

# Council of State Court Judges of Georgia

***“Impartial Courts – Judicial Excellence – Accessible and Efficient Justice”***

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**2022-2023 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

**(as of July 1, 2022)**

# EXECUTIVE

President R. Violet Bennett (Wayne)

President Elect John K. Edwards, Jr. (Lowndes)

Secretary: Jeffrey. B. Hanson (Bibb)

Treasurer: Greg V. Sapp (Chatham)

Past President: Alvin T. Wong (DeKalb)

District 1: Billy Tomlinson (Bryan)

District 2: Shawn Rowland (Jeff Davis)

District 3: Ellen S. Golden (Lowndes)

District 4: Tammi L. Hayward (Clayton)

District 5: Monique Walker (Richmond)

District 6: John G. Breakfield (Hall)

District 7: Eric A. Richardson (Fulton)

District 8: Allison B. Salter (Cobb)

# BENCH/CHARGE BOOK

Chair: Susan Edlein (Fulton)

Vice-Chair Wes Tailor (Fulton)

1. Kimberly Anderson (DeKalb)
2. Jason Ashford (Houston)
3. Steve Campbell (Habersham)
4. Maria Golick (Cobb)
5. Jeff Hanson (Macon/Bibb)
6. Wayne Purdom (DeKalb)
7. Jay Roth (Fulton)
8. John Stephenson (Dougherty)
9. Ben Studdard (Sr. Henry)
10. Josh Thacker (Spalding)
11. Erica Tisinger (Carroll)

# BUDGET

Chair: Maria Golick (Cobb)

Vice-Chair: Billy Mullinax (Walker)

1. Vi Bennett (Wayne)
2. John Edwards (Lowndes)
3. Greg Fowler (Sr. Chatham)
4. Ellen Golden (Lowndes) – JRS Rep
5. Jeff Hanson (Bibb) - Treasurer
6. Russ McClelland (Forsyth)
7. Wes Tailor (Fulton)
8. Al Wong (DeKalb)

# CASE COUNTING STANDARDS

Chair: Michelle Helhoski (Cherokee)

Vice-Chair: Jane Morrison (Fulton)\*

1. Kimberly Alexander (DeKalb)\*
2. Robert Alexander (Jackson)\*
3. Jason Ashford (Houston)\*
4. Larry Baldwin (Hall)
5. Vi Bennett (Wayne)\*
6. Eric Brewton (Cobb)\*
7. Ronda Colvin-Leary (Gwinnett)\*
8. Clarence Cuthpert (Rockdale)\*
9. Sharell Lewis (Bibb)\*
10. Russ McClelland (Forsyth)
11. Bill Mills (Early)
12. Greg Sapp (Chatham)\*
13. Jason Thompson (Fayette)

\*Needs Assessment members

**CONFERENCE VENUE SITE COMMITTEE**

Chairs: John Holland (Turner)

Vice-Chair (Vacant)

1. Leslie Abernathy-Maddox (Forsyth)
2. Charles Auslander (Clarke)
3. Carla Brown (Gwinnett)
4. Jason Fincher (Cobb)
5. Janis Gordon (Sr. DeKalb)
6. Steve Jenkins (Elbert)
7. Marsha Lake (Cobb)
8. Donny Peppers (Sr. Walker)
9. Allison Salter (Cobb)
10. Greg Sapp (Chatham)
11. Margaret Spencer (Clayton)
12. Doug Ashworth ((ICJE)

**COUNCIL HISTORY COMMITTEE**

Chair: Ron Ginsberg (Sr. Chatham)

1. Melodie Clayton (Sr. Cobb)
2. Howard Cook (Sr. Gwinnett)
3. Jack McLaughlin (Sr. DeKalb)

**DUI/DRUG COURT COMMITTEE**

Co-Chairs: Eddie Barker (Douglas) and Jason Thompson (Fayette)

Recording Secretary: TBD

1. Kimberly Anderson (DeKalb)
2. Jason Ashford (Houston)
3. Charles Auslander (Clarke)
4. Larry Baldwin (Hall)
5. Pattie Booker (Sr. Richmond)
6. Emily Brantley (Gwinnett)
7. Shawn Bratton (Gwinnett)
8. Leon Braun (Sr. Liberty)
9. Eric Brewton (Cobb)
10. Bridgette Campbell (Cobb)
11. Melodie Clayton (Sr. Cobb)
12. John Dennis (Chattooga)
13. Susan Edlein (Fulton)
14. Brian Fortner (Douglas)
15. Greg Fowler (Sr. Chatham)
16. Ellen Golden (Lowndes)
17. Jeff Hanson (Bibb)
18. Michelle Helhoski (Cherokee)
19. Steve Jenkins (Elbert)
20. Alan Jordan (Cherokee)
21. Wesley Leonard (Troup)
22. Sharell Lewis (Bibb)
23. Vincent Lotti (Henry)
24. Russ McClelland (Forsyth)
25. Kellie McIntyre (Richmond)
26. Ana Maria Martinez (DeKalb)
27. Dee Morris (Cherokee)
28. Jeffery Osteen (Liberty)
29. Seay VanPatten Poulakos (Coweta)
30. Ralph Powell (Worth)
31. Greg Sapp (Chatham)
32. Margaret Spencer (Clayton)
33. Kiesha Storey (DeKalb)
34. Wes Tailor (Fulton)
35. Erica Tisinger (Carroll)
36. David Watkins (Richmond)
37. Derek White (Chatham)
38. Al Wong (DeKalb)

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**  
Co-Chairs: Leslie Abernathy-Maddox (Forsyth) and

Allison Salter (Cobb)

1. Kimberly Alexander (DeKalb)
2. Kimberly Anderson (DeKalb)
3. Jason Ashford (Houston)
4. Diane Bessen (Fulton)
5. Eric Brewton (Cobb)
6. Bridgette Campbell (Cobb)
7. John Carbo (Sr. Clayton)
8. Ronda Colvin-Leary (Gwinnett)
9. John Edwards (Lowndes)
10. Janis Gordon (Sr. DeKalb)
11. Jason Harper (Sr. Henry)
12. Michelle Helhoski (Cherokee)
13. Alan Jordan (Cherokee)
14. Marsha Lake (Cobb)
15. Sharell Lewis (Bibb)
16. Jeannette Little (Sr. Troup)
17. Bob Mock (Sr. Gwinnett)
18. Shalonda Jones-Parker (Clayton)
19. Wayne Purdom (DeKalb)
20. Margaret Spencer (Clayton)
21. Pam South (Gwinnett)
22. Kiesha Storey (DeKalb)
23. Ben Studdard (Sr. Henry)
24. Lynne Moore Nelson (ICJE)

# LEGISLATIVE

Co-Chairs: Maria Golick (Cobb) and Ron Ramsey (DeKalb)

1. Jason Ashford (Houston)
2. Larry Baldwin (Hall)
3. Vi Bennett (Wayne)
4. Diane Bessen (Fulton)
5. John Breakfield (Hall)
6. Patricia Booker (Sr. Richmond)
7. Leon Braun (Sr. Liberty)
8. Carla Brown (Gwinnett)
9. Steve Campbell (Habersham)
10. John Carbo (Sr. Clayton)
11. Jack Carney (Sr. Bryan)
12. Ronda Colvin-Leary (Gwinnett)
13. Neal Dettmering (Sr. Douglas)
14. Susan Edlein (Fulton)
15. John Edwards (Lowndes)
16. Susan Forsling (Sr. Fulton)
17. Brian Fortner (Douglas)
18. Robert Garner (Barrow)
19. Ron Ginsberg (Sr. Chatham)
20. C. J. Gober (Sr. Cherokee)
21. Ellen Golden (Lowndes)
22. Jason Harper (Sr. Henry)
23. John Holland (Turner)
24. Joseph Iannazzone (Sr. Gwinnett)
25. Mike Jacobs (DeKalb)
26. Alan Jordan (Cherokee)
27. Jeannette Little (Sr. Troup)
28. Russ McClelland (Forsyth)
29. Jane Manning (Cobb)
30. Jeffery Osteen (Liberty)
31. Wayne Purdom (DeKalb)
32. Eric Richardson (Fulton)
33. Jay Roth (Fulton)
34. Greg Sapp (Chatham)
35. Richard Slaby (Richmond)
36. Margaret Spencer (Clayton)
37. Ben Studdard (Sr. Henry)
38. Wes Tailor (Fulton)
39. Erica Tisinger (Carroll)
40. Billy Tomlinson (Bryan)
41. Al Wong (DeKalb)
42. Charlie Wynne (Sr. Hall)

# MANDATORY CJE

Chair: Eric Brewton (Cobb)

Vice-Chair: Billy Mullinax (Walker)

1. John Edwards (Lowndes)
2. Bob Mock (Sr. Gwinnett)
3. Alan Thrower (Baldwin)
4. Rick Waters (Mitchell)
5. Lynne Moore Nelson (ICJE)

# MISDEMEANOR MENTAL HEALTH

Chair: Patsy Porter (Fulton)

1. Eric Brewton (Cobb)
2. Maria Golick (Cobb)
3. Ellen Golden (Lowndes)
4. Michelle Helhoski (Cherokee)
5. Pam South (Gwinnett)
6. John Stephenson (Dougherty)

NEW JUDGE EDUCATION AND MENTORING  
Chair: Susan Edlein (Fulton)

Recording Secretary: Allison Salter (Cobb)

1. Charles Auslander (Clarke)
2. Eddie Barker (Douglas)
3. Eric Brewton (Cobb)
4. Carla Brown (Gwinnett)
5. Melodie Clayton (Sr. Cobb)
6. Ronda Colvin-Leary (Gwinnett)
7. John Edwards (Lowndes)
8. Ellen Golden (Lowndes)
9. Janis Gordon (Sr. DeKalb)
10. Jeff Hanson (Macon/Bibb)
11. Tammi Hayward (Clayton)
12. Steve Jenkins (Elbert)
13. Kellie McIntyre (Richmond)
14. Shalonda Jones-Parker (Clayton)
15. Seay Poulakos (Coweta)
16. Ben Richardson (Muscogee)
17. Josh Thacker (Spalding)
18. Jason Thompson (Fayette)
19. Alan Thrower (Baldwin)
20. Monique Walker (Richmond)
21. Al Wong (DeKalb)
22. Lynne Moore Nelson (ICJE)

# NOMINATING

Chair: Russ McClelland (Forsyth)

1. Greg Fowler (Sr. Chatham)
2. Marica Golick (Cobb)
3. Tammi Hayward (Clayton)
4. Steve Jenkins (Elbert)
5. Wayne Purdom (DeKalb)
6. Wes Tailor (Fulton)
7. Al Wong (DeKalb)

**PART-TIME JUDGES**

Chair: James Garner (Treutlen)

Vice-Chair: Ralph Powell (Worth)

1. Vi Bennett (Wayne)
2. Robert Gardner (Barrow)
3. Ron Hallman (Evans)
4. Hugh McCullough (Tattnall)
5. Hubert Reeves (Jenkins)
6. Alan Thrower (Baldwin)
7. Billy Tomlinson (Bryan)

# PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

# Chair: David Darden (Sr. Cobb)

1. Greg Fowler (Chatham)
2. Ron Ginsberg (Sr. Chatham)
3. Russ McClelland (Forsyth)
4. Wes Tailor

# PROBATION

Chair: Ralph Powell (Worth)

Vice-Chair: Jeff Hanson (Bibb)

1. Leslie Abernathy-Maddox (Forsyth)
2. Larry Baldwin (Hall)
3. Eddie Barker (Douglas)
4. Pattie Booker (Richmond)
5. Carla Brown (Gwinnett)
6. John Cranford (Coweta)
7. John Dennis (Chattooga)
8. John Edwards (Lowndes)
9. Richard Kent (Colquitt)
10. Sharell Lewis (Bibb)
11. Russ McClelland (Forsyth)
12. Hugh McCullough (Tattnall)
13. Bob Mock (Sr. Gwinnett)
14. Billy Mullinax (Walker)
15. Ben Studdard (Sr. Henry)
16. Rick Waters (Mitchell)
17. David Watkins (Richmond)

# RESOLUTIONS AND AWARDS

Chair: Jean Bolin (McIntosh)

1. Linda Cowen (Clayton)
2. Greg Fowler (Chatham)
3. Janis Gordon (Sr. DeKalb)
4. Jeannette Little (Troup)
5. Toby Prodgers (Cobb)

# RETIREMENT

Chair: Alan Jordan (Cherokee)

Vice-Chair: Ellen Golden (Lowndes)

1. Pattie Booker (Richmond)
2. John Edwards (Lowndes)
3. James Irvin (Stephens)
4. Marsha Lake (Cobb)
5. John Stephenson (Dougherty)

**SENIOR JUDGE/JUDGE EMERITUS COMMITTEE**

Co-Chairs: David Darden (Sr. Cobb

1. Greg Fowler (Sr. Chatham)
2. Jeannette Little (Sr. Troup)
3. Bob Mock (Sr. Gwinnett)
4. Kelly Turner (Sr. Lowndes)

# STATEWIDE PLANNING

Chair: Ben Studdard (Sr. Henry)

Vice-Chair: Vacant

1. Jason Ashford (Houston)
2. Leon Braun (Sr. Liberty)
3. Jack Carney (Sr. Bryan)
4. Melodie Clayton (Sr. Cobb)
5. Richard Kent (Colquitt)
6. Billy Mullinax (Walker)
7. Monique Walker (Richmond)

# STRATEGIC PLANNING

Co-Chairs: Jeff Hanson (Bibb) and John Edwards (Lowndes)

1. Kimberly Anderson (DeKalb)
2. Jason Ashford (Houston)
3. Eddie Barker (Douglas)
4. Vi Bennett (Wayne)
5. Diane Bessen (Fulton)
6. John Breakfield (Hall)
7. Eric Brewton (Cobb)
8. Melodie Clayton (Sr. Cobb)
9. Ronda Colvin-Leary (Gwinnett)
10. David Darden (Sr. Cobb)
11. Susan Edlein (Fulton)
12. Greg Fowler (Sr. Chatham)
13. Michael Gailey (Putnam)
14. Ellen Golden (Lowndes)
15. Maria Golick (Cobb)
16. Tammi Hayward (Clayton)
17. James Irvin (Stephens)
18. Jeannette Little (Sr. Troup)
19. Russ McClelland (Forsyth)
20. John Murphy III (Jefferson)
21. Wayne Purdom (DeKalb)
22. Ron Ramsey (DeKalb)
23. Eric Richardson (Fulton)
24. Shawn Rowland (Jeff Davis)
25. Allison Salter (Cobb)
26. Greg Sapp (Chatham)
27. Danny Shepard (Miller)
28. Pam South (Gwinnett)
29. Margaret Spencer (Clayton)
30. Ben Studdard (Sr. Henry)
31. Wes Tailor (Fulton)
32. Josh Thacker (Spalding)
33. Erica Tisinger (Carroll)
34. Billy Tomlinson (Bryan)
35. Monique Walker (Richmond)
36. Al Wong (DeKalb)

# TECHNOLOGY

Chair: Jason Ashford (Houston)

Vice-Chair: Diane Bessen (Fulton)

1. Harold Benefield Sr. Clayton)
2. Pattie Booker (Richmond)
3. John Dennis (Chattooga)
4. Neal Dettmering (Sr. Douglas)
5. John Edwards (Lowndes)
6. Jason Fincher (Cobb)
7. Joe Iannazzone (Sr. Gwinnett)
8. Marsha Lake (Cobb)
9. Sharell Lewis (Bibb)
10. Russ McClelland (Forsyth)
11. Ben Studdard (Sr. Henry)
12. Wes Tailor (Fulton)
13. Monique Walker (Richmond)

# UNIFORM COURT RULES

Chair, Greg Sapp (Chatham)

Vice Chair: TBD

1. Leslie Abernathy-Maddox (Forsyth)
2. Larry Baldwin (Hall)
3. Melodie Clayton (Sr. Cobb)
4. Greg Fowler (Chatham)
5. Joe Iannazzone (Gwinnett)
6. James Irvin (Stephens)
7. Russ McClelland (Forsyth)
8. Wayne Purdom (DeKalb)
9. John Stephenson (Dougherty)
10. Wes Tailor (Fulton)

**Special Appointments to Other Committees:**

**Institute of Continuing Judicial Education Board (ICJE)**

Allison Salter (Cobb) 2 year 6/30/23

**Judicial Council Records Retention Committee**

Kiesha Storey (DeKalb)

Jeannette Little (Troup)

**Judicial Council Committee on Victims of Domestic Violence**

Maria Golick (Cobb)

Jeannette Little (Troup)

**State Commission on Family Violence**

Leslie Abernathy (Forsyth) Governor Appointment August 2018

**Advisory Council of Board to**

**Department of Community Supervision**

Ralph Powell (Worth)

**Judicial Council Committee on Public Service Announcements - COVID**

Ben Richardson Muscogee)

**Judicial Council Technology Committee**

Diane Bessen (Fulton) June 30, 2018

**Judicial Council Committee on Cyber Insurance Implementation**

Diane Bessen (Fulton)

**Judicial Council Committee on Grants**

Eric Richardson (Fulton) June 30, 2021

**Judicial Council Committee on Interpreters**

Jean Bolin (McIntosh) June 30, 2023

**Supreme Court – Board to Determine Fitness of Bar Applicants**

Janis Gordon (Sr. DeKalb)

**Judicial Council Committee on Emergency Preparedness and Continuity of Court Operations**

Eric Brewton (Cobb)

Bob Bray – Advisory Member

**Pre-Trial Justice in Georgia**

Wes Tailor (Fulton)

**Judicial Council Legislative Committee**

Al Wong (DeKalb)

Maria Golick (Cobb)

Ron Ramsey (DeKalb)

Bob Bray (Advisory)

**Council of Accountability Courts**

Charles E. Auslander, III (Clarke) – Vice-Chair

Jason Thompson (Fayette) – Exec. Committee

Margaret Spencer (Clayton) – Advisory Member

**Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution**

Charles E. Auslander, III (Clarke)

**Judicial Council Committee on Access to Justice**

Jason Thompson (Fayette)

Linda Cowen (Clayton)

Jane Morrison (Fulton)

**Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism**

Russ McClelland - 6/30/2024

**Judicial Council Committee on Improving Access to Legal Resources**

Jason Ashford (Houston)

**Judicial Qualifications Commission**

Vacant – 7/1/2017 - 6/30/2021

**Judicial Council COVID-19 Task Force**

Russ McClelland (Forsyth)

**Judicial Council COVID-19 Task Force Jury Public Service Announcements Subcommittee**

Ben Richardson (Muscogee)

**Georgia Board of Court Reporting**

John Edwards (Lowndes)

**Judicial Council Subcommittee on Public Service Announcements for Juries**

Ben Richardson (Muscogee)

**Digital Court Reporting Rules Subcommittee**

Jane Morrison – Chair (Fulton)

**Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Emergency Preparedness**

TBD

**Georgia Judicial Retirement System – Board of Trustees (Governor Appointment – 4 Year Term)**

Ellen Golden (Lowndes) – 7/1/2020

**Subcommittee – Judicial Council Legislative**

**Committee: Study of Certiorari Procedures**

Judge Carla E. Brown (Gwinnett) Ad Hoc 2016

**Judicial Council Workload Assessment**

**Committee**

Michelle Helhoski (Cherokee)

**Judicial Council Budget Committee**

Al Wong (DeKalb)

Maria Golick (Cobb)

**Judicial Council Automated Data Collection Subcommittee**

Jeff Hanson (Bibb)

**Bench & Bar Committee of State Bar**

Jane Manning (Cobb)

Judge Wong has worked very hard on this listing and tried to put everyone who indicated an interest in being on the committee that he or she requested. If he has left someone off, it was not intentional, and he or she will be added to a committee upon request

\*New judges