



Juvenile Courts
of
The Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit

*Chattahoochee, Harris, Marion, Muscogee
Talbot and Taylor Counties*

WARNER L. KENNON, Presiding Judge
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Greetings!

Welcome to the website of the Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia!

Through the sharing of the wealth of knowledge of our own judges, guest speakers brought before us by the Education Certification Committee, the research of the many committees, including the Bench Book Committee, and other means, CJCJ is an incredible resource for all 163 of Georgia's Juvenile Court Judges. My mentor, Judge Aaron Cohn, past president of CJCJ, taught me that collaboration amongst our judges is key to furthering our goal of being better informed to help our vulnerable children and families.

Not so many years ago, Superior Court Judges heard all the Juvenile Court cases in five of the six counties in our judicial circuit. Our Superior Court Judges felt as a body, and the legislature obviously agreed, that specialized training dealing with the unique issues of dependency, delinquency, CHINS, certain guardianship cases, certain legitimation cases, and sometimes even termination of parental rights, were all matters that deserve laser focus for continuing judicial education to better equip the judges designated to hear such cases. Some of us also hear certain Superior Court cases, as well.

I believe that you will agree that our 165 Juvenile Court Judges, including full and part-time judges, all of whom are members of this Council, have raised the level of service to our communities and our state in myriad ways including grant writing to open new programs, accountability courts and through all our excellent training as aforesaid.

The Council is governed by six executive officers and 10 district representatives, the latter being elected from each judicial circuit in the state. The amazing work of all our committees and volunteers is the lifeblood of CJCJ and we are blessed to have such a wealth of talent and willingness to serve.

Eric John, our effective, loyal, and knowledgeable Executive Director for more than 28 years, and his incredible staff shepherd us through all the foregoing, provide advice, and accounting services, and help us in so many ways it is hard to list them all. The Council would not function as wonderfully as it does without them!

Please allow me to encourage you once again, or for the first time for our new members, to explore all the resources contained on our website. On behalf of the Executive Committee, our 163 members, Eric John, and all his staff, I welcome you to this valuable resource as we look forward to another great year as members of CJCJ!

Warmest regards,

Warner L. Kennon, Sr.
President, Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia and
Presiding Judge, Juvenile Courts of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit