing technical assistance for the program. The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities has also been providing a great deal of helpful information for the written materials for the program.

**21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL JUSTICE ROBERT BENHAM AWARDS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE**

The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service **will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2020, at the Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center.** The honorees are as follows:

**District Award Recipients**

Mr. Donarell Rhea Green IV, *Athens*  
**Honorable Robert Dale Leonard II, *Marietta***  
Ms. Rita C. Spalding, *Brunswick*  
Ms. Jennifer Leigh Weizenecker, *Atlanta*  
Ms. Connie L. Williford, *Macon*  
Ms. Sally Quillian Yates, *Atlanta*

**Lifetime Award Recipients**

Mr. Thomas William Malone, *Atlanta* (posthumously)  
Ms. Jacqueline L. Payne, *Marietta*

The Commission is also grateful to several individuals for volunteering their time to ensure the awards ceremony dinner is a great success. They are as follows:

**Fundraising Committee Co-Chairs**

Adwoa Seymour  
R. Kyle Williams

**Volunteer Committee Co-chairs**

Jena Emory  
Paula Myrick

**Visual Arts Committee Chair**

Vanessa Hickey Gales

Finally, the Commission thanks the current event co-sponsors as follows:

Greenberg Traurig	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
Jones Day	King & Spalding
Krevolin & Horst	Ann Bishop

Additional sponsors may be announced. For updates about the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service, please visit the Commission's website at <http://cjcpga.org/benhamcsa21/>

### **2019 CONVOCATION ON PROFESSIONALISM THEN (1988) AND NOW (2019)**

The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism held its 2019 Convocation entitled ***Professionalism Then (1988) and Now (2019)*** on **Friday, December 13, 2019**, at the Emory Conference Center and Hotel. The Convocation Co-Chairs were Vice Chief Judge Carla Wong McMillian, Court of Appeals of Georgia, and Associate Dean A. James Elliott, Emory University School of Law. Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, Supreme Court of Georgia, and Dean Mary Ann Bobinski, Emory University School of Law, brought greetings to the approximately 150 attendees and speakers at the event. Throughout the day, the attendees heard from a variety of speakers, including Ms. Susan Cahoon, a partner at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLC, who attended the 1988 Consultation on Professionalism that was convened by then Chief Justice Thomas O. Marshall at Emory University. Mr. Thomas G. Sampson, Managing Partner at Thomas, Kennedy, Sampson & Tompkins LLP, who served on the first Commission on Professionalism in 1989, was also a presenter. The Commission also thanks **Ms. Cynthia Clanton** for joining us for the day and serving as the timekeeper for the program! Photographs from the Convocation are available on the Commission's website at [http://cjcpga.org/2019\\_professionalism\\_convocation/](http://cjcpga.org/2019_professionalism_convocation/).

### **PROFESSIONALISM, PIZZA AND A MOVIE**

As part of the State Bar of Georgia's Mid-Year Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, the Commission held a professionalism lunch and learn CLE entitled ***Professionalism, Pizza, and a Movie***. Approximately 30 participants attended and viewed the movie Philadelphia followed by a 1-hour professionalism discussion of topics such as: client selection; decisions to take on certain cases when you may not "like" or "agree with" your client; courtroom tactics; and bias and discrimination. The panel discussion was approved for 1 hour of professionalism CLE credit. The **Honorable Robert McBurney**, Chief Judge, Superior Court of Fulton County did a masterful job of moderating a lively panel discussion. The panelists included Mr. William Thomas Davis, Naggiar & Sarif LLC, President, Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia; Mr. Francys Johnson Jr., The Johnson Firm PC; the **Honorable Jane Morrison**, Judge State Court of Fulton County; and the **Honorable Rashida Owens Oliver**, Chief Judge, City of East Point Municipal Court.

During the program, the attendees also heard from attorney Lawrence Cooper who in 1991 represented a plaintiff who was HIV-positive in the case of Edward S. Worth v. Multi-Media

WMAZ, Inc. The case was tried in Bibb County Superior Court in 1991 based on the tort of invasion of privacy. Mr. Cooper's real-life experience with similar issues to those raised by the movie greatly enriched the discussion.

### **Commission Website and Social Media**

The Commission continues to enhance the Commission website, [www.cjcpga.org](http://www.cjcpga.org). For example, a picture of the 2019-2020 Commission members, advisors, and liaisons is now on the Commission's website. In addition, the Commission is now developing its social media content internally with the assistance of an intern, Ms. Jordyn Irons, who is an undergraduate senior at Georgia State University. The Commission enjoys communicating with judges and lawyers on its social media platforms. Connect with us!

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/CJCPGA>

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/CJCPGA>

**LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/cjcpga/>

**YouTube:**

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cjcpga/videos>





# EXHIBIT A

[www.cjcpgeorgia.org](http://www.cjcpgeorgia.org)



January 22, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

I write to respectfully request your firm's participation in a **Suicide Awareness Program** being convened by the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism on **April 28, 2020, from 2 pm – 5pm.**

The Commission approached me and asked for my assistance with the program in April 2019, after an associate at my firm, Drew Eckl & Farnham, committed suicide. The associate was well liked and doing well. He had just been admitted to our firm's Path2Partnership program, which is a recognition that a lawyer is on the brink of partnership. On his last day, he worked a normal, full day. He finished an important report, with which his supervisors were well pleased, left at his normal time, and picked up food for his wife and two young daughters on his way home. Later that night, he quietly took his own life. We were blind-sided by his suicide.

My firm reached out to the legal community for help when we lost our associate; now, we want to help others by encouraging an open conversation about suicide in the legal community. The in-person presentation of the Suicide Awareness Program will take place at the State Bar of Georgia Headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. In addition, the Commission will offer the program via a live stream on its YouTube channel to several Satellite Viewing Locations. I write to encourage you to invite as many individuals in your firm as possible to participate, and to ask that you include not only lawyers, but also legal assistants, paralegals and other support personnel. When our colleague at Drew Eckl took his own life, everyone at our firm was impacted, not just the lawyers.

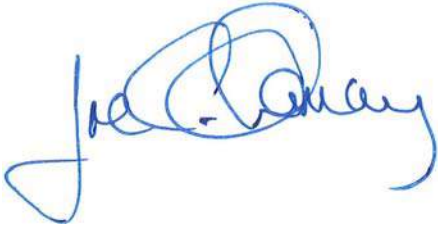
The Commission is offering the program for a fee of \$25 to any lawyer who wishes to receive CLE credit. The program is free for lawyers who do not need CLE credit and for all non-lawyers who participate. The Commission will require all program attendees to register, and registration for program attendees will open in March. **More immediately, any firm that is willing to serve as a Satellite Viewing Location may apply through this link: <http://cjcpga.org/suicide-awareness-program/> or may contact the Commission's Executive Director, Ms. Karlise Y. Grier, on or before February 21, 2020.** A flyer about the program and information on the requirements for Satellite Viewing Locations is attached.

January 22, 2020

Page 2

As the Managing Partner at Drew Eckl, I understand what I am about to ask you is a big ask; but I would respectfully request that you personally encourage everyone at your firm to save the date of **April 28, 2020, from 2 pm – 5pm** on your calendar and plan to attend the Suicide Awareness Program either in person or via the live stream broadcast. Overcoming the stigma of discussing and addressing mental health challenges is a critical step in suicide prevention. Law firm leaders have a unique platform and power to set the tone in creating a mutually supportive work environment. If you have any questions about this request, or the Suicide Awareness Program, please do not hesitate to contact me or Ms. Grier. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Chancey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "C".

Joe Chancey  
Managing Partner,  
Drew Eckl & Farnham, LLP

Enclosures

cc: Hon. Chief Justice Harold D. Melton  
Hon. Shondeana Crews Morris  
Hon. Render Heard  
Hon. Clyde Reese  
Karlise Y. Grier  
Bonne D. Cella



THE COURT OF APPEALS  
OF THE  
STATE OF GEORGIA  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

CHAMBERS OF  
CLYDE L. REESE III  
JUDGE

(404) 656-3457  
reesec@gaappeals.us

January 27, 2020

Dear Local and Voluntary Bar Association Leaders:

I write to respectfully request your bar association's participation in a **Suicide Awareness Program** being convened by the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism on **April 28, 2020, from 2 pm – 5pm.**

At its meeting on May 3, 2019, the Commission approved the Suicide Awareness Programming for its 2019-2020 program year. Shortly thereafter, the Commission approached me and Judge Render Heard as co-chairs of the State Bar of Georgia's SOLACE Committee, to ask for our assistance. The SOLACE Committee readily agreed to participate. Later in 2019, the Court of Appeals lost Judge Stephen Goss to suicide. Everyone associated with the Court was greatly affected by this loss. It underscored the importance of being involved in efforts to raise awareness of this issue.

The members of the Suicide Awareness Program planning team want to help others by encouraging an open conversation about suicide in the legal community. The in-person presentation of the Suicide Awareness Program will take place at the State Bar of Georgia Headquarters in Atlanta Georgia. In addition, the Commission will offer the program via a live stream on its YouTube channel to several Satellite Viewing Locations. I write to ask you to encourage everyone in your network to participate in the Suicide Awareness Program on **April 28, 2020, from 2 pm – 5pm.** Please ask not only lawyers, but also legal assistants, paralegals and other support personnel.

The Commission is offering the program for a fee of \$25 to any lawyer who wishes to receive CLE credit. The program is free for lawyers who do not want CLE credit and for all non-lawyers who participate. The Commission will require all program attendees to register, and registration for program attendees will open in March. More immediately, the Commission seeks individuals to help locate and organize Satellite Viewing Locations throughout the State of Georgia. **A flyer about the program and information on the requirements for Satellite Viewing Locations are attached.** **Individuals who are interested in helping to locate and organize Satellite Viewing Locations should apply on or before February 21, 2020, at the link here: <http://cjcpga.org/satellite-viewing-location-request-form/>.**

Overcoming the stigma of discussing and addressing mental health challenges is a critical step in suicide prevention. We, as leaders in the legal profession, play an important role in furthering this conversation. If you have any questions about this request or the Suicide Awareness Program, please do not hesitate to contact me or Ms. Karlise Y. Grier, the Executive Director of the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism, who is providing staff support for the program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Clyde L. Reese III  
Judge, Court of Appeals of Georgia  
Co-Chair, State Bar of Georgia SOLACE Committee  
Member, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism

- cc: Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, Chair, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism (via e-mail)  
Suicide Awareness Planning Team
- Judge Render Heard, Co-Chair, State Bar of Georgia SOLACE Committee (via e-mail)
  - Judge Shondeana Crews Morris, Chair, State Bar of Georgia Suicide Prevention Committee (via e-mail)
  - Mr. Joe Chancey, Managing Partner, Drew Eckl Farnham (via e-mail)
  - Ms. Bonne Cella, Volunteer, former Administrator State Bar of Georgia Tifton Office (via e-mail)

# CHIEF JUSTICE'S COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

Honorable Harold D. Melton  
Chief Justice  
Supreme Court of Georgia



Karlise Y. Grier  
Executive Director

## SUICIDE AWARENESS PROGRAM

### SATELLITE VIEWING LOCATION REQUIREMENTS

APRIL 28, 2020, FROM 2 PM – 5 PM

IN PERSON AT THE

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA ATLANTA HEADQUARTERS

**The requirements to serve as a satellite viewing location are as follows:**

- a. The location must have a high-speed Internet Connection;
- b. The location must have AV Equipment capable of projecting a YouTube video with Sound;
- c. The location must have at least one Volunteer Staff person
  - i. to help check people in;
  - ii. to keep track of attendees who want CLE Credit;
  - iii. to assist walk-in individuals who want to participate in the program;and
- d. The location must have comfortable seating for several lawyers and judges.

Thank you to Judge Arthur Smith who has agreed to organize and host a satellite viewing location in Columbus, Georgia and to Judge Geronda Carter who has agreed to organize and host a satellite viewing location in Clayton County. If you are interested in organizing and hosting a satellite viewing location in Albany, Rome, Macon, Valdosta or another location outside of Metro-Atlanta, please apply at <http://cjcpga.org/suicide-awareness-program/>.

**THE DEADLINE TO APPLY TO SERVE AS A SATELLITE VIEWING LOCATION IS  
FEBRUARY 21, 2020.**

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S  
COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

# SUICIDE AWARENESS PROGRAM



TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2020 | 2 - 5 P.M.

LIVE AT THE STATE BAR OF  
GEORGIA ATLANTA OFFICE

VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE TO TIFTON  
AND SAVANNAH STATE BAR OFFICES\*



*Sally Quillian Yates*  
**MODERATOR**

#### CONFIRMED SPEAKERS:

Ms. Robin Frazer Clark, *State Bar President (2012-13)*  
Ms. Lynn Garson, *Chair, State Bar Lawyer Assistance Program*  
Ms. R. Javoyne Hicks, *Chair, State Bar Wellness Committee*  
Dr. Ben Hunter, *Medical Director at Skyland Trail*  
Mr. Eric C. Lang, Esq., *Speaker, Attorney Suicide (Personal Perspective)*  
Hon. Bill Reinhardt, *Judge, Tifton Circuit Superior Court*  
Hon. Wesley B. Taylor, *Judge, State Court of Fulton County*

**3 CLE HOURS INCLUDING 1 PROFESSIONALISM HOUR**



#### REMINDER TO ALL BAR MEMBERS

You are entitled to six prepaid clinical personal counseling sessions per calendar year through the Lawyer Assistance Program of the State Bar of Georgia. #UseYour6

#### TAKE ACTION TODAY

If you are thinking of hurting yourself, or if you are concerned that someone you know may be suicidal, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by phone at **1-800-273-TALK (8255)**.

**FOR HELP:** Bar members may contact the Bar's Lawyer Assistance Program confidential hotline at **800-327-9631**.

#### CO-SPONSORED BY:

Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts | State Bar of Georgia SOLACE Committee | State Bar of Georgia Wellness Committee | State Bar of Georgia Suicide Prevention Committee | Drew Eckl Farnham

Learn more by contacting CJCP  
at [kygrier@cjcpgea.org](mailto:kygrier@cjcpgea.org).

\*Additional locations may be announced.



State Bar  
of Georgia

**PLACE HOLDER: GEORGIA  
COUNCIL OF COURT  
ADMINISTRATORS**





## ICJE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT TO JUDICIAL COUNCIL

TO: Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, Chair, Judicial Council of Georgia  
Members, Judicial Council of Georgia

FR: Douglas Ashworth, ICJE Executive Director *D. Ashworth*

RE: Executive Director's Report For February 14, 2020, Judicial Council Meeting

DATE: January 31, 2020

I am pleased to provide the following information and material for your Meeting:

**Monthly Email Reports:** A copy of my monthly ICJE activity email reports since your last meeting is attached. These monthly reports are also distributed to the leadership of all ICJE constituent groups and educational apparatuses.

**ICJE Staff Transition:** We thank Ms. Briana Kelly for her outstanding service as ICJE Electronic Media Specialist. Due to geographic relocation away from the Athens area, she accepted a new position. This open position should post soon and we will select a new Electronic Media Specialist as soon as possible.

**September 2019 Planning Meeting Follow-Up – DRAFT MOUs:** Page 15 of the Action Plan from the September 2019 Planning Meeting (“Action Plan”) tasks ICJE and Council Executive Directors to develop MOUs. I have completed a D-R-A-F-T of the MOUs, and a copy of my Memorandum to Planning Meeting attendees is attached. Because the D-R-A-F-T MOUs are lengthy, they are posted on a google drive for review – the link is contained in the Memorandum.

**September 2019 Planning Meeting Follow-Up – ICJE Orientation Package:** Page 16 of the Action Plan tasks ICJE and UGA to create a Trustee Orientation Package. I have completed a 50-slide power point presentation “ICJE Orientation” which is attached to this report. Please review the content of this resource and inform me of any requested revisions.

**September 2019 Planning Meeting Follow-Up – ICJE Current Staff Points Of Contact:** Page 18 of the Action Plan tasks ICJE to better communicate the roles, responsibilities and points of contact for current ICJE staff to ICJE stakeholders. I have created two new documents, which are attached to this report: (1) “ICJE Points of Contact” will be printed on the back over of all seminar booklets going forward; and (2) “Copy of 2019 Registration Form”. For the first time, the 2019 Registration Forms included a block showing the contact names and email addresses for current ICJE staff, along with the request that ICJE constituents add the email addresses as contacts in their email service. The purpose for requesting that ICJE staff email addresses be added as contacts is because emails from the EventsAir software system used by ICJE may be viewed as “bulk mail” by ICJE constituent email servers, which results in ICJE email messages going automatically to junk mail.

This completes my report for this Meeting. As always, I can be reached on my cell at 706.201.7680 anytime at your convenience.

**From:** [Douglas G. Ashworth](#)  
**To:** [Douglas G. Ashworth](#)  
**Subject:** ICJE Exec Dtr Report - January 2020  
**Date:** Friday, January 31, 2020 11:51:05 AM  
**Attachments:** [ICJE Orientation Power Point.pptx](#)

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Greetings:

Here is my **monthly overview of ICJE activities for January of 2020**. As always, I can be reached anytime on my cell at 706.201.7680.

**Summary:** During the 21 business days of January, ICJE facilitated **7 days of educational programming and participated in various meetings on 10 different days**. We emailed out all Calendar Year 2020 Registration Forms on Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, the first business day of the new year, and registrations are pouring in.

That's the **Summary, here are the Details:**

**Educational Programming Included:** ICJE staff facilitated the Council of **Superior** Court Judges' Winter Conference during January 21-24, at the UGA Conference Center in Athens. Judge Greg Poole and Judge Katie Lumsden co-chair the MCJE Committee that build the agenda for this comprehensive event. The Winter Conference featured **over 25 plenary and track sessions, with 53 speakers**. We also facilitated the **State** Court Judges' New Judge Orientation during January 27-30 at the Holiday Inn in Athens. Judge John Edwards, Judge Susan Edlein, and Judge Allison Barnes lead the NJO Committee that develops this excellent annual event.

**Meetings Included:** (1) UGA Law School Senior Administrator Meeting; (2) **Magistrate** Court Training Council; (3) Meeting with **Supreme** Court Justice Michael Boggs, new JQC Director Chuck Boring, and others, regarding future curriculum content on the Code of Judicial Conduct; (4) **MCJE Committee** of Superior Court Judges; (5) **Municipal** Court Clerks' leadership; (6) FY 2021 **Appropriations Hearings** before the House Appropriations Public Safety Subcommittee; and, (7) UGA Law School Staff Resource Support Group.

**ICJE Board Activities:** The ICJE Board of Trustees met on January 24, 2020, for its Winter Meeting, with a packed agenda. Much of the substantive work of this meeting involved status updates on various "Action Items" from the September 23, 2019, Planning Meeting held in Athens. D-R-A-F-T MOUs were distributed for each constitute group served by ICJE. New templates for financial reporting were presented to the Board. Finally, the Board also received proposed revisions to the ICJE By-Laws from a Board By-Laws Committee.

**New ICJE Orientation Power Point Attached For Your Review:** This monthly email report contains an attachment. **Please review the new "ICJE Orientation for Trustees and Constituents"**. Our goal was to provide a comprehensive overview of ICJE for all interested parties, and we hope you find this new resource to be a quick, but comprehensive, resource for reference.

If I can be of assistance prior to the next monthly update, please call on me anytime.

Thank you and best regards,

Douglas G. Ashworth, J.D., Executive Director

Institute of Continuing Judicial Education (ICJE)

The University of Georgia

1150 S. Milledge Avenue

Athens, Georgia 30602-5025

Direct: 706.369.5793

Email: [doug@icje.law.uga.edu](mailto:doug@icje.law.uga.edu)

Fax: 706.369.5840



## **MEMORANDUM – MOUs FOR ICJE CONSTITUENT GROUPS**

**TO:** Trustees, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education  
Hon. Shawn Ellen LaGrua, President, Council of Superior Court Judges  
Mr. Shannon Weathers, Executive Director, Council of Superior Court Judges  
Hon. Russ McClelland, President, Council of State Court Judges  
Mr. Bob Bray, Executive Director, Council of State Court Judges  
Hon. Virginia Scales, President, Council of Juvenile Court Judges  
Mr. Eric John, Executive Director, Council of Juvenile Court Judges  
Hon. T.J. Hudson, President, Council of Probate Court Judges  
Mr. Kevin Holder, Executive Director, Council of Probate Court Judges  
Hon. Michael Barker, President, Council of Magistrate Court Judges  
Ms. Sharon Reiss, Executive Director, Council of Magistrate Court Judges  
Hon. Bubba Samuels, President, Council of Municipal Court Judges  
Ms. LaShawn Murphy, AOC Trial Court Liaison, Council of Municipal Court Judges  
Hon. Kathleen F. Gosselin, President, Council of Accountability Court Judges  
Ms. Taylor Jones, Executive Director, Council of Accountability Court Judges

**FR:** Hon. Bonnie Chessher Oliver, Chair, ICJE Board of Trustees  
Douglas Ashworth, J.D., Executive Director, ICJE of Georgia

**RE:** Follow-Up From September 23, 2019, ICJE Planning Meeting  
D-R-A-F-T Memorandums Of Understanding (MOU)

**DATE:** January 24, 2020

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Memorandum is to inform you that ICJE Staff has completed D-R-A-F-T MOUs for each ICJE Constituent Group, in accordance with the *Action Plan For ICJE Board of Trustees and Stakeholders – October 2019*. Specifically, Slide # 18 of the Action Plan requires ICJE Staff to promulgate DRAFT MOUs for review by each constituent group.

**TO VIEW THE DRAFT MOUs:** All MOUs are available for viewing by all ICJE Constituent Groups on the following Google Drive Link:

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1kCNF1rvbbpC4i\\_pkclzF\\_gBN2bJZp0tG](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1kCNF1rvbbpC4i_pkclzF_gBN2bJZp0tG)

At the above link, you may view the following DRAFT documents:

(32 Pages) Superior Court Judge DRAFT MOU  
(31 Pages) State Court Judge DRAFT MOU  
(28 Pages) Juvenile Court Judge DRAFT MOU  
(33 Pages) Probate Court Judge DRAFT MOU  
(41 Pages) Magistrate Court Judge DRAFT MOU  
(35 Pages) Municipal Court Judge DRAFT MOU  
(25 Pages) Juvenile Court Clerk DRAFT MOU  
(22 Pages) Probate Court Clerk DRAFT MOU  
(22 Pages) Magistrate Court Clerk DRAFT MOU  
(28 Pages) Municipal Court Clerk DRAFT MOU

**SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATION OF EACH DRAFT:** Each DRAFT is organized in the following manner:

- I. Preliminary Information
- II. Training Mandates
- III. Scope Of Services Provided By ICJE
- IV. Cost/Funding Of Services Provided By ICJE
- V. Travel Expense Reimbursement
- VI. Logistical Issues Regarding Participation/Attendance
- VII. ICJE Policy On Faculty Diversity/Inclusion
- VIII. CJE And CLE Accreditation Issues
- IX. Noncompliance With CJE Requirements
- X. Changes In Training Requirements Or Accreditation
- XI. Addition/Modification/Cancellation Of ICJE Events
- XII. Renewal/Termination/Amendment
- XIII. Attestation

**PLEASE REVIEW AND PROVIDE FEEDBACK:** Your review and feedback is sincerely appreciated, as we all continue to collaborate together in attaining the best quality continuing educational programming possible for all ICJE constituent groups.

- END OF MEMORANDUM -

# ICJE ORIENTATION

Presented by:  
Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia Staff  
**For ICJE Board Trustees**  
and  
**ICJE Constituent Groups**  
Updated January 2020



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## SUMMARY OF PRESENTATION

**INTRODUCTION:**  
Slides 1 – 5

**ICJE CONSTITUENT GROUP TRAINING DETAILS:**  
Slides 6 – 36

**ICJE BOARD OF TRUSTEES GOVERNANCE ISSUES:**  
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## ICJE HISTORY

ICJE Was Created as the Georgia Judicial College in 1976 and renamed the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia in 1979.

The Entities Initially Involved In The Creation Of ICJE Include: (1) the University of Georgia School of Law; (2) the Supreme Court of Georgia; and, (3) the Judicial Council of Georgia.



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## ICJE SERVES 14 CONSTITUENT GROUPS

- SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES
- SUPERIOR COURT CLERKS
- STATE COURT JUDGES
- SUPERIOR / STATE COURT STAFF ATTORNEYS AND JUDICIAL LAW CLERKS
- PROBATE COURT JUDGES
- PROBATE COURT CLERKS
- MAGISTRATE COURT JUDGES
- MAGISTRATE COURT CLERKS
- JUVENILE COURT JUDGES
- JUVENILE COURT CLERKS
- MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES
- MUNICIPAL COURT CLERKS
- COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURTS
- INTERNATIONAL GROUPS



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## HOW DOES ICJE SERVE CONSTITUENT GROUPS?

- EDUCATIONAL TRAINING EVENTS
- EDUCATIONAL TRAINING RECORDS
- PUBLICATIONS
- EDUCATIONAL APPARATUS MEETINGS
- VENUE DECISIONS
- ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT
- FINANCIAL REPORTING
- MONTHLY EMAIL SUMMARY OF EVENTS



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## SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES – Part I

### MANDATED TRAINING:

**Active Judges:** 12 CJE hrs/CY, Including 1 Ethics/Profess hr (*USCR 43.1 (A)*)

**New Judges:** New Judge Orientation (*USCR 43.1 (B)*)

**Senior Judges:** Same As Active Judges (*USCR 43.1 (A)*)

### SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:

(1) Winter Conference; (2) Summer Conference; (3) NJO;  
and, (4) CJE Transcript Repository

### FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:

\$450.00 per/Judge paid by CSCJ from appropriated funds  
Travel Reimbursement paid by CSCJ from appropriated funds



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## **SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES – Part II**

### **EXPENSES INCURRED:**

Payment Of CJE Fees & Reimbursement Of Travel Expenses Are Proper Expenditures Of Public Funds (*OCGA §15-1-11; and OCGA §15-6-32*)

### **EDUCATIONAL APPARATUS:**

**Mandatory Continuing Judicial Education “MCJE” Committee (*USCR 43.3*)**

Hon. Katie Lumdsden (Houston Circuit), Co-Chair

Hon. Greg Poole (Cobb Circuit), Co-Chair

### **REPRESENTATIVES ON ICJE BOARD (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 2*):**

Hon. Bonnie Chesser Oliver (Northeastern Circuit)

Hon. Katie Lumdsden (Houston Circuit)



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## **SUPERIOR COURT CLERKS – Part I**

### **MANDATED TRAINING\*:**

**Active Clerks:** 15 CE hours/CY (*OCGA §15-6-50(c)(3)*)

**New Clerks:** 40 CE hours/CY (*OCGA §15-6-50(c)(1)*)

*\* (All Training Is Facilitated By Carl Vinson Inst of Govt – UGA)*

### **SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE\*:**

Certificates Of Training (*OCGA §15-6-50*)

*\* (ICJE Does Not Facilitate Training, But It Has A Statutory Duty To Provide Certificates Of Training)*



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## **SUPERIOR COURT CLERKS – Part II**

### **FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:**

None. ICJE Provides Certificates Of Training At No Cost To Superior Court Clerks

### **EDUCATIONAL APPARATUS:**

**Superior Court Clerks Training Council (OCGA §15-6-50.1)**

### **REPRESENTATIVE ON ICJE BOARD (ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 2):**

Hon. Kyemeshia T. Gibson (Meriwether County)



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## **STATE COURT JUDGES – Part I**

### **MANDATED TRAINING:**

**Active Judges:** 12 CJE hrs/CY, Including 1 Ethics/Profess hr (*USCR 43.1 (A)*)

**New Judges:** New Judge Orientation (*USCR 43.1 (B)*)

**Senior Judges:** Same as active Judges (*USCR 43.1 (A)*)

### **SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:**

- (1) Spring Conference; (2) Fall Conference; (3) NJO;
- (4) Online Seminars; and (5) CJE Transcript Repository



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## **STATE COURT JUDGES – Part II**

### **FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:**

\$384 Annual CJE Support Fee/Judge; \$192/Senior Judge

### **EXPENSES INCURRED:**

Payment Of CJE Fees & Reimbursement Of Travel Expenses Are Proper Expenditures Of Public Funds (*OCGA §15-1-11 provides, in part: "...the expense...should be paid out of the public funds of such county or municipality ...provided for the operation of the court involved...[.]*)

### **EDUCATIONAL APPARATUSES:**

#### **(1) Educational Programs Committee**

Hon. Leslie Abernathy-Maddox (Forsyth County), Co-Chair

Hon. Allison Barnes Salter (Cobb County), Co-Chair

#### **(2) NJO & Mentoring Committee**

Hon. John Edwards (Lowndes County) Chair

Hon. Susan Edlein (Fulton County), Vice-Chair



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## **STATE COURT JUDGES – Part III**

### **EDUCATIONAL APPARATUSES (Cont):**

#### **(3) Mandatory CJE Committee**

Hon. Eric Brewton (Cobb County), Chair

Hon. Billy Mullinax (Walker County), Vice-Chair

### **REPRESENTATIVE ON ICJE BOARD (ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 3):**

Hon. Nancy Bills (Rockdale County)



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## JUVENILE COURT JUDGES – Part I

### MANDATED TRAINING:

**Active Judges\*:** 12 CJE hrs/CY (*OCGA §15-11-59(d)*)

**New Judges:** New Judge Orientation (*UJCR 4.4*)

**Senior Judges:** Same As Active Judges (*Educational Apparatus Policy*)

\*(Mandate Includes All Judges Exercising Juvenile Court Jurisdiction, Including Associate Juvenile Court Judges And Pro Tempore Juvenile Court Judges. Superior Court Judges Exercising Juvenile Court Jurisdiction May Satisfy Mandate By Participating In CSCJ Training – *OCGA §15-11-59(d)*)

### SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:

(1) Spring Conference; (2) Fall Conference; (3) NJO (content included in Spring/Fall Conferences)

### FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:

\$384 Annual CJE Support Fee/Judge

CJE Fee/Travel Reimbursement Paid By Governing Authority



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## JUVENILE COURT JUDGES – Part II

### EXPENSES INCURRED:

Payment Of CJE Fees & Reimbursement Of Travel Expenses Are Proper Expenditures Of Public Funds (*OCGA §15-1-11; and, OCGA §15-11-59(c)*)

### EDUCATIONAL APPARATUS:

#### **Education & Certification Committee**

Hon. Warner Kennon (Chattahoochee Circuit), Co-Chair

Hon. Bill Bartles (Flint Circuit), Co-Chair

### REPRESENTATIVE ON ICJE BOARD (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 4*):

Hon. Bill Bartles (Flint Circuit)



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## **JUVENILE COURT CLERKS – Part I**

### **MANDATED TRAINING:**

**Active Chief Clerks:** 12 CJ E hrs/CY (*OCGA § 15-11-65(b) mandates 12 CJ E hrs/CY; GAJCC Policy Mandate is that 12 CJ E hrs/CY applies only to Chief Clerks and does not apply to Deputy Clerks*)

**New Chief Clerks:** 20 CJ E hrs (*OCGA §15-11-65(a) mandates 20 CJ E hrs; GAJCC Policy Mandate is that 20 CJ E hrs requirement applies only to Chief Clerks and does not apply to Deputy Clerks*). Note: 20 hours usually obtained as: (1) 12 hours at ICJE facilitated annual conference; (2) 4 hours at Superior Court Clerk Cooperative Authority seminars; and (3) 4 hours “shadowing” an experienced Clerk (GAJCC Policy)

**Exceptions:** (1) Superior Court Clerks simultaneously serving as Juvenile Court Clerks are not subject to training requirements for Juvenile Court Clerks (*OCGA §15-11-65(e)*); and, (2) Juvenile Court Clerks Pro Tempore are not subject to training requirements for Juvenile Court Clerks (*OCGA §15-11-65(d)*)

### **SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:**

Annual Conference (12 hours available)



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## **JUVENILE COURT CLERKS – Part II**

### **FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:**

\$150 Annual CJ E Support Fee/Judge

CJ E Fee/Travel Reimbursement Paid By Governing Authority

### **EXPENSES INCURRED:**

Payment Of CJ E Fees & Reimbursement Of Travel Expenses Are Proper Expenditures Of Public Funds (*OCGA §15-1-11; and, OCGA §15-11-65(c)*)

### **EDUCATIONAL APPARATUS:**

**Georgia Association of Juvenile Court Clerks (GAJCC)**

Hon. Samantha Cannon (Muscookee County), President



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## **PROBATE COURT JUDGES – Part I**

### **MANDATED TRAINING:**

- **For Elected Probate Judges; Full-Time Associate Probate Judges; Part-Time Associate Probate Judges; and, Senior Probate Judges: 12 CJE hrs/CY** (*OCGA § 15-9-1.1 (b) mandates training, but does not specify amount of hours; UPCR 14.2 (B) mandates training but does specify amount of hours; PJTC Policy mandates 12 hours per year*)
- **For Elected Probate Judges With Traffic Jurisdiction (OCGA § 15-9-30); Full-Time Associate Probate Judges With Traffic Jurisdiction; and, Part-Time Associate Probate Judges With Traffic Jurisdiction: 9 CJE hrs/CY\*** as prescribed by PJTC Traffic Certificate Program Committee (*\*9 CJE hrs in addition to, and not in lieu of, the 12 CJE hrs also mandated; PJTC and PJTC Traffic Certificate Program Committee Policy mandates 9 hours per year*)
- **For New Elected Probate Judges; and, New Full-Time Associate Probate Judges: (1) NJO; (2) Mentoring; and, (3) Probate Court Judge Certificate Program** (*OCGA § 15-9-1.1 (a) mandates NJO; UPCR 14.2 (A) mandates NJO; PJTC Policy mandates completion of mentoring; and, completion of Probate Court Judge Certificate Program*)
- **For New Elected Probate Judges With Traffic Jurisdiction; New Full-Time Associate Probate Judges With Traffic Jurisdiction: (1) Probate Traffic NJO; and, (2) Probate Court Judge Traffic Certificate Program** (*PJTC and PJTC Traffic Certificate Committee Policy mandates completion of Probate Court Judge Traffic Certificate Program*)



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## **PROBATE COURT JUDGES – Part II**

### **NOTE ON PROBATE/MAGISTRATE STATUS:**

Judges Serving As Probate/Magistrates Are Subject To All Pertinent Mandates For Both Probate Court Judges And Also For Magistrate Court Judges

### **SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:**

(1) Spring Probate Conference; (2) Traffic Conference; (3) Fall Conference (in conjunction with COAG); (4) Probate NJO (scheduled based upon election cycles); (5) Probate Traffic NJO (scheduled based upon election cycles); (6) Online Seminars; (7) Administration of Probate Judge Certificate Program; (8) Administration of Probate Judge Traffic Certificate Program; (9) Logistical Assistance with Mentoring Program; and, (10) Update Of Benchbook

### **FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:**

\$410 Annual CJE Support Fee/Judge; \$300 Annual CJE Support Fee/Judge With Traffic Jurisdiction, in addition to, and not in lieu of, the \$410 CJE Support Fee



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## **PROBATE COURT JUDGES – Part III**

### **EXPENSES INCURRED:**

Payment Of CJF Fees & Reimbursement Of Travel Expenses Are Proper Expenditures Of Public Funds (*OCGA §15-1-11; and, OCGA §15-9-1.1 (e)*)

### **EDUCATIONAL APPARATUSES:**

**(1) Probate Judges Training Council “PJTC”** (*OCGA §15-9-100*)

Hon. Virginia Acord (Worth County), Chair

**(2) PJTC Traffic Certificate Program Committee** (*created by PJTC Policy*)

Hon. Danielle McRae (Upson County), Chair

### **REPRESENTATIVE ON ICJE BOARD** (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 5*):

Hon. Virginia Acord (Worth County)



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## **PROBATE COURT CLERKS – Part I**

### **NO MANDATORY TRAINING:**

ICJE Facilitates Training For Probate Clerks\* As An Accommodation –  
There Is No Statutory Mandate; No Uniform Rule; And, No PJTC Policy Mandate  
Requiring Annual Training For Probate Court Clerks

\*(The Term “Clerks” In This Instance Means Service As A Probate Clerk Only. Note That Georgia Law Provides That Judges Of Probate Courts, By Virtue Of The Office, Are Also Clerks Of Probate Court (*OCGA §15-9-36(a)*)

### **SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE**

(1) Trainings: A Two-day Training Is Repeated Three Times, In North, Middle And South Georgia For Travel Convenience. Day One = Licenses, Wills, Estates & Guardianships; Day Two = Traffic; And, (2) Certificates Of Training: ICJE Provides Certificates Evidencing The Completion Of 30 Hours, 60 Hours And 90 Hours Of Cumulative Training



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## **PROBATE COURT CLERKS – Part II**

### **Funding For Services Provided By Icje:**

\$100 Registration Fee Per Clerk Per Training Event  
(Not An Annual CJE Support Fee)  
Fee/Travel Reimbursement Paid By Governing Authority

### **Educational Apparatus:**

**Probate Judges Training Council “PJTC” (OCGA §15-9-100)**  
Hon. Virginia Acord (Worth County), Chair



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## **MAGISTRATE COURT JUDGES – Part I**

### **MANDATED TRAINING:**

**Certified Magistrates:** Minimum 12 hrs/CY, Maximum 20 hrs/CY  
(OCGA §15-10-136(2); (OCGA §15-10-137(1))

**New Magistrates:** Required To Become A Certified Magistrate  
(OCGA §15-10-131)

**Senior Magistrates:** Same As Certified Magistrates  
(OCGA §15-10-25; OCGA §15-10-223)

### **NOTE ON PROBATE/MAGISTRATE STATUS:**

Judges Serving As Probate/Magistrates Are Subject To All Pertinent Mandates For  
Both Probate Court Judges And Also For Magistrate Court Judges



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## MAGISTRATE COURT JUDGES – Part II

### TO BECOME A CERTIFIED MAGISTRATE:

**Non-Lawyer Magistrate:** (1) Training - 80 hrs specified by MCTC (*OCGA §15-10-137(a)*); and, (2) Mentoring (*OCGA §15-10-137 (b)*)

**Lawyer Magistrate:** (1) Mentoring (*OCGA §15-10-137 (d)*)

### SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:

(1) 40 Hr Crim Basic Cert; (2) 40 Hr Civil Basic Cert; (3) Chief Magistrate Conf; (4) Spring Recert; (5) Fall Recert; (6) Online Seminars; (7) Logistical Assistance with Mentoring Program; and, (8) CJ E Transcript Repository

### FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:

\$315 Annual CJ E Support Fee/Judge; Fee Is Waived For Senior Judges  
CJ E Fee/Travel Reimbursement Paid By Governing Authority



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## MAGISTRATE COURT JUDGES – Part III

### EXPENSES INCURRED:

Payment Of CJ E Fees & Reimbursement Of Travel Expenses Are Proper Expenditures Of Public Funds (*OCGA §15-1-11*). Further, *OCGA §15-10-25 (d)* provides, in part: “The reasonable expenses...shall be paid by the county governing authority from county funds.”

### EDUCATIONAL APPARATUSES:

**(1) Magistrate Court Training Council “MCTC”** (*OCGA §15-10-132*)

Hon. Betsey Kidwell (Heard County), Chair

**(2) MCTC Curriculum Committee**

Hon. Jessy Lall (Pickens County), Chair

**(3) MCTC Mentoring Committee**

Hon. Jennifer Lewis (Camden County), Chair

**REPRESENTATIVE ON ICJE BOARD** (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 9*):

Hon. Betsey Kidwell (Heard County)



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## **MAGISTRATE COURT CLERKS – Part I**

### **NO MANDATORY TRAINING:**

ICJE Facilitates An Annual Training For Magistrate Court Clerks As An Accommodation  
- There Is No Statutory Mandate; No Uniform Rule; And, No Educational Apparatus  
Policy Mandate Requiring Annual Training For Magistrate Court Clerks

### **SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE**

An Annual Training Conference (12 CJE Hours Available)

### **FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE**

\$150 Annual CJE Support Fee/Clerk  
Fee/Travel Reimbursement Paid By Governing Authority



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## **MAGISTRATE COURT CLERKS – Part II**

### **EDUCATIONAL APPARATUS:**

Executive Council of the  
**Council of Magistrate Court Clerks Incorporated**  
(A Georgia Domestic Nonprofit Corporation)

Hon. Carla Brown (Lee County), President



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## MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES – Part I

### MANDATED TRAINING:

<b><u>Certified Municipal Judges:</u></b>	12 hrs/CY (OCGA §36-32-27(c))
<b><u>New Municipal Judges:</u></b>	Required To Become A Certified Municipal Judge (OCGA §36-32-27(b))
<b><u>Senior Judges:</u></b>	N/A; “Senior Municipal Court Judge” Is Not A Status Recognized By Statutory; Uniform Rule; or Educational Apparatus Policy

### TO BECOME A CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL JUDGE:

**Training:** Complete 20 hrs (OCGA §36-32-27(b))



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## MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES – Part II

### EXEMPTIONS:

**THE FOLLOWING ARE EXEMPT FROM TRAINING REQUIREMENTS: (1) Probate Judges; (2) Magistrate Judges; (3) Judges Of Courts Of Record Presiding In Municipal Court (OCGA §36-32-27(d))**

### SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:

(1) Summer Recert; (2) 20 Hr Certif (in conjunction with Summer Conf); (3) Fall Recert; (4) Online Seminars; (5) Logistical Assistance With Update Of Benchbook

### FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:

\$325 Annual CJE Support Fee/Judge  
CJE Fee/Travel Reimbursement Paid By Governing Authority



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## MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES – Part III

### EXPENSES INCURRED:

Payment Of CJE Fees & Reimbursement Of Travel Expenses Are Proper Expenditures Of Public Funds (*OCGA §36-32-11(d) provides, in part: “The reasonable costs and expenses of such training shall be paid by the governing authority of the jurisdiction where the judge presides.”*)

### EDUCATIONAL APPARATUS:

**Municipal Court Training Council “MuCTC”** (*OCGA §36-32-22*)  
Hon. Claude Mason, Chair

### REPRESENTATIVE ON ICJE BOARD (ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 10):

Hon. Rashida Oliver



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## MUNICIPAL COURT CLERKS – Part I

### MANDATED TRAINING – CHIEF CLERKS:

**Active Chief Municipal Clerks:** 8 Hrs Recertification Course/CY (*OCGA §36-32-13 (b)(2)*); Policy Statement Of The Georgia Municipal Courts Training Council – Mandatory Training For Chief Clerks Of Municipal Court (6/2010))

**New Chief Municipal Clerks:** 16 Hrs Basic Certification Course (*OCGA §36-32-13 (b)(1)*); Policy Statement Of The Georgia Municipal Courts Training Council – Mandatory Training For Chief Clerks Of Municipal Court (6/2010))

### NO MANDATED TRAINING – OTHER CLERKS:

ICJE’s Annual Training For Chief Municipal Court Clerks Is Also Open To Those Not Serving As Chief Clerks As An Accommodation - There Is No Statutory Mandate; No Uniform Rule; And, No Educational Apparatus Policy Mandate Requiring Annual Training For Those Not Serving As Chief Municipal Court Clerks



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## MUNICIPAL COURT CLERKS – Part II

### SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:

(1) 16 Hr Certification (North Georgia); (2) 16 Hr Certification (South Georgia); (3) 8 Hr Recertification (North Georgia); (4) 8 Hr Recertification (Middle Georgia); (5) 8 Hr Recertification (South Georgia); (6) Spring Online Recertification; (7) Fall Online Recertification

### FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:

\$225 Annual CJE Support Fee/Clerk  
CJE Fee/Travel Reimbursement Paid By Governing Authority



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## MUNICIPAL COURT CLERKS – Part III

### EXPENSES INCURRED:

Payment Of CJE Fees & Reimbursement Of Travel Expenses Are Proper Expenditures Of Public Funds (*OCGA §36-32-13(b)(3) provides, in part: "The reasonable costs and expenses of such training...shall be paid by the governing authority of the municipality from municipal funds."*)

### EDUCATIONAL APPARATUSES:

**(1) Municipal Court Training Council "MuCTC" (OCGA §36-32-22)**

Hon. Claude Mason, Chair

**(2) Georgia Municipal Court Clerks Council, Inc. "GMCCC"**

(A Georgia Domestic Nonprofit Corporation)

Hon. Mariza Abdeljawad (City Of Suwanee), President



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## **COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY CTS – Part I**

### **ACCOUNTABILITY COURTS:**

"Accountability court" means a superior, state, or juvenile court that has a drug court division, mental health court division, veterans court division, or operating under the influence court division or a juvenile court that has a family treatment court division." (OCGA §15-1-18)

### **STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION:**

The Standards And Certification Committee Of The Council Of Accountability Court Judges Promulgates The Applicable Regulatory Requirements For Accountability Courts.

### **SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:**

Logistical Assistance With: (1) NJO; and, (2) Annual Conference



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## **COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY CTS – Part II**

### **FUNDING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY ICJE:**

CACJ Pays Fees To ICJE For Services Provided Pertaining To NJO and Annual Conference. A Memorandum Of Understanding ("MOU") Between ICJE and CACJ For NJO And For Annual Conference Provides Scope Of Work Provided; Respective Responsibilities; Costs Of Services Provided And Other Logistics.

### **EDUCATIONAL APPARATUS:**

**Council Of Accountability Court Judges (OCGA § 15-1-18 (b))**

Hon. Kathy Gosselin (Northeastern Circuit), President

### **NOTE ON ATTENDANCE:**

The CACJ Annual Conference Is The Largest Event Facilitated By ICJE (2019 Attendance = 1,199). When ICJE Began Facilitating CACJ Events In 2016, The Total Number Of Individuals Served By ICJE Increased By 40% Annually.



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## OTHER ICJE CONSTITUENTS

### JUDICIAL STAFF ATTORNEYS:

ICJE Facilitates An Annual Conference For Judicial Staff Attorneys. Funding For Attendance By Superior Court And State Court Staff Attorneys Is From Appropriated Funds. Funding For Other Staff Attorneys Is Based Upon A Registration Fee Per Attendee. A Total Of 12 CLE Hours Is Available.

### INTERNATIONAL GROUPS:

ICJE Staff Co-Facilitates A 10-Day Conference For Brazilian Judges With UGA Dean Rusk Center For International Law. Funding For The Conference Is Paid By The Brazilian Judges. The Conference Is Scheduled At Intervals, With The Most Recent Conference Occurring During December Of 2019. ICJE Staff Also Facilitates Educational Presentations To Other Visiting International Judicial Groups. There Is Typically No Cost Associated With These Informational Briefings.



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## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING FOR CY 2020

47 Total Educational Events

150 Days Of Programming

(Seminar Programming = 58% Of Business Days In CY 2020)



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## **ICJE GOVERNANCE – BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

### **SUPREME COURT LIAISON**

1 Supreme Court Justice – Liaison To ICJE Board (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 5*)

### **MEMBERS**

- 1 Judge From Court of Appeals (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 1*)
- 2 Judges From Superior Courts (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 2*)
  - 1 Judge From State Courts (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 3*)
  - 1 Judge From Juvenile Courts (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 4*)
  - 1 Judge From Probate Courts (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 5*)
- 1 Member Appointed By State Bar Of Georgia (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 6*)
- 1 Member Appointed By Judicial Council Of Ga (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 7*)
- 1 Member Appointed By Superior Ct Clerks (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 8*)



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## **ICJE GOVERNANCE – BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

### **MEMBERS – CONT.**

- 1 Judge From Magistrate Courts (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 9*)
- 1 Judge From Municipal Courts (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 10*)

### **EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:**

- Immediate Past Chair Of ICJE Board (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 11*)
- Immediate Past Chair Of ICLE Board (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 12*)
- Dean, University of Georgia Law School (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 13*)
- Dean, Emory University Law School (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 14*)
- Dean, Mercer University Law School (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 15*)
- Dean, Georgia State University Law School (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 16*)
- Dean, Atlanta's John Marshall Law School (*ICJE By-Laws Art. II; § 1; ¶ 17*)



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## ICJE BOARD MEETINGS – Part I

### MINIMUM 4 MEETINGS PER CALENDAR YEAR

*(ICJE By-Laws Art. V Meetings)*

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*(ICJE By-Laws Art. VI; § 1)*

The Executive Committee Includes:

**Chair: Hon. Bonnie Oliver**

**Vice-Chair: Dean Bo Rutledge**

**Secretary-Treasurer: Hon. Katie Lumsden**

### MEETINGS

7 Board Members Constitute A Quorum

*(ICJE By-Laws Art. V; § 2)*



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## ICJE BOARD MEETINGS – Part II

### TRADITIONAL FORMAT OF MEETINGS

**WINTER ICJE BOARD MEETING:** Held In Conjunction With CSCJ Winter Conference; Includes: (1) Review Of Evaluations For Training Held In Last Quarter Of Previous Calendar Year

**SPRING ICJE BOARD MEETING:** Held In Conjunction With State Bar Of Georgia Board Of Governors Spring Meeting; Includes: (1) Review Of Evaluations For Training Held In First Quarter Of Previous Calendar Year

**SUMMER (OR ANNUAL) MEETING:** Includes: (1) Review Of Evaluations For Training Held In Second Quarter Of Previous Calendar Year; (2) Consideration Of Fiscal Year Budget; and, (3) Nomination/Election Of ICJE Board Officers

**FALL MEETING:** Held In Conjunction With State Bar Of Georgia Board Of Governors Fall Meeting If Located In Georgia, If Not, Held At Alternate Time/Location; Includes: (1) Review Of Evaluations For Training Held In Third Quarter Of Previous Calendar Year; (2) Consideration Of Comprehensive Calendar Year Training Schedule



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## **ICJE BOARD MEETINGS – Part III**

### **FISCAL YEAR CONSOLIDATED ATTENDANCE STATISTICS**

Every ICJE Board Meeting Contains Updated Consolidated Attendance Statistics Consisting Of Fiscal Year “Continuing Education Units” (“CEUs”).

This Information, Required To Be Updated And Reported On A Quarterly Basis To The Board Of Regents, Provides The Mechanism For Collecting Data Both For Fiscal Year Activity And For The State Budgeting Process.

The Calculation Formula Is (Number Of Participants) x (Hours Of Instruction) = Total CEUs.  
The Overall Goal For ICJE Is 50,000 CEU’s Per Fiscal Year.

***ICJE Surpassed The 50,000 CEU Goal For The Most Recent Fiscal Year, Delivering A Total Of 57,775 CEUs For ICJE Constituents During FY 2019.***



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## **ICJE BOARD MEETINGS – Part IV**

### **AGENDA MEETING PACKETS**

ICJE Staff Provides Electronic Copies Of The ICJE Board Agenda Packet To All ICJE Board Members At Least One Week In Advance Of ICJE Board Meetings. The Agenda Packet Includes Travel Reimbursement Information For Meeting Attendance.

### **ICJE STAFF CONTACT FOR BOARD MEMBERS:**

The Primary ICJE Staff Point Of Contact On ICJE Board Issues For ICJE Board Members Is Ms. Susan Nunnally, ICJE Office Manager. Phone 706.3269.584 or [susan@icje.law.uga.edu](mailto:susan@icje.law.uga.edu)



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## ICJE LOGISTICS/FINANCES – PART I

**ICJE AND UGA:** Since ICJE Inception, ICJE Staff Have Been Employees Of The University Of Georgia For Purposes Of Compensation, Fringe Benefits (Including, But Not Limited To, Health Insurance, Life Insurance, And A Defined Benefit Retirement Plan – The Teachers Retirement System Of Georgia), Job Classification And Advancement, Training And Education, Along With Other Personnel Services. ICJE Staff Are Subject To All Policies Applicable To University Of Georgia System Employees.

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT:** A Memorandum Of Agreement (“Agreement”) Between The University System/UGA Law School, And ICJE Of Georgia, Provides The Framework For The Organizational Collaboration.

**4% INDIRECT COST FEE:** The Agreement Provides That The University Assesses A Facilities And Administration Fee Of 4% Of Personnel Expenses For Its Participation In And Management Of The Collaborative Agreement. Specifically, This Arrangement Is Evidenced By An Annual “Contract For Administrative Services” Approved Through The Office Of Sponsored Programs Of UGA.



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## ICJE LOGISTICS/FINANCES – PART II

**ICJE EMPLOYEES ABIDE BY:** The Budgeting, Procurement And Expenditure Control, Contracting And Payment, Rules And Policies Of The Georgia Judicial Branch And The Georgia Department Of Audits And Accounts, When Employing Funds Accessed By ICJE Through Judicial Branch Agencies And Departments Or Contracts And Grants For Directly Implementing Educational Projects.

**ACCOUNTING STANDARD:** Financial Statements Prepared And Presented On Behalf Of The Institute Of Continuing Judicial Education Of Georgia (“ICJE”) Comply With Generally Accepted Governmental Accounting Principles (“G-GAP”). Generally Accepted Governmental Accounting Principles Are Promulgated By The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

**SOURCES OF REVENUE:** ICJE Operations Can Currently Be Funded By Four Revenue Sources: (1) Appropriations From The State Of Georgia (Appropriated On A Fiscal Year); (2) Continuing Judicial Education Support Fees (Categorized As “Other Funds” Pursuant To G-GAP; Assessed On A Calendar Year); (3) Grants (Primarily From Federal Sources, Mostly On Fiscal Year Reporting Cycle); And (4) Fees For Contracted Services (e.g. - International Programs; CACJ). For Purposes Of Financial Reporting, The Separate Types Of Fund Sources Have To Be Managed Differently.



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## **ICJE LOGISTICS/FINANCES – PART III**

**ICJE USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS:** Regarding ICJE’s Revenue Source Of **State Appropriations** Specifically, Financial Reports Examining ICJE Are Found In The “State Of Georgia Budgetary Compliance Report” Published For Each Fiscal Year By The State Accounting Office. (Available At [Http://Sao.Georgia.Gov/](http://Sao.Georgia.Gov/)) The Line Item For “Institute Of Continuing Judicial Education” Is Found Within The Section “Judicial Council”.

**ICJE USE OF CJE SUPPORT FEES:** Regarding ICJE’s Revenue Source Of **Educational Fees And/Or Grants Specifically**, Financial Reports Examining ICJE, Entitled “Federal And Other Funds Analysis”, Are Generated By The Administrative Office Of The Courts, Finance Division. The Direct Contact For This Information Is Ms. Maleia Wilson, AOC Budget Director, [Maleia.Wilson@georgiacourts.gov](mailto:Maleia.Wilson@georgiacourts.gov), Or 404-656-6404.



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## **ICJE LOGISTICS/FINANCES – PART IV**

### **AUDIT BY UGA INTERNAL AUDIT DIVISION:**

As Is Customary For Any UGA Unit, ICJE Is Subject To Random Audits By The UGA Internal Audit Division. The Most Recent Internal Audit Report Was For the Twelve Months Ending July 31, 2008.

### **QUESTIONS?**

Any Additional ICJE Operational Or Financial Information Will Promptly Be Made Available Upon Request. We Appreciate Your Continued Partnership And Collaboration As We Work Together For Georgia’s Judiciary



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ICJE POINTS OF CONTACT			
CONSTITUENT GROUPS	ICJE STAFF	OFFICE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
Superior Court Judges Superior Court Clerks State Court Judges Magistrate Court Judges Judicial Staff Attorneys	<b>Lindsey Colley</b> Event Coordinator	706-369-5813	<a href="mailto:lindsey@icje.law.uga.edu">lindsey@icje.law.uga.edu</a>
	& <b>Susan Mason</b> Event Planner	706-369-5809	<a href="mailto:smason@icje.law.uga.edu">smason@icje.law.uga.edu</a>
Juvenile Court Judges Juvenile Court Clerks Probate Court Judges Probate Court Clerks Municipal Court Judges Municipal Court Clerks Accountability Court Judges	<b>Laura Kathryn Hogan</b> Event Coordinator	706-369-5836	<a href="mailto:laurakathryne@icje.law.uga.edu">laurakathryne@icje.law.uga.edu</a>
	& <b>Casey Semple</b> Event Planner	706-369-5807	<a href="mailto:casey@icje.law.uga.edu">casey@icje.law.uga.edu</a>

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ICJE POINTS OF CONTACT			
CONSTITUENT GROUPS	ICJE STAFF	OFFICE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
International Groups Magistrate Court Clerks Financials	<b>Susan Nunnally</b> Office Manager	706-369-5842	<a href="mailto:susan@icje.law.uga.edu">susan@icje.law.uga.edu</a>
All ICJE Online Courses Judicial Ethics Course Humanities Course	Contact Event Coordinator For Your Constituent Group	Position Vacant - TBD	Position Vacant - TBD
ICJE Executive Director	<b>Doug Ashworth</b> Cell # 706-201-7680	706-369-5793	<a href="mailto:doug@icje.law.uga.edu">doug@icje.law.uga.edu</a>

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## CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR ICJE STAFF

### ACLEA

ACLEA Is The “Association Of Continuing Legal Education Administrators”. The ICJE Executive Director Is Active In This Organization, And Has Previously Served On The ACLEA Executive Committee.

### NASJE

NASJE Is The “National Association Of State Judicial Educators”. The ICJE Executive Director Is Active In This Organization, And Currently Serves On The NASJE Court Futures Committee.

Continued Participation In These Organizations Allows ICJE Staff To Monitor Best Practices; Identify Future Trends; Provide Fresh Programming Ideas; And Identify Grant Funding Opportunities.



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## YOUR INVITATION TO VISIT ICJE

ICJE Constituents Are Cordially Invited To Visit The ICJE Staff When Traveling In Athens. Please Feel Free To Drop By.

**ICJE Office Location:  
1150 S. Milledge Avenue (Near 5 Points)  
Athens, Georgia 30605**

ICJE Was Housed At UGA Law School From 1979 Until 2008.  
The Current 5-Points Location Has Been Rented Since 2008 –  
A Portion Of Annual Appropriated Funds Are Designated  
For Usage Toward Rental Expenses



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# ICJE POINTS OF CONTACT

CONSTITUENT GROUPS	ICJE STAFF	OFFICE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
<p>Superior Court Judges                      Superior Court Clerks                      State Court Judges                      Magistrate Court Judges                      Judicial Staff Attorneys</p>	<p>Lindsey Colley                      Event Coordinator                      &amp;                      Susan Mason                      Event Planner</p>	<p>706-369-5813                       706-369-5809</p>	<p><a href="mailto:lindsey@icje.law.uga.edu">lindsey@icje.law.uga.edu</a>   <a href="mailto:smason@icje.law.uga.edu">smason@icje.law.uga.edu</a></p>
<p>Juvenile Court Judges                      Juvenile Court Clerks                      Probate Court Judges                      Probate Court Clerks                      Municipal Court Judges                      Municipal Court Clerks                      Accountability Court Judges</p>	<p>Laura Kathryne Hogan                      Event Coordinator                      &amp;                      Casey Semple                      Event Planner</p>	<p>706-369-5836                       706-369-5807</p>	<p><a href="mailto:lurakathryne@icje.law.uga.edu">lurakathryne@icje.law.uga.edu</a>   <a href="mailto:casey@icje.law.uga.edu">casey@icje.law.uga.edu</a></p>
<p>International Groups                      Magistrate Court Clerks                      Financials</p>	<p>Susan Nunnally                      Office Manager</p>	<p>706-369-5842</p>	<p><a href="mailto:susan@icje.law.uga.edu">susan@icje.law.uga.edu</a></p>
<p>All ICJE Online Courses                      Judicial Ethics Course                      Humanities Course</p>	<p>Contact Event                      Coordinator according                      to designation</p>		
<p>ICJE Executive Director</p>	<p>Doug Ashworth                      Cell # 706-201-7680</p>	<p>706-369-5793</p>	<p><a href="mailto:doug@icje.law.uga.edu">doug@icje.law.uga.edu</a></p>



## INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING JUDICIAL EDUCATION

University of Georgia  
1150 South Milledge Avenue  
Athens, GA 30602-5025  
<http://icje.uga.edu>

**TO:** STATE COURT JUDGES OF GEORGIA

**RE:** 2020 SIGN-UP INFORMATION

**FM:** Lindsey Colley, 706-369-5813, [lindsey@icje.law.uga.edu](mailto:lindsey@icje.law.uga.edu)  
Susan Mason, 706-369-5809, [smason@icje.law.uga.edu](mailto:smason@icje.law.uga.edu)

**REGISTRATION:** Please use the following information to sign up for 2020 State Court Judges Courses. Be sure to indicate on the sign-up form your course preference(s). Return your completed form & check in the **SAME** envelope by **March 27, 2020**.

**MANDATORY EDUCATION:** Uniform Rule 43.1 (as amended) for State Courts of Georgia requires that every State Court Judge, including Senior State Court Judges, must attend 12 hours of continuing judicial education each calendar year.

**NEW JUDGES:** New State Court Judges are required to attend the ICJE New Judge Orientation within one year after assuming office. Attendance is by invitation only. Information is sent directly to each New Judge upon ICJE receiving notice of New Judge status.

**YEARLY CJ E SUPPORT FEE STRUCTURE & COURSE REGISTRATION:** The 2020 continuing judicial educational support fee is payable to the ICJE by each participant. The Yearly Support Fee is \$384 for each regularly elected State Court Judge, and \$192 for a Senior State Court Judge. The Yearly CJ E Support Fee for 2020 enables design and delivery of both the Spring and Fall Conferences, each offering a minimum of 12 MCJE hours. You may attend either or both the Spring and Fall Seminars. Several 6-hour online courses are also open to State Court Judges. Attendance at the online courses is also covered by this fee. The Yearly CJ E Support Fee and travel expenses are to be borne by local government and are due each calendar year regardless of where you get your training. **Mail your completed registration form and check in the same envelope to: ICJE, 1150 S. Milledge Ave. Athens, GA 30602-5025. Please do not combine payment of fees with other classes of court.**

Please be aware that a \$50 Failure to Appear invoice will be sent to any absent registrant unless ICJE is notified in writing (emails accepted) of cancellation at least 5 business days before the course.

**COURSE INFORMATION:** All future correspondence, including your payment receipt, confirmation of placement, information about the program site, lodging and directions will be emailed to you at the email address you list on the sign-up form. Please add ICJE emails to your contacts list to insure receipt of all future communications.

All future correspondence, including your payment receipt, confirmation of placement, information about the program site, lodging and directions will be **emailed** to you at the **email** address you list on the sign-up form.

**To ensure you receive this information, please add the following ICJE Staff Members to your email contacts list:**

Douglas Ashworth	Executive Director	<a href="mailto:doug@icje.law.uga.edu">doug@icje.law.uga.edu</a>
Susan Nunnally	Office Manager	<a href="mailto:susan@icje.law.uga.edu">susan@icje.law.uga.edu</a>
Laura Kathryn Hogan	Event Coordinator	<a href="mailto:laurakathryne@icje.law.uga.edu">laurakathryne@icje.law.uga.edu</a>
Lindsey Colley	Event Coordinator	<a href="mailto:lindsey@icje.law.uga.edu">lindsey@icje.law.uga.edu</a>
Casey Semple	Event Planner	<a href="mailto:casey@icje.law.uga.edu">casey@icje.law.uga.edu</a>
Susan Mason	Event Planner	<a href="mailto:smason@icje.law.uga.edu">smason@icje.law.uga.edu</a>

If you have any questions, please contact us at the emails above.