

# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

General Session

**Friday, April 22, 2022**

10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



**Nathan Deal Judicial Center**

330 Capitol Ave SE  
Atlanta, GA 30334

**Judicial Council of Georgia**  
**General Session**

**Nathan Deal Judicial Center**  
**330 Capitol Avenue, S.E.**  
**Atlanta, GA 30334**

**Friday, April 22, 2022**  
10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/judicialcouncilofgeorgia>

- 1. Call to Order & Preliminary Remarks**  
(Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
- 2. Introduction of Judicial Council Members & Guests/Roll Call**  
(Chief Justice David E. Nahmias & Ms. Cynthia H. Clanton, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**  
(Chief Judge C. Gregory Price, Est. Time – 1 Min.)
- 4. Approval of Minutes (*Action Item*)** **TAB 1**  
(Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, Est. Time – 2 Min.)
- 5. Judicial Council Committee Reports**
  - A. ARPA Funding Committee** **TAB 2**  
(Vice Chief Judge Amanda H. Mercier, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
  - B. Budget Committee** **TAB 3**  
(Justice Charles J. Bethel, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
  - C. Legislation Committee** **TAB 4**  
(Justice Charles J. Bethel, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
  - D. Judicial Workload Assessment Committee (*Action Item*)** **TAB 5**  
(Chief Judge Robert D. Leonard, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
  - E. Technology Committee** **TAB 6**  
(Justice Shawn Ellen LaGrua/Judge Stephen D. Kelley, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
  - F. Judicial COVID-19 Task Force** **TAB 7**  
(Justice Shawn Ellen LaGrua/Chief Judge T. Russell McClelland, Est. Time – 5 Min.)
  - G. Strategic Plan Committee (*Written report*)** **TAB 8**
- 6. Report from Judicial Council/AOC** **TAB 9**  
(Ms. Cynthia H. Clanton, Est. Time – 10 Min.)

**7. Reports from Courts, Councils, & State Bar**  
(Est. Time – 15 min.)

**TAB 10**

- A. Supreme Court**
- B. Court of Appeals**
- C. State-wide 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 – 10 Min.)

**TAB 11**

- 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**
- G. Judicial Qualifications Commission**

**9. Old/New Business**  
(Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, Est. Time – 3 Min.)

**10. Recognition of Outgoing Members**  
(Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, Est. Time – 10 Min.)

**11. Special Presentation**  
(Justice Nels S.D. Peterson/Ms. Cynthia H. Clanton, Est. Time – 5 Min.)

**12. Concluding Remarks & Adjournment of Meeting**

(Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, Est. Time – 3 Min.)

**13. Group Photograph of Judicial Council Members**

**14. Tour of Nathan Deal Judicial Center**

**15. Boxed Lunch**

**Next Judicial Council Meeting – General Session**

Friday, August 12, 2022	10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	The Classic Center / Athens, GA
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**Meeting Calendar CY 2022 – Judicial Council General Session**

Friday, February 11, 2022	10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Zoom Conferencing
Friday, April 22, 2022	10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Nathan Deal Judicial Center / Atlanta, GA
Friday, August 12, 2022	10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	The Classic Center / Athens, GA
Friday, December 9, 2022	10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Zoom Conferencing



# Judicial Council of Georgia

## Members as of July 1, 2021

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias <b>Chair</b>	Supreme Court	Nathan Deal Judicial Center 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E. 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Suite 1100 Atlanta, GA 30334	P: 404-656-3470 F: 404-656-2253	<a href="mailto:nahmiasd@gasupreme.us">nahmiasd@gasupreme.us</a>
Presiding Justice Michael P. Boggs <b>Vice-Chair</b>	Supreme Court	Nathan Deal Judicial Center 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E. 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Suite 1100 Atlanta, GA 30334	P: 404-656-3470 F: 404-656-2253	<a href="mailto:boggsmp@gasupreme.us">boggsmp@gasupreme.us</a>
Chief Judge Brian M. Rickman	Court of Appeals	Nathan Deal Judicial Center 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E. Suite 1601 Atlanta, GA 30334	P: 404-656-3450 F: 404-651-6187	<a href="mailto:rickmanb@gaappeals.us">rickmanb@gaappeals.us</a>
Vice Chief Judge Amanda H. Mercier	Court of Appeals	Nathan Deal Judicial Center 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E. Suite 1601 Atlanta, GA 30334	P: 404-656-3450 F: 404-651-6187	<a href="mailto:merciera@gaappeals.us">merciera@gaappeals.us</a>
Judge Walter W. Davis	Georgia State-Wide Business Court	Nathan Deal Judicial Center 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E. Suite 3500 Atlanta, GA 30334	P: 404-656-3080	<a href="mailto:davisw@gsbc.us">davisw@gsbc.us</a>
Judge J. Wade Padgett <b>President, CSCJ</b>	Superior Court	Columbia Judicial Circuit PO Box 2657 Evans, GA 30809	P: 706-312-7355	<a href="mailto:wpadgett@columbiacountyga.gov">wpadgett@columbiacountyga.gov</a>
Judge Arthur L. Smith, III <b>President-Elect, CSCJ</b>	Superior Court	Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit PO Box 1340 Columbus, GA 31902	P: 706-653-4273	<a href="mailto:arthursmith@columbusga.org">arthursmith@columbusga.org</a>
Judge Jeffrey H. Kight <b>1st JAD</b>	Superior Court	Waycross Judicial Circuit Ware County Courthouse 800 Church Street, Suite B202 Waycross, GA 31501	P: 912-287-4330 F: 912-544-9857	<a href="mailto:jhkight@gmail.com">jhkight@gmail.com</a>
Judge Melanie B. Cross <b>2nd JAD</b>	Superior Court	Tifton Judicial Circuit PO Box 7090 Tifton, GA 31793	P: 229-386-7904	<a href="mailto:melanie.cross@tiftcounty.org">melanie.cross@tiftcounty.org</a>
Judge W. James Sizemore, Jr. <b>3rd JAD</b>	Superior Court	Southwestern Judicial Circuit PO Drawer 784 Americus, GA 31709	P: 229-924-2269 F: 229-924-1614	<a href="mailto:wjsizemorejr@gmail.com">wjsizemorejr@gmail.com</a>

Chief Judge Asha F. Jackson <b>4th JAD</b>	Superior Court	Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit DeKalb County Courthouse 556 N. McDonough Street Suite 6230 Decatur, GA 30030	P: 404-371-2344 F: 404-371-2002	<a href="mailto:afjackson@dekalbcountyga.gov">afjackson@dekalbcountyga.gov</a>
Chief Judge Christopher S. Brasher <b>5th JAD</b>	Superior Court	Atlanta Judicial Circuit T-8905 Justice Center Tower 185 Central Avenue SW Atlanta, GA 30303	P: 404-612-4335 F: 404-612-2569	<a href="mailto:chris.brasher@fultoncountyga.gov">chris.brasher@fultoncountyga.gov</a>
Chief Judge W. Fletcher Sams <b>6th JAD</b>	Superior Court	Griffin Judicial Circuit Fayette County Justice Center One Center Drive Fayetteville, GA 30214	P: 770-716-4282 F: 770-716-4862	<a href="mailto:fletcher@fayettecountyga.gov">fletcher@fayettecountyga.gov</a>
Judge Robert Flournoy, III <b>7th JAD</b>	Superior Court	Cobb Judicial Circuit 70 Haynes Street Marietta, GA 30090	P: 678-581-5400 F: 678-581-5407	<a href="mailto:robert.flournoy@cobbcounty.org">robert.flournoy@cobbcounty.org</a>
Chief Judge Sarah Wall <b>8th JAD</b>	Superior Court	Oconee Judicial Circuit PO Box 1096 Hawkinsville, GA 31036	P: 478-783-2900 F: 478-783-2902	<a href="mailto:walls@eighthdistrict.org">walls@eighthdistrict.org</a>
Judge R. Timothy Hamil <b>9th JAD</b>	Superior Court	Gwinnett Judicial Circuit 75 Langley Drive Lawrenceville, GA 30046	P: 770-822-8672 F: 770-822-8536	<a href="mailto:tim.hamil@gwinnettcounty.com">tim.hamil@gwinnettcounty.com</a>
Chief Judge James G. Blanchard, Jr. <b>10th JAD</b>	Superior Court	Columbia Judicial Circuit P.O. Box 2656 Evans, GA 30809	P: 706-312-7356 F: 706-312-7365	<a href="mailto:jblanchard@columbiacountyga.gov">jblanchard@columbiacountyga.gov</a>
Judge Alvin T. Wong <b>President, CStCJ</b>	State Court	DeKalb County 556 N. McDonough St., Suite 2240 Decatur, GA 30030	P: 404-371-2591	<a href="mailto:atwong@dekalbcountyga.gov">atwong@dekalbcountyga.gov</a>
Judge R. Violet Bennett <b>President-Elect, CStCJ</b>	State Court	Wayne County 392 E. Walnut Street Jesup, GA 31546	P: 912-427-4240	<a href="mailto:singinglawyer@bennett-lindsey.com">singinglawyer@bennett-lindsey.com</a>
Chief Judge C. Gregory Price <b>President, CJCJ</b>	Juvenile Court	Rome Judicial Circuit #3 Government Plaza Suite 202 Rome, GA 30161	P: 706-291-5180	<a href="mailto:priceg@floydcountyga.org">priceg@floydcountyga.org</a>

# Judicial Council of Georgia

## Members as of July 1, 2021

Judge Render M. Heard, Jr. <b>President-Elect, CJCJ</b>	Juvenile Court	Tifton Judicial Circuit 225 Tift Avenue North Suite C-1 PO Box 945 Tifton, GA 31793	P: 229-386-7909 F: 229-386-7929	<a href="mailto:render.heard@tiftcounty.org">render.heard@tiftcounty.org</a>
Judge Thomas Lakes <b>President, CPCJ</b>	Probate Court	Harris County 102 N. College St PO Box 569 Hamilton, GA 31811	P: 706-628-5038 F: 706-628-7322	<a href="mailto:tlakes@harriscountyga.gov">tlakes@harriscountyga.gov</a>
Judge B. Shawn Rhodes <b>President-Elect, CPCJ</b>	Probate Court	Wilcox County 103 N. Broad St. Abbeville, GA 31001	P: 229-467-2220 F: 229-467-2067	<a href="mailto:judgeshawnrhodes@gmail.com">judgeshawnrhodes@gmail.com</a>
Judge Quinn M. Kasper <b>President, CMCJ</b>	Magistrate Court	Cobb County 32 Waddell St., 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Marietta, GA 30090	P: 770-528-8900	<a href="mailto:quinnmcgill@gmail.com">quinnmcgill@gmail.com</a>
Chief Judge Rebecca J. Pitts <b>President-Elect, CMCJ</b>	Magistrate Court	Butts County 835 Ernest Biles Drive PO Box 457 Jackson, GA 30233	P: 770-775-8220	<a href="mailto:rpitts@buttscounty.org">rpitts@buttscounty.org</a>
Judge Lori B. Duff <b>President, CMu CJ</b>	Municipal Court	Municipal Court of Monroe 7730 B Hampton Place Loganville, GA 30052	P: 770-466-6149	<a href="mailto:duff@jonesandduff.com">duff@jonesandduff.com</a>
Judge JaDawnya C. Baker <b>President-Elect, CMu CJ</b>	Municipal Court	Municipal Court of Atlanta 150 Garnett Street, SW Atlanta, GA 30303	P: 404-588-5970	<a href="mailto:jcbaker@atlantaga.gov">jcbaker@atlantaga.gov</a>
Ms. Elizabeth Fite <b>President, State Bar of Georgia</b>	State Bar of GA	Rogers & Fite LLC 4355 Cobb Parkway Suite 564 Atlanta, GA 30339	P: 877-732-8897 F: 877-732-8897	<a href="mailto:elf@rogersfite.com">elf@rogersfite.com</a>

## **Administrative Office of the Courts**

244 Washington St. SW, Suite 300  
Atlanta, GA 30334

*Cynthia H. Clanton, Director*  
404-656-5171

*As of April 1, 2022*

### **Director's Office**

#### **Administration**

Alexis Bauman  
404-463-3820

*Front Desk*  
404-656-5171

#### **Budget**

Andrew Zoll  
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#### **Governmental and Trial Court Liaison**

Tracy Mason  
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LaShawn Murphy  
404-651-6325

Cheryl Karounos  
404-651-7616

Shimike Dodson  
*ARPA*  
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#### **Human Resources**

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Janine Wilson  
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#### **General Counsel**

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Darron Enns  
470-585-2782

Carole Collier  
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Billy Scott  
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#### **Judicial Services**

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Division Director  
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Latoynna Lawrence  
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Paula Myrick  
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Bruce Shaw  
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Diana Johnson  
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#### **Financial Administration**

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CFO/Division Director  
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Celesta Murray  
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Cassandra Niblack  
470-989-8606

Schandra Lyon-Farley  
470-989-9720

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Carolyn Cain-Smith  
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*ARPA*  
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Mark Williams  
*ARPA*  
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Bryan Ashmore  
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Jessica Willis  
404-538-0849

Amber Range  
404-304-5495

Angela He  
404-651-8169

Kristy King  
404-651-8180

Christina Liu  
404-651-8180

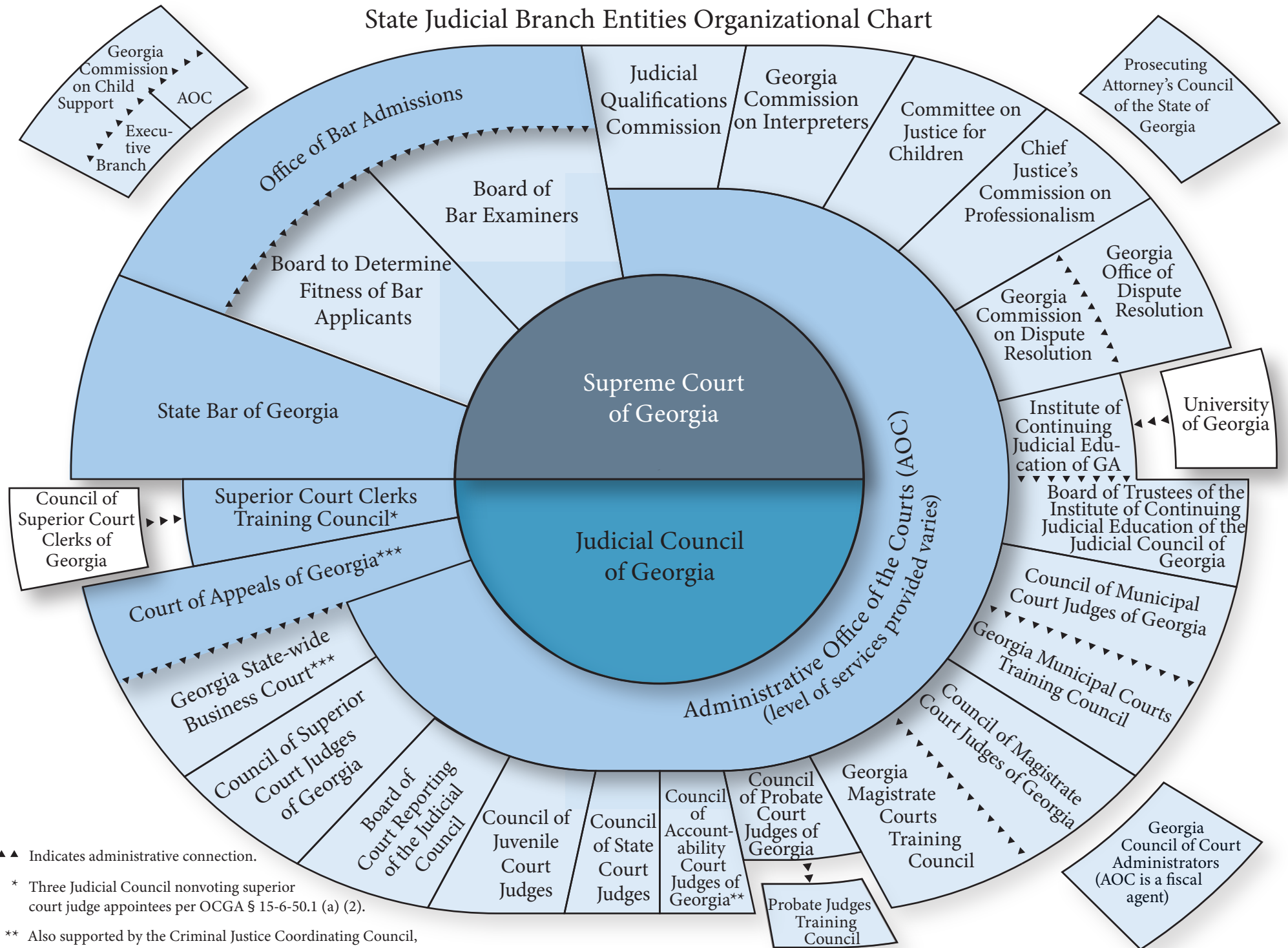
Michael Neuren  
404-657-4218

Kriste Pope  
404-731-6899

Afzal Masood  
470-446-3930

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# State Judicial Branch Entities Organizational Chart



▲ ▲ 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.

\*\*\* The GSBC is "assigned for administrative purposes only to the Court of Appeals" per OCGA § 15- 5A-16.



# Judicial Council of Georgia

# STRATEGIC PLAN

FY 2020-2023  
Revised

## 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.

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

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)

#### 1.4 Develop plan for public/self-represented party accessibility to courts during crisis when physical access to courts are limited

Measurable action: Analyze access and response issues of current crisis on each class of court. Collect the data differences between the technology used in urban and rural areas of the State. (ST)

Measurable action: Create a planned response for each class of court according to technology capabilities to address public/self-represented party accessibility during crisis with limited physical access to the courts. (LT)





## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

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 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)

#### 2.4 Improve technology access, support and training across all classes of courts

Measurable action: Audit/Survey technology access, support and electronic capabilities across all class of courts, including identifying video and telephone conference platforms in use by each class of court. (ST)

Measurable action: Collaborate with AOC and Councils to offer support and solutions to technology issues for courts without support or funding. (LT)

Measurable action: Create resource (bench card) of best practices and options for video and teleconferencing proceedings – Rules of Engagement. (MT)

Measurable action: Collaborate with ICJE to offer classes or online training on video conferencing particular to each class of court, including instructions on the use of video conferencing applications such as Web Ex, Zoom, Microsoft Teams. (LT)

#### 2.5 Support all classes of Court in crisis management response taking into consideration both rural and urban areas and socio-economic factors for courts

Measurable action: Assist and support Councils for each class of court in identifying emergency functions and prioritizing other court functions that may be performed even during certain crisis situations. (LT)

Measurable action: Assist and support Councils for each class of court to create a well-defined emergency response plan. (MT)

Measurable action: Create reference guide to Pandemic issues in the Courts. (ST–MT)

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

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 meeting. (LT)

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4

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. (LT)





STATE GOVERNMENT COMPLEX

# CAPITOL HILL Parking Map

## GEORGIA BUILDING AUTHORITY

- PT** 2 Peachtree
- CT** 90 Central
- AB** Agriculture Building
- BD** Butler Deck
- HE** Health Deck
- LB** Law Building (old Judicial Building)
- JS** Nathan Deal Judicial Center
- PP** Plaza Park
- PH** Pete Hackney
- SD** South Deck
- SP** Steve Polk
- TW** Trinity Washington



Underground Parking



Multi-Level Deck Parking



Surface Parking Lot



Public Parking



Accessible Loading and Unloading Zone



Electric Vehicle Charging Stations



Bicycle Racks

1 MLK (Piedmont Ave)

2 Peachtree Building (Inside-Main Level)

Butler Deck (Inside-Level 1)

Coverdell Legislative Office Bldg/CLOB (Capitol Sq)

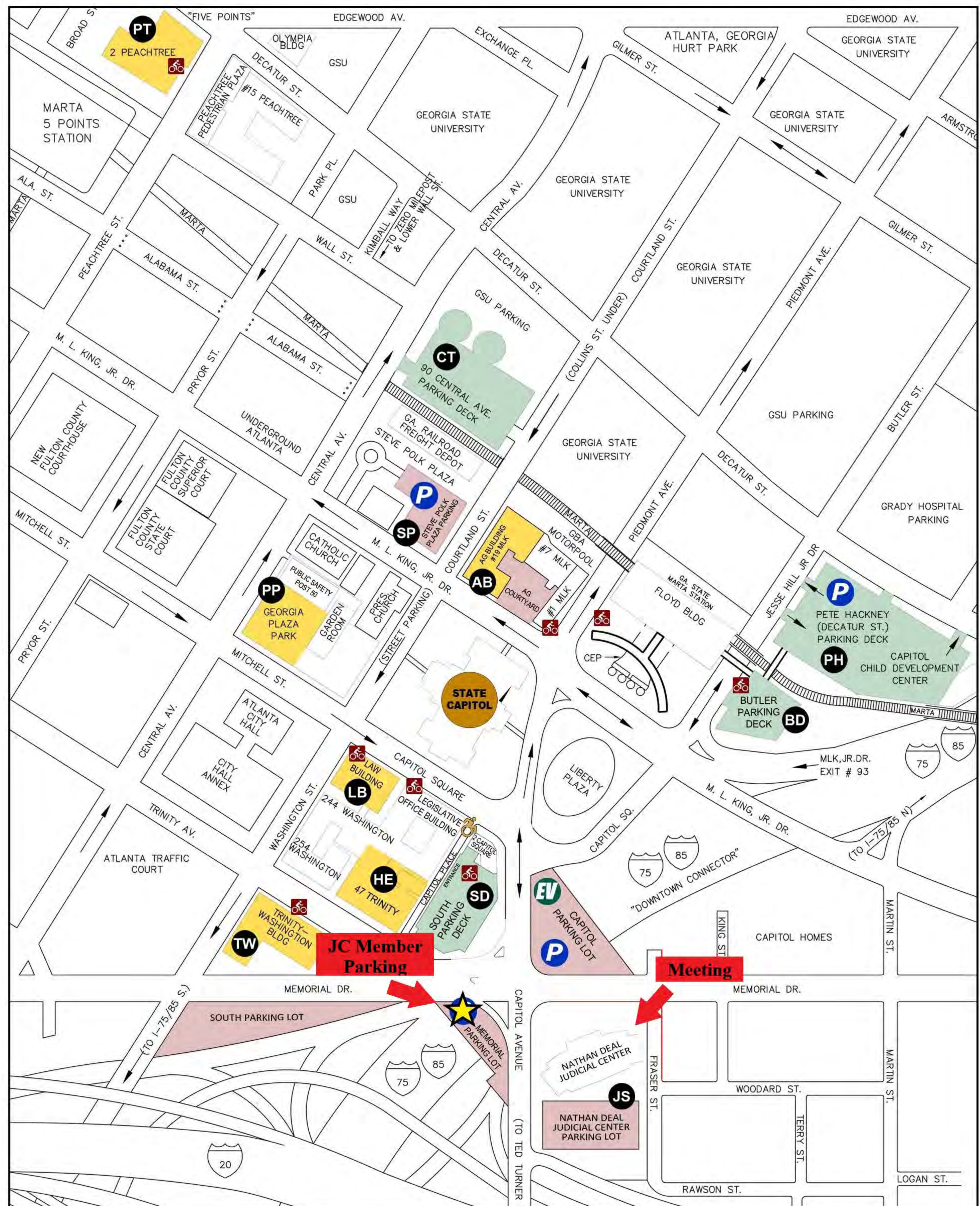
Floyd Building/Twin Towers (Piedmont Ave)

Law Building (Capitol Sq)

South Deck (Inside-Level 2)

TW Building (Trinity Ave)

Rev 12/2020





# TAB 1

**Judicial Council of Georgia  
Emergency Session  
Zoom Conferencing  
January 7, 2022 • 12:00 p.m.**

**Members Present**

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, Chair  
Presiding Justice Michael P. Boggs  
Judge JaDawnya C. Baker  
Chief Judge James G. Blanchard, Jr.  
Judge Melanie B. Cross  
Judge Walter W. Davis  
Judge Lori B. Duff  
Judge R. Violet Bennett  
Ms. Elizabeth Fite  
Judge Robert Flournoy, III  
Judge R. Timothy Hamil  
Judge Render M. Heard, Jr.  
Chief Judge Asha F. Jackson  
Judge Quinn M. Kasper  
Judge Jeffrey H. Kight  
Judge Thomas Lakes  
Vice Chief Judge Amanda H. Mercier  
Judge Robert C.I. McBurney (for Chief  
Judge Christopher S. Brasher)  
Judge J. Wade Padgett  
Chief Judge Rebecca J. Pitts  
Chief Judge C. Gregory Price  
Chief Judge W. Fletcher Sams  
Judge W. James Sizemore, Jr.

Judge Arthur Lee Smith, III  
Judge B. Shawn Rhodes  
Chief Judge Sarah Wall  
Judge Alvin T. Wong

**Members Absent**

Chief Judge Christopher S. Brasher  
Chief Judge Brian M. Rickman

**Staff Present**

Ms. Cynthia H. Clanton  
Mr. Robert Aycock  
Ms. Alexis Bauman  
Ms. Shimike Dodson  
Mr. Darron Enns  
Ms. Stephanie Hines  
Ms. Cheryl Karounos  
Ms. Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez  
Mr. Ben Luke  
Ms. Tracy Mason  
Ms. Lashawn Murphy  
Mr. Michael Neuren  
Mr. Bruce Shaw  
Ms. Maleia Wilson

**Guests (Appended)**

**Call to Order and Preliminary Remarks**

The meeting of the Judicial Council of Georgia (Council) was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Chief Justice Nahmias. He reminded attendees that the meeting would be recorded, livestreamed, and open to the press and public. Guests were asked to submit their attendance via e-mail for the purpose of the minutes.

**Roll Call of Judicial Council Members**

Chief Justice Nahmias shared that Chief Judge Brian Rickman could not attend and recognized Judge McBurney attending as a designee for Chief Judge Brasher. He also recognized

the Chief Superior Court Judges in attendance, and welcomed Ms. Grace McGowan, the new District Court Administrator for the Ninth Judicial Administrative District, and Mr. Mike Engleking with the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency. Ms. Clanton recorded member attendance through the Zoom attendee list and verbally confirmed as needed via roll call.

### **Update and Discussion: COVID-19 and Court Operations**

Chief Justice Nahmias explained the Emergency Session was called to make himself and the Council available to answer questions and offer guidance due to the surge in COVID-19 cases due to the Omicron variant. He thanked Judge Padgett for his suggestion that the Chief Judges of Superior Court attend the meeting.

Chief Justice Nahmias opened by recognizing the frustration felt from continual setbacks from COVID-19 but expressed gratefulness in comparison to what the medical profession has been enduring. Chief Justice Nahmias also thanked everyone for their perseverance, diligence, and creativity in keeping the courts operating and encouraged the Council to remain steadfast. He reported that although the Omicron variant seems to be spreading faster, it appears there are less severe symptoms, and this may pass more quickly than the previous wave. Chief Justice Nahmias reminded everyone that the best protection against the virus is to be vaccinated and boosted; all nine justices have received vaccines and boosters. He stated that public health guidance continues to recommend that improved ventilation, social distancing, and wearing masks is helpful in slowing infection and transmission. The newest guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) allow people to quarantine or self-isolate for shorter amounts of time than previously, if masks are worn properly. Chief Justice Nahmias stressed that everyone should encourage others to wear masks that cover their mouth and nose, and to use higher quality masks.

In addition to keeping up with evolving guidelines from the CDC and DPH, Chief Justice Nahmias also requested members keep up with their local public health experts to understand each community's and local hospital's current condition. Chief Justice Nahmias reiterated that he and former Chief Justice Melton had been stressing two key goals throughout the pandemic: 1) to keep the court system in Georgia open and functioning; and 2) to make sure that the people who work in courthouses and those who are required to come to courthouses are safe. He stressed that

everyone remember that most people who come to the courthouse are required to do so, so the courts have to be particularly cautious with processes and policies.

Chief Justice Nahmias encouraged courts to continue to use remote proceedings when they can be done efficiently, effectively, and legally. He recognized that many proceedings can't be held remotely, such as jury trials, and stressed that we don't want to stop doing everything if it is not necessary or continue these practices for longer than necessary, as this wave is expected to be short-lived. He also shared that he does not foresee issuing another statewide judicial emergency order or formal statewide guidance, and believes the pandemic is best evaluated and managed at the local level.

Chief Justice Nahmias next addressed the many questions the Court has received about local judicial emergency orders and reminded Council members that statutory judicial emergency orders (issued only by the Chief Justice and the chief superior court judges) are powerful tools, but they are only able to toll or suspend legal filing deadlines and designate an alternate court facility. He also encouraged chief judges to consider a statutory judicial emergency order only if there is an outbreak at a particular courthouse or office, which would require restricting access to that area and possibly designating an alternate facility. These orders may not need to be circuit-wide and are limited to 30-day increments, with a maximum of 90 days. Chief Justice Nahmias reiterated that the courts should not close, but that they should arrange for alternate facilities, emergency contact numbers, and/or provide a drop box, and include a provision so that essential proceedings can be responded to and carried out. Chief Justice Nahmias encouraged members to review sample local emergency orders on the Judicial Council/AOC (JC/AOC) website or to reach out to himself, Presiding Justice Boggs, Justice LaGrua, or AOC staff with further questions. Chief Justice Nahmias asked that all chief superior court judges review OCGA §38-3-60 to ensure statutory compliance when issuing a local judicial emergency order. The Chief Justice said that more important than emergency orders is the authority of judges generally to issue orders controlling court operations and management, including who has access to the courthouse and courtrooms, what proceedings will be held remotely or in-person, safety protocols, and scheduling issues. Judges may consider continuing cases for several weeks, as opposed to several months.

Chief Justice Nahmias concluded by encouraging members to research information available on the JC/AOC website provided by the COVID-19 Task Force and stressed that courts communicate all protocols to citizens and court users, so they know what is being done to keep

them safe. This should all be monitored on an ongoing basis, rather than setting longer-term policies for operations over a matter of months, because the situation may change in a matter of weeks. Chief Justice Nahmias thanked members for their continued work and expressed his appreciation for all that has been done across the state to keep courts open.

### **Update on American Rescue Plan Act Funding**

Presiding Justice Boggs began by reiterating his gratitude for the adaptations courts have made over the past two years. He also encouraged members to share their experiences with colleagues in surrounding communities to learn from each other's successes. To echo the Chief Justice, he encouraged judges to think judiciously about how they choose to use their statutory emergency authority.

Presiding Justice Boggs then began his update on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding by thanking Judge Padgett, the District Court Administrators who have been involved with the ARPA process, and the chief superior court judges for coordinating the grant needs within their circuits. Presiding Justice Boggs reported that, at the December 20, 2021, meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act Funding (ARPA Committee), over \$24.8 million was awarded to 26 judicial circuits that applied during the November 2021 application period for calendar year 2022 expenses. He shared that there were 28 original applicants; one application was withdrawn, and one was held over for the next grant cycle. Presiding Justice Boggs stated the JC/AOC ARPA fiscal staff are working closely with each circuit on the implementation of the funding and the reimbursement process. He encouraged members to reach out with any concerns or questions.

Presiding Justice Boggs reported the ARPA Committee voted to allocate 50 percent of the total amount available (\$96 million) in CY 22. Of that \$48 million, the ARPA Committee decided to allocate a target of 66 percent of that amount in Cycle One. He stated that plenty of resources remain available and no one will be prejudiced for waiting to apply for funding. The Cycle Two application period is currently open through January 15, 2022, for awards that will be effective on March 1, 2022. The ARPA Committee will meet on February 18, 2022, to make those award decisions. Presiding Justice Boggs then reported that the ARPA Committee decided to eliminate the fourth application cycle planned for August 2022. This was done in order to move the 2023 application period up, rather than having the application period take place so close to the end of the year.

Presiding Justice Boggs also reported that the ARPA Committee voted to impose a \$2 million cap on each circuit award. This was determined to be an appropriate amount based on the range of requests received. It was also shared that the JC/AOC ARPA team is continuously updating all grant documents as they receive clarifying direction from the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (OPB). Those updated grant documents should be used for all new applications and are available on the JC/AOC website.

Chief Justice Nahmias followed Presiding Justice Boggs' report by reminding Council members of the importance of asking county governments for resources as well. Chief Justice Nahmias shared that he and Presiding Justice Boggs met with ACCG to discuss this point and they have an understanding of this issue. Presiding Justice Boggs also encouraged circuits to seek additional funding from their counties, as these funds are not only more significant in volume but also subject to fewer restrictions than the funds from the State. He stated that the Judicial Council will continue to partner with ACCG and the counties to advocate on behalf of the judicial branch.

### **Reports from Courts, Councils, & State Bar**

Court of Appeals. Vice Chief Judge Mercier reported the Court of Appeals will continue to work closely with the Supreme Court to make determinations about safety protocols in the Nathan Deal Judicial Center.

Business Court. Judge Davis reported that the State-wide Business Court changed all January hearings to virtual and hoped to be back in person in February.

Council of Superior Court Judges. Judge Padgett reported that the Council of Superior Court Judges will be meeting shortly to discuss how the upcoming conference will proceed. He also shared that the judges are challenged by how to move forward with jury trials due to the current conditions but are working to keep cases moving.

Council of State Court Judges. Judge Wong reported the state courts continue to address jury trials and in-person proceedings.

Council of Juvenile Court Judges. Chief Judge Price reported that, based on significant upcoming legislation, the Council of Juvenile Court Judges voted to retain the service of a legislative representative.

Council of Probate Court Judges. Judge Lakes expressed appreciation for everyone's leadership and guidance. Chief Justice Nahmias recognized the particular issues faced by the probate courts during the pandemic.

Council of Magistrate Court Judges. Judge Kasper reported that the Council of Magistrate Court Judges is working with local courts to make sure that local emergency orders are only as restrictive as necessary to deal with the immediate quarantine period following an outbreak.

Council of Municipal Court Judges. No report was provided.

State Bar. President Fite shared that the State Bar's Mid-Year Meeting is currently underway and is being held virtually.

Administrative Office of the Courts. Ms. Clanton shared that the AOC remains fully functional and asked the Council to please let her know how the AOC can assist them.

### **Reports from Additional Judicial Branch Agencies**

Council of Accountability Court Judges. Ms. Taylor Jones shared that accountability courts are serving participants virtually, in-person, and in a hybrid manner.

Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution. Ms. Tracy Johnson reported that the Commission is continuing to serve through virtual mediations and encouraged anyone who needs assistance to reach out.

Council of Superior Court Clerks. Mr. Michael Holiman shared that the Council is continuing to take moderate steps to remain functional and are communicating all of the virtual options and alternatives available to the public.

Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. No report was provided.

Georgia Council of Court Administrators. No report was provided.

Institute of Continuing Judicial Education. No report was provided.

Judicial Qualifications Commission. No report was provided.

### **Old Business**

No old business was offered.

### **New Business**

No new business was offered.

### **Adjournment**

Chief Justice Nahmias reiterated that the Supreme Court is available and willing to help where it can. He encouraged members to reach out with any questions. Hearing no further discussion, he thanked Council members for their continued service to the judiciary and for attending today's meeting. He stated he does not anticipate the return of biweekly emergency meetings and reminded members the next General Session will be held on Friday, February 11,



2022, via Zoom Conferencing. The following meeting, scheduled for April 22, 2022, is planned to be held in person at the Nathan Deal Judicial Center in Atlanta.

Chief Justice Nahmias closed by reminding Council members that many of the judicial rules that were amended on emergency basis at the start of the pandemic are scheduled to expire in the coming months. He encouraged classes of court to continue looking at these in their uniform rules committees and be prepared for moving forward.

Chief Justice Nahmias adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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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  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

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David E. Nahmias  
Chief Justice

**Judicial Council of Georgia**  
**Emergency Session**  
**Zoom Conferencing**  
**January 7, 2022 • 12:00 p.m.**

**Guests Present**

Chief Judge Brian Amero, Superior Court, Flint Judicial Circuit  
Chief Judge Berryl A. Anderson, Magistrate Court of DeKalb County  
Mr. Doug Ashworth, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education  
Mr. Joseph Baden, Third Judicial Administrative District  
Chief Judge Jeffrey S. Bagley, Superior Court, Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit  
Judge Henry Balkcom, Superior Court, Pataula Judicial Circuit  
Judge Shakara Barnes, Georgia Office of State Administrative Hearings  
Mr. Josh Becker, Council of Accountability Court Judges  
Mr. T.J. BeMent, Tenth Judicial Administrative District  
Mr. Charles “Chuck” Boring, Judicial Qualifications Commission  
Ms. Lalaine Briones, Prosecuting Attorneys’ Council of Georgia  
Ms. Christina C. Smith, Court of Appeals of Georgia  
Mr. Bob Bray, Council of State Court Judges  
Chief Judge Geronda C. Carter, Superior Court, Clayton Judicial Circuit  
Judge Robert Chasteen, Superior Court, Cordele Judicial Circuit  
Judge Norman Cuadra, Municipal Court of Suwanee  
Mr. Richard Denney, First Judicial Administrative District  
Judge Angela Duncan, Superior Court, Gwinnett Judicial Circuit  
Mr. Mike Engleking, Georgia Emergency Management & Homeland Security Agency  
Chief Judge Donald Gillis, Superior Court, Dublin Judicial Circuit  
Chief Judge Kathlene F. Gosselin, Superior Courts, Northeastern Judicial Circuit  
Ms. Karlise Grier, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism  
Ms. LeNora Hawkins-Ponzo, Fourth Judicial Administrative District  
Mr. Christopher Hansard, Cobb Judicial Circuit  
Judge Jeff Hanson, State Court of Bibb County  
Mr. Kevin Holder, Council of Probate Court Judges  
Mr. Michael Holiman, Council of Superior Court Clerks  
Mr. Eric John, Council of Juvenile Court Judges  
Ms. Tracy Johnson, Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution  
Ms. Taylor Jones, Council of Accountability Court Judges  
Ms. Kathleen Joyner, Supreme Court of Georgia  
Judge Stephen C. Kelley, Superior Court, Brunswick Judicial Circuit  
Ms. Anne Kirkhope, Council of Juvenile Court Judges  
Justice Shawn LaGrua, Supreme Court of Georgia  
Chief Judge Robert D. Leonard, Superior Court, Cobb Judicial Circuit  
Ms. Alison Lerner, Council of Accountability Court Judges  
Chief Judge Meng Lim, Superior Court, Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit  
Ms. Natasha MacDonald, Council of Superior Court Judges  
Ms. Tynesha Manuel, Georgia State-Wide Business Court  
Chief Judge Beau McClain, Superior Court, Douglas Judicial Circuit

Chief Judge T. Russell McClelland, State Court of Forsyth County  
Chief Judge Ellen McElyea, Superior Court, Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit  
Judge Danielle McRae, Probate Court of Upson County  
Mr. David Mixon, Second Judicial Administrative District  
Judge John E. Morse, Jr., Superior Court, Eastern Judicial Circuit  
Chief Judge Robert Mumford, Superior Court, Rockdale Judicial Circuit  
Mr. Bob Nadekow, Eighth Judicial Administrative District  
Mr. Steven Nevels, Piedmont Judicial Circuit  
Chief Judge Jack Niedrach, Superior Court, Rome Judicial Circuit  
Chief Judge Eric Norris, Superior Court, Western Judicial Circuit  
Ms. Debra Nesbit, Council of Superior Court Judges  
Ms. Jody Overcash, Seventh Judicial Administrative District  
Chief Judge F. Gates Peed, Superior Court, Ogeechee Judicial Circuit  
Mr. Brock Perry, Georgia House of Representatives  
Chief Judge Robert S. Reeves, Superior Court, Middle Judicial Circuit  
Ms. Sharon Reiss, Council of Magistrate Court Judges  
Ms. Robin Rooks, Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit  
Chief Presiding Judge Juliette W. Scales, Juvenile Court, Atlanta Judicial Circuit  
Chief Judge John Simpson, Superior Court, Coweta Judicial Circuit  
Mr. Robert W. Smith, Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia  
Chief Judge Rucker Smith, Superior Court, Southwestern Judicial Circuit  
Mr. David Summerlin, Fifth Judicial Administrative District  
Chief Judge Clay Tomlinson, Superior Court, Alapaha Judicial Circuit  
Ms. Courtney Veal, Judicial Qualifications Commission  
Ms. Kirsten Wallace, Council of Juvenile Court Judges  
Mr. Shannon Weathers, Council of Superior Court Judges  
Chief Judge Brenda S. Weaver, Superior Court, Appalachian Judicial Circuit  
Mr. Joshua Weeks, Georgia Council of Court Administrators  
Judge Tadia Whitner, Superior Court, Gwinnett Judicial Circuit  
Ms. Emily Youngo, Supreme Court of Georgia

**Judicial Council of Georgia  
General Session  
Remote Conferencing  
February 11, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.**

**Members Present**

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, Chair  
Presiding Justice Michael P. Boggs  
Judge JaDawnya C. Baker  
Chief Judge James G. Blanchard, Jr.  
Chief Judge Christopher S. Brasher  
Judge Melanie B. Cross  
Judge Walter W. Davis  
Judge Lori B. Duff  
Judge R. Violet Bennett  
Ms. Elizabeth Fite  
Judge Robert Flournoy, III  
Judge R. Timothy Hamil  
Judge Render M. Heard, Jr.  
Chief Judge Asha F. Jackson)  
Judge Quinn M. Kasper  
Judge Jeffrey H. Kight  
Judge Thomas Lakes  
Vice Chief Judge Amanda H. Mercier  
Judge J. Wade Padgett  
Chief Judge Rebecca J. Pitts  
Chief Judge C. Gregory Price  
Chief Judge Brian M. Rickman  
Chief Judge W. Fletcher Sams

Judge W. James Sizemore, Jr.  
Judge Arthur L. Smith III  
Judge B. Shawn Rhodes  
Chief Judge Sarah Wall  
Judge Alvin T. Wong

**Members Absent**

**Staff Present**

Ms. Cynthia H. Clanton  
Mr. Robert Aycock  
Ms. Alexis Bauman  
Ms. Shimike Dodson  
Mr. Darron Enns  
Ms. Stephanie Hines  
Ms. Cheryl Karounos  
Ms. Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez  
Mr. Ben Luke  
Ms. Tracy Mason  
Ms. Lashawn Murphy  
Mr. Bruce Shaw  
Mr. Jeffrey Thorpe  
Ms. Maleia Wilson  
Mr. Andrew Zoll

**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 Nahmias. Guests were asked to submit their attendance via e-mail for the purpose of the minutes. He reminded attendees that the meeting would be recorded, livestreamed, and open to the press and public. Chief Justice Nahmias recognized Lynne Moore Nelson, the new Executive Director of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia (ICJE), as a special guest and then called on Judge Kasper to lead members, staff, and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Roll Call of Judicial Council Members**

Ms. Clanton recorded member attendance through the Zoom attendee list and verbally confirmed as needed via roll call.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Chief Justice Nahmias directed the Council's attention to the minutes of the December 10, 2021, General Session. A motion to approve the minutes was offered by Chief Judge Jackson, followed by a second. No discussion was offered, and the motion was approved without opposition.

## **Judicial Council Committee Reports**

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Committee. Presiding Justice Boggs directed members to the written report provided in the materials. He shared that the Committee met on December 20, 2021 and awarded \$24.8 million in funding to 26 judicial circuits. He reported that this represents 52 percent of the total amount allocated (\$48 million) by the Committee in Year One, leaving approximately \$23 million in funds to award for the remaining cycles of calendar year 2022 funding. The JC/AOC ARPA fiscal team is working with circuits and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (OPB) on the implementation and reimbursement of awards. The reimbursement process started February 1, 2022, for expenses incurred in January.

Presiding Justice Boggs reminded the Council that the second application period took place January 1 through January 18, 2022, and 24 applications were received. He reported that 14 circuits submitted new applications for funding, nine circuits submitted applications to amend current awards, and one circuit resubmitted a previously deferred application. The JC/AOC team is reviewing legal parameters of the submitted applications, as well as working with applicants to ensure their applications are ready for presentation to the Committee. The Committee will meet on February 18, 2022, to make award decisions for funding and expenses effective March 1, 2022. Presiding Judge Boggs reported that the Committee will meet in March and August for administrative matters, in addition to the regular meetings to determine awards. He also reminded circuits and stakeholders that this process is fluid, and they should continually refer to the website for current and updated documents as information is received from OPB. Presiding Justice Boggs invited anyone with questions to reach out to either the ARPA grant team, Ms. Cynthia Clanton, Ms. Tracy Mason, or to himself.

Legislation Committee. Presiding Justice Boggs directed Council members to the written report provided in the materials and highlighted several updates from that report. The Council's petition for review legislation, filed as HB 916 and sponsored by Representative Rob Leverett, has been assigned to the House Judiciary Committee. It was heard in subcommittee on February 1, 2022, and is expected to be considered by the full House Judiciary Committee next week. Presiding Justice Boggs thanked Presiding Judge Chris McFadden, Judge Gary Jackson, Judge Margaret Washburn, Judge Michael Barker, and the interested practitioners for their efforts and support.

Presiding Justice Boggs also noted that the written report lists the items the Council has supported, with those bills continually being monitored and the Council updated as necessary. He provided a brief overview and summarized the three pieces of legislation introduced to create new superior court judgeships based on the Council's recommendations. Presiding Justice Boggs reported that the Committee is actively tracking SB 359, which is the result of the public safety hearings that took place over the summer. The Council does not have a position on this legislation and will weigh in as necessary.

Presiding Justice Boggs reminded the Council that Crossover Day is scheduled for March 15, 2022, and Sine Die is scheduled for April 4, 2022.

Budget Committee. Justice Bethel directed Council members to the written report provided in the materials and provided the following updates. On February 10, 2022, HB 910 (Amended FY 2022 budget) was passed by the House Appropriations Committee. The House Appropriations Committee agreed with the Judicial Council's requests, which included restoration of funds for the Council's primary budget, as well as restoration of funds for the Council of Magistrate Court Judges, Council of Probate Court Judges, and the Council Accountability Court Judges. Justice Bethel expects the full House to vote on the amended budget today and it will then go before the Senate Appropriations subcommittees next week. Chief Justice Nahmias asked Justice Bethel to introduce the JC/AOC's new Chief Budget Officer, Andrew Zoll, to the Council. Justice Bethel noted that Mr. Zoll came to the Council from the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office, and he and the Chief Justice stated this will be a great opportunity for both him and the Council.

Judicial Workload Assessment Committee. Chief Judge Leonard directed the Council to the written reports provided in the supplemental meeting materials. Chief Judge Leonard reported the supplemental materials were due to a specially called meeting of the Committee last week to refine some definitions before the next Time and Motion Study begins in March. The details of

those changes include: 1) the approval of adding home invasion in the first degree as a serious felony for case count purposes; 2) change of the term “Modification” to “Modification of Custody;” 3) change of the definition for “Support – Private (non-IV-D)” from cases “filed to request maintenance” to cases filed to “request or modify maintenance;” and, 4) the addition of stalking protective orders to the definition of “Family Violence Petition.” Chief Judge Leonard reported the motion was made from the Committee for these changes. Chief Justice Nahmias opened the floor for discussion or questions and, hearing none, called for a vote. The motion passed without opposition.

Chief Justice Nahmias thanked Chief Judge Leonard and the Committee for their work and clarified that these definition changes would be effective after February 11, 2022. Chief Judge Leonard confirmed the definition changes would not affect past case counts. He also reiterated the importance of participation in the Time and Motion Study and asked the District Administrative Judges present to invite him to any meetings held in February so he could inform other judges of this process. Chief Justice Nahmias reiterated the importance of participation in the Time and Motion Study, and the impact the data obtained from the study has on staffing courts throughout the state.

Technology Committee. Judge Kelley directed the Council to the written report provided in the materials. The Committee met on January 13, 2022. He reported that good progress is being made in the Standardization of File Format Project. Other ongoing work includes maintaining the Georgia Judicial Gateway and work by the Subcommittee on Automated Data Collection. Judge Kelley reported the Committee was monitoring Senate Bill 441 regarding the Criminal Case Data Exchange Board. The bill is sponsored by Senator Bo Hatchett who is now a member of the Technology Committee. Judge Kelley reported the Committee would like to provide education and resources regarding best practices for technology and cybersecurity for courts.

Judicial COVID-19 Task Force. Chief Judge McClelland directed the Council to the written report provided in the materials and added the next Task Force meeting would be held on February 16, 2022. He reported the working groups are making progress on the Pandemic Bench Guide revision and thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for his recognition of the Task Force during his State of the Judiciary address to the Legislature. Chief Justice Nahmias thanked the Task Force for its continuing work to provide guidance in this area.

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

Ms. Clanton began her report by congratulating Chief Justice Nahmias on his State of the Judiciary address. She reported the AOC remains fully functional and ready to serve, noting the agency was especially busy in late December with annual caseload reporting initiation and the first round of ARPA awards. She spoke to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on ARPA Funding and reminded the Council to check the website for updates and to join the ARPA email list. Ms. Clanton reported the Judicial Council held an Emergency Session on January 7, 2022, and reminded the Council that examples of local emergency orders can be found on the Council's website. Ms. Clanton reported the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security (GEMA) requested the judiciary's participation in renewing Georgia's Emergency Preparedness Plan for natural disasters, civil unrest, pandemics, and cyber-attacks; Chief Justice Nahmias is considering this request and further details are forthcoming.

Ms. Clanton highlighted the opening of the Legislature on January 10, 2022, and the work done by the legislative team to support the Judicial Council's Standing Committee on Legislation, including weekly legislative email reports and the transition to a new legislative tracking website. Ms. Clanton spoke to the work of the Court of Appeals and the recent testimony in the House Judiciary Committee by Presiding Judge McFadden and Mr. Enns in support of HB 916. Ms. Clanton spoke to the effort in support of the Council's Strategic Plan Objective #4 (enhancing the professional and ethical image of the judiciary through community engagement) and thanked Council members for their support in creating a video in honor of Bill of Rights Day to be shared with educators and the public. The JC/AOC also looks forward to again co-sponsoring the upcoming Bar, Media, and the Judiciary Conference.

Ms. Clanton provided several staff updates and thanked Judge Kasper and Chief Judge Jackson for speaking at the December and January virtual staff meetings. She also welcomed new ICJE Executive Director Nelson.

Ms. Clanton closed her remarks by reiterating the AOC's role as a service agency to the judiciary, and she thanked Chief Justice Nahmias and members of the Council

## **Reports from Courts, Councils, & State Bar**

Supreme Court. Members were directed to the written report provided in the materials. Chief Justice Nahmias expressed appreciation for the support and information provided for use in



the State of the Judiciary Address. He expressed appreciation to all members for their hard work through the challenges that have resulted from the pandemic.

Court of Appeals. Chief Judge Rickman referred members to the written report provided in the materials.

Business Court. No report was provided.

Council of Superior Court Judges. Judge Padgett referred members to the written report provided in the materials. On behalf of all the superior court judges in Georgia, he thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for the tone and content of his State of the Judiciary address.

Council of State Court Judges. Judge Wong referred members to the written report provided in the materials and thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for his State of the Judiciary address.

Council of Juvenile Court Judges. Chief Judge Price referred members to the written report provided in the materials.

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

Council of Magistrate Court Judges. Judge Kasper referred members to the written report provided in the materials and thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for his State of the Judiciary address.

Council of Municipal Court Judges. Judge Duff thanked Judge Baker, President-Elect, for her role on the ARPA Committee. She reported that HB 1275 had been filed and was waiting for a hearing by the House Judiciary Committee. Judge Duff concluded by welcoming new ICJE Executive Director Nelson.

State Bar. President Fite referred members to the written report provided in the materials.

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

Council of Accountability Court Judges. Ms. Taylor Jones referred members to the written report provided in the materials. She thanked Chief Justice Nahmias for his support of accountability courts in his State of the Judiciary Address.

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

Council of Superior Court Clerks. Mr. Michael Holiman shared that the Council was actively monitoring SB 441.

Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. Ms. Karlise Grier referred members to the written report provided in the materials. She too congratulated Chief Justice Nahmias on his successful State of the Judiciary Address.

Georgia Council of Court Administrators. Ms. Lynn Ansley reported the Council was preparing for its conference to be held in March 2022.

Institute of Continuing Judicial Education. Ms. Nelson referred members to the written report provided in the materials and thanked everyone for the warm welcome.

Judicial Qualifications Commission. No report was provided.

### **Old Business**

No old business was offered.

### **New Business**

No new business was offered.

### **Adjournment**

Chief Justice Nahmias closed by thanking Council members for their continued service to the judiciary and to the Judicial Council. He reminded members the next General Session will be held on Friday, April 22, 2022, in person at the Nathan Deal Judicial Center in Atlanta.

Chief Justice Nahmias adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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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  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

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David E. Nahmias  
Chief Justice

**Judicial Council of Georgia**  
**General Session**  
**Zoom Conferencing**  
**February 11, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.**

**Guests Present**

Ms. Lynn Ansley, Georgia Council of Court Administrators  
Mr. Joseph Baden, Third Judicial Administrative District  
Judge Shakara Barnes, Georgia Office of State Administrative Hearings  
Mr. Josh Becker, Council of Accountability Court Judges  
Justice Charles J. Bethel, Supreme Court of Georgia  
Mr. Charles “Chuck” Boring, Judicial Qualifications Commission  
Mr. Bob Bray, Council of State Court Judges  
Chief Judge Geronda V. Carter, Superior Court, Clayton Judicial Circuit  
Justice Verda M. Colvin, Supreme Court of Georgia  
Judge Norman C. Cuadra, Municipal Court of Suwanee  
Mr. Richard Denney, First Judicial Administrative District  
Ms. Karlise Grier, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism  
Mr. Christopher Hansard, Superior Court of Cobb County  
Ms. Christine Butcher Hayes, State Bar of Georgia  
Judge Jeff Hanson, State Court of Bibb County  
Judge Ann Harris, Superior Court, Cobb Judicial Circuit  
Ms. LeNora Hawkins-Ponzo, Fourth Judicial Administrative District  
Mr. Kevin Holder, Council of Probate Court Judges  
Mr. Michael Holiman, Council of Superior Court Clerks  
Mr. Eric John, Council of Juvenile Court Judges  
Ms. Tracy Johnson, Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution  
Ms. Taylor Jones, Council of Accountability Court Judges  
Ms. Kathleen Joyner, Supreme Court of Georgia  
Judge Stephen D. Kelley, Superior Court, Brunswick Judicial Circuit  
Ms. Anne Kirkhope, Council of Juvenile Court Judges  
Chief Judge Robert D. Leonard, Superior Court, Cobb Judicial Circuit  
Ms. Alison Lerner, Council of Accountability Court Judges  
Ms. Natasha MacDonald, Council of Superior Court Judges  
Chief Judge T. Russell McClelland, State Court of Forsyth County  
Ms. Grace McGowan, Ninth Judicial Administrative District  
Mr. David Mixon, Second Judicial Administrative District  
Mr. Bob Nadekow, Eighth Judicial Administrative District  
Ms. Lynn Moore Nelson, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education  
Ms. Debra Nesbit, Council of Superior Court Judges  
Ms. Jody Overcash, Seventh Judicial Administrative District  
Ms. Sharon Reiss, Council of Magistrate Court Judges  
Ms. Karlie Sahs, Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution  
Dr. William T. Simmons, Sixth Judicial Administrative District  
Mr. Robert Smith, Prosecuting Attorneys’ Council of Georgia  
Mr. David Summerlin, Fifth Judicial Administrative District

Ms. Jill Travis, Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers  
Ms. Courtney Veal, Judicial Qualifications Commission  
Ms. Kirsten Wallace, Council of Juvenile Court Judges  
Mr. Shannon Weathers, Council of Superior Court Judges  
Ms. Emily Youngo, Supreme Court of Georgia

DRAFT

# TAB 2



## Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

**Chief Justice David E. Nahmias**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

### Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Presiding Justice Michael P. Boggs  
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act Funding

RE: Committee Report

DATE: April 6, 2022

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The Committee met on February 18, 2022, to consider applications and make award decisions for circuits who applied during the January 2022 application period. At this meeting, the Committee awarded over \$15.2 million in grant funding to 22 judicial circuits, 14 of which were first time applicants and 8 which applied for additional funds to amend existing awards. These awards were effective March 1, 2022.

On March 18, 2022, the Committee met to discuss administrative matters and to consider one application for funding. At this meeting, the Committee awarded a grant to the Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit, effective April 1, 2022.

In CY 2022, the Committee has awarded grants to 41 of the 50 judicial circuits in Georgia, for a total of \$40,936,017. This represents 42.6 percent of the total \$96 million allocated to the judicial branch. A complete list of grant awards is attached.

The AOC ARPA Fiscal Team is working closely with circuits on the implementation of the awards and reimbursement process. Ongoing discussions continue with the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (OPB) regarding expenses and the documentation required by OPB to be submitted with reimbursement requests.

At the February meeting, the Committee formally adopted a revised schedule for the remainder of the calendar year, based on the Committee's decision at the December 2021 meeting to remove the August 2022 application cycle and to adjust the meeting dates for February and May. A copy of the schedule is attached. Additionally, the following policies were adopted:

- All travel and corresponding per diem are subject to preclearance by OPB, excluding travel and per diem for senior judges, which has been precleared by OPB.

- Professional dues, continuing education, and training are an ineligible expenditure.

The March meeting focused on beginning discussions for Year Two of the program (CY 2023), including possible revisions to Committee processes and policies, as well as the need for complete and consistent data from circuits demonstrating case backlogs and the impact of ARPA funds on such backlogs. More information is forthcoming, but circuits should be prepared to submit additional data in the future. The Committee also discussed the policy adopted in February regarding professional dues, continuing education, and training, and is continuing to discuss and consider this matter.

The application period for CY 2022 Cycle Three funding is from April 1 through April 15. Screening and legal review will take place following the close of the application period, and the Committee will meet on Friday, May 13, to make award decisions for funding and expenses effective June 1, 2022. Awards will be announced following the meeting. This will conclude the opportunity for CY 2022 funding, and the application period for CY 2023 will take place in September, for funding effective January 1, 2023.

Grant documents, including the Frequently Asked Questions, continue to be updated as new information and guidance are received. All grantees and applicants are encouraged to visit the website (<https://jcaoc.georgiacourts.gov/arpa/>) regularly for the most up-to-date information.

Please send any questions to the ARPA Grants Team at [arpa@georgiacourts.gov](mailto:arpa@georgiacourts.gov).



## **Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts**

**Chief Justice David E. Nahmias**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

### **PRESS RELEASE**

For more information:  
Bruce Shaw  
[bruce.shaw@georgiacourts.gov](mailto:bruce.shaw@georgiacourts.gov)  
404-656-6783

**For Immediate Release:**  
February 22, 2022

### **Judicial Council Awards Second Round of American Rescue Plan Act Grants to 22 Judicial Circuits**

ATLANTA – The Judicial Council of Georgia Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding has awarded grants totaling \$15,287,317, effective March 1, 2022, to 22 judicial circuits from around the state that submitted applications for ARPA funds allocated to the judicial branch. Of these 22 circuits, 14 were first-time applicants and eight applied for additional funds to amend an existing award. The Committee previously awarded approximately \$24.8 million to 26 judicial circuits for awards effective January 1, 2022.

In October 2021, Supreme Court of Georgia Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, who also serves as Chair of the Judicial Council, announced the allocation to the judicial branch of \$110 million of ARPA funds by Gov. Brian P. Kemp to address backlogs of court cases, particularly cases involving serious violent felonies. The Judicial Council is administering \$96 million of that total for eligible courts, prosecutors, and related agencies. The remaining \$14 million in ARPA funds was allocated to the Georgia Public Defender Council for grants to public defenders.

Requests from judicial circuits included funding for temporary personnel to respond to the case backlog, including senior judges and judges to serve by designation, assistant district attorneys, security personnel, victim support, mediators, and court reporters, funding for rental costs for temporary space to hold court, supplies and materials, and staff to support grant administration.

Georgia's judiciary operated under a Statewide Judicial Emergency Order from March 2020 through June 2021. The order placed necessary limitations on court operations to protect the health of those working in and coming to courthouses during this time but also resulted in a backlog of criminal and civil cases, particularly those requiring jury trials to resolve. Since the order expired on June 30, 2021, courts have increased efforts to resolve cases, but the ongoing pandemic continues to



limit the pace and scale of court operations as public health measures remain in place. Additionally, new cases continue to be filed on top of the backlogs of cases that have built up over the course of the pandemic.

The Committee, chaired by Presiding Justice Michael P. Boggs, is overseeing the application process for the grants, and the Judicial Council's Administrative Office of the Courts is facilitating the grant application, awarding, compliance, and reporting processes. The funds will be awarded on a calendar year basis, and all funds allocated to the judicial branch must be spent by December 31, 2024.

"Following this second cycle of funding, we have now provided resources to 40 of the 50 judicial circuits in the state," said Presiding Justice Boggs. "In the first award cycle, the Committee made the decision to frontload funds during Year One of the program in hopes of addressing the case backlogs as soon as possible. Over forty-one percent of the amount allocated to the judicial branch by the Governor has been awarded, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact of these funds on courts around the state."

A complete list of grantees and award amounts is attached. Funding decisions are based on demonstrated need as long as funding remains available. In addition to the award decisions, the Committee formally adopted a revised schedule for award cycles for the remainder of the calendar year. The Committee will next accept applications from April 1 to April 15, 2022, for the final application period for Calendar Year 2022 funding.

More information on grant requirements, application timelines, and contact information is available at <https://jcaoc.georgiacourts.gov/arpa/>.

###

244 Washington Street SW • Suite 300 • Atlanta, GA 30334  
404-656-5171 • <https://jcaoc.georgiacourts.gov/judicial-council/>  
Twitter: @gacourts • Facebook: [www.facebook.com/gacourts](https://www.facebook.com/gacourts)

**Judicial Council of Georgia**  
**Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act Funding – Awards**  
**February 18, 2022**

<b>Circuit</b>	<b>Cycle 1 Award Amounts</b>	<b>Cycle 2 Requests</b>	<b>Cycle 2 Award Amounts</b>	<b>Cumulative Awards</b>
*Budget as approved by Committee	\$ 24,788,470	\$ 16,825,196	\$ 15,287,317	\$ 40,075,787
Alapaha	\$ 325,332	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 325,332
Alcovy	\$ 322,863	\$ 210,000	\$ 185,000	\$ 507,863
Appalachian	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Atlanta	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Atlantic	\$ 516,837	\$ 582,199	\$ 582,199	\$ 1,099,036
Augusta	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Bell-Forsyth		\$ 693,298	\$ 693,298	\$ 693,298
Blue Ridge	\$ 52,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,200
Brunswick	\$ 847,194	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 847,194
Chattahoochee	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Cherokee	\$ -	\$ 756,567	\$ 756,567	\$ 756,567
Clayton	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Cobb	\$ -	\$ 1,999,690	\$ 1,999,690	\$ 1,999,690
Columbia	\$ 874,024	\$ 185,286	\$ 160,286	\$ 1,034,310
Conasauga	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cordele	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Coweta	\$ -	\$ 1,993,979	\$ 1,983,773	\$ 1,983,773
Dougherty	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Douglas	\$ 741,510	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 741,510
Dublin	\$ -	\$ 587,571	\$ 587,571	\$ 587,571
Eastern	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Enotah	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Flint	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Griffin	\$ -	\$ 789,969	\$ 789,969	\$ 789,969
Gwinnett	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Houston	\$ 142,113	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 142,113
Lookout Mountain	\$ -	\$ 312,171	\$ 312,171	\$ 312,171
Macon	\$ 977,026	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 977,026
Middle	\$ -	\$ 548,442	\$ 548,442	\$ 548,442
Mountain	\$ 446,163	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 446,163
Northeastern	\$ 1,081,610	\$ 598,887	\$ 598,887	\$ 1,680,497
Northern	\$ 560,879	\$ 71,500	\$ 46,500	\$ 607,379
Ocmulgee	\$ 161,730	\$ 700,294	\$ 700,294	\$ 862,024
Oconee		\$ 384,093	\$ 384,093	\$ 384,093
Ogeechee	\$ 1,825,348		\$ -	\$ 1,825,348
Pataula	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Paulding	\$ 1,316,226	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,316,226
Piedmont	\$ 13,280	\$ 25,000	0.00	\$ 13,280
Rockdale	\$ -	\$ 1,978,000	\$ 1,968,000	\$ 1,968,000
Rome	\$ -	\$ 574,790	\$ 574,790	\$ 574,790
South Georgia	\$ -	\$ 183,348	\$ 183,348	\$ 183,348
Southern	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Southwestern	\$ 638,041	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 642,041
Stone Mountain	\$ 2,000,000		\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Tallapoosa	\$ -	\$ 1,346,009	0.00	\$ -
Tifton	\$ -	\$ 440,161	\$ 440,161	\$ 440,161
Toombs	\$ 346,010	\$ 146,700	\$ 121,700	\$ 467,710
Towaliga	\$ 627,399	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 627,399
Waycross	\$ 972,685	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 972,685
Western	\$ -	\$ 1,713,242	\$ 1,666,578	\$ 1,666,578
	\$ 24,788,470 <sup>1</sup>	\$ 16,825,196	\$ 15,287,317	\$ 40,075,787

*1: The Cycle 1 award amount was initially \$24,806,522, but was subsequently amended to reflect adjustments to the awards for the Alcovy and Southwestern Judicial Circuits.*

*Note: All reported amounts are subject to change based on grant awards that were made conditionally pending pre-approval of select items by the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, subsequent changes to eligible expenses by OPB and/or the Committee, or other Committee adjustments.*



## **Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts**

**Chief Justice David E. Nahmias**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

### **PRESS RELEASE**

For more information:  
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404-656-6783

**For Immediate Release:**  
March 25, 2022

#### **Judicial Council Awards American Rescue Plan Act Grant to Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit**

ATLANTA – The Judicial Council of Georgia Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding has awarded a grant in the amount of \$860,230, effective April 1, 2022, to the Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit for ARPA funds allocated to the judicial branch. The Committee has previously awarded more than \$40 million to 40 other judicial circuits for awards in calendar year 2022.

In October 2021, Supreme Court of Georgia Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, who also serves as Chair of the Judicial Council, announced the allocation to the judicial branch of \$110 million of ARPA funds by Gov. Brian P. Kemp to address backlogs of court cases, particularly cases involving serious violent felonies. The Judicial Council is administering \$96 million of that total for eligible courts, prosecutors, and related agencies. The remaining \$14 million in ARPA funds was allocated to the Georgia Public Defender Council for grants to public defenders.

The award to the Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit includes funding for a senior judge and staff to run an additional courtroom through December 2022, which will include at least seven weeks of jury trials, as well as funding for the administration of a death penalty case that has been delayed due to the pandemic. Previous awards to judicial circuits have included funding for temporary personnel to respond to case backlogs, including senior judges and judges to serve by designation, assistant district attorneys, security personnel, victim support, mediators, and court reporters, funding for rental costs for temporary space to hold court, supplies and materials, and staff to support grant administration.

Georgia's judiciary operated under a Statewide Judicial Emergency Order from March 2020 through June 2021. The order placed necessary limitations on court operations to protect the health of those working in and coming to courthouses during this time but also resulted in a backlog of

criminal and civil cases, particularly those requiring jury trials to resolve. Since the order expired on June 30, 2021, courts have increased efforts to resolve cases, but the ongoing pandemic continues to limit the pace and scale of court operations as public health measures remain in place. Additionally, new cases continue to be filed on top of the backlogs of cases that have built up over the course of the pandemic.

The Committee, chaired by Presiding Justice Michael P. Boggs, is overseeing the application process for the grants, and the Judicial Council's Administrative Office of the Courts is facilitating the grant application, awarding, compliance, and reporting processes. The funds will be awarded on a calendar-year basis, and all funds allocated to the judicial branch must be spent by December 31, 2024.

"I am pleased that the Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit will receive these funds, allowing it to access additional resources and work through delayed cases," said Presiding Justice Boggs. "The Committee has now granted awards to 41 of the 50 judicial circuits in the state, and we are beginning to plan for the second year of the program."

A complete list of CY 2022 grantees and award amounts is attached. Funding decisions are based on demonstrated need as long as funding remains available. The Committee will accept the next round of applications from April 1 to April 15, 2022, for the final application period for calendar year 2022 funding.

More information on grant requirements, application timelines, and contact information is available at <https://jcaoc.georgiacourts.gov/arpa/>.

###

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404-656-5171 • <https://jcaoc.georgiacourts.gov/judicial-council/>  
Twitter: @gacourts • Facebook: [www.facebook.com/gacourts](http://www.facebook.com/gacourts)

Judicial Council of Georgia  
Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act Funding – Awards  
March 23, 2022

Circuit	Cycle 1 Award Amounts	Cycle 2 Award Amounts	March 2022 Award Amounts	Cumulative Awards
*Budget as approved by Committee	\$ 24,788,470	\$ 15,287,317	\$ 860,230	\$ 40,936,017
Alapaha	\$ 325,332	\$ -		\$ 325,332
Alcovy	\$ 322,863	\$ 185,000		\$ 507,863
Appalachian	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -		\$ 2,000,000
Atlanta	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Atlantic	\$ 516,837	\$ 582,199		\$ 1,099,036
Augusta	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -		\$ 2,000,000
Bell-Forsyth		\$ 693,298		\$ 693,298
Blue Ridge	\$ 52,200	\$ -		\$ 52,200
Brunswick	\$ 847,194	\$ -		\$ 847,194
Chattahoochee	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -		\$ 2,000,000
Cherokee	\$ -	\$ 756,567		\$ 756,567
Clayton	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Cobb	\$ -	\$ 1,999,690		\$ 1,999,690
Columbia	\$ 874,024	\$ 160,286		\$ 1,034,310
Conasauga	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Cordele	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Coweta	\$ -	\$ 1,983,773		\$ 1,983,773
Dougherty	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -		\$ 2,000,000
Douglas	\$ 741,510	\$ -		\$ 741,510
Dublin	\$ -	\$ 587,571		\$ 587,571
Eastern	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Enotah	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -		\$ 2,000,000
Flint	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Griffin	\$ -	\$ 789,969		\$ 789,969
Gwinnett	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Houston	\$ 142,113	\$ -		\$ 142,113
Lookout Mountain	\$ -	\$ 312,171		\$ 312,171
Macon	\$ 977,026	\$ -		\$ 977,026
Middle	\$ -	\$ 548,442		\$ 548,442
Mountain	\$ 446,163	\$ -		\$ 446,163
Northeastern	\$ 1,081,610	\$ 598,887		\$ 1,680,497
Northern	\$ 560,879	\$ 46,500		\$ 607,379
Ocmulgee	\$ 161,730	\$ 700,294		\$ 862,024
Oconee		\$ 384,093		\$ 384,093
Ogeechee	\$ 1,825,348	\$ -		\$ 1,825,348
Pataula	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Paulding	\$ 1,316,226	\$ -		\$ 1,316,226
Piedmont	\$ 13,280	0.00		\$ 13,280
Rockdale	\$ -	\$ 1,968,000		\$ 1,968,000
Rome	\$ -	\$ 574,790		\$ 574,790
South Georgia	\$ -	\$ 183,348		\$ 183,348
Southern	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Southwestern	\$ 638,041	\$ 4,000		\$ 642,041
Stone Mountain	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -		\$ 2,000,000
Tallapoosa	\$ -	0.00	\$ 860,230	\$ 860,230
Tifton	\$ -	\$ 440,161		\$ 440,161
Toombs	\$ 346,010	\$ 121,700		\$ 467,710
Towaliga	\$ 627,399	\$ -		\$ 627,399
Waycross	\$ 972,685	\$ -		\$ 972,685
Western	\$ -	\$ 1,666,578		\$ 1,666,578
	\$ 24,788,470 <sup>1</sup>	\$ 15,287,317	\$ 860,230	\$ 40,936,017

<sup>1</sup>: The Cycle 1 award amount was initially \$24,806,522, but was subsequently amended to reflect adjustments to the awards for the Alcovy and Southwestern Judicial Circuits.

Note: All reported amounts are subject to change based on grant awards that were made conditionally pending pre-approval of select items by the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget., subsequent changes to eligible expenses by OPB and/or the Committee, or based on other Committee adjustments.



# Judicial Council of Georgia

## Administrative Office of the Courts

**Chief Justice David E. Nahmias**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

### Judicial Council of Georgia Ad Hoc Committee on American Rescue Plan Act Funding CY 2022 Grant Timeline *Revised February 2022*

<b>Cycle #</b>	<b>Application Window</b>	<b>Application Screening</b>	<b>Committee Meeting for Award Decisions</b>	<b>Award Letters</b>	<b>Expenses Begin/Funds Available</b>	<b>Reimbursement Submissions Begin</b>	<b>Funds Expire</b>
<b>1</b>	11/10/21 - 11/30/21	11/30/21 - 12/15/21	12/20/2021	12/28/2021	1/1/2022	2/1/2022	12/31/2022
<b>2</b>	1/1/22 - 1/18/22	1/18/22 - 2/9/22	2/18/2022	2/24/2022	3/1/2022	4/1/2022	12/31/2022
<b>3</b>	4/1/22 - 4/15/22	4/15/22 - 5/4/22	5/13/2022	5/19/2022	6/1/2022	7/1/2022	12/31/2022
	8/1/22 - 8/15/22	8/15/22 - 8/31/22	9/7/2022	9/8/2022	10/1/2022	11/1/2022	12/31/2022
	<b>For CY 2023 Funding</b>						
<b>1</b>	9/15/22 - 9/30/22	9/30/22 - 10/26/22	11/4/22	11/10/2022	1/1/2023	2/1/2023	12/31/2023

*\*Dates are subject to change by the Committee, as necessary.*

*Rev. 2/18/22*

# TAB 3



## Judicial Council of Georgia

### Administrative Office of the Courts

**Chief Justice David E. Nahmias**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

Date: April 07, 2022

To: Judicial Council Members

From: Standing Committee on Budget  
Justice Charlie Bethel, Chair

RE: Judicial Council Budget and Financial Report

This report will provide an update on FY22 Year-To-Date, the Amended FY22, and the FY23 budget requests, and an overview of the next steps for the Amended FY23 and FY24 budget cycles.

#### **Fiscal Year 2022**

The Judicial Council received \$16,708,906 in State Appropriations for FY2022 (HB 910). The attached Financial Report highlights the Judicial Council's expenditures and remaining balances as of March 31, 2021.

#### **Amended Fiscal Year 2022**

The Judicial Council: Section 6 of the Appropriations Bill (HB 910) was amended as follows:

##### **Judicial Council - Administrative Office of the Courts:**

*Restore funds for operations of the Administrative Office of the Courts* \$593,868

##### **Judicial Council – Council of Magistrate Court Judges:**

*Restore funds for operations of the Council of Magistrate Court Judges* \$27,023

##### **Judicial Council – Council of Probate Court Judges**

*Restore funds for operations of the Council of Probate Court Judges* \$25,964

##### **Council of Accountability Court Judges**

*Increase funds to restore FY21 Budget reductions* \$18,594

In addition, funds were appropriated for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs. In FY2022 this increase is made up of a one-time pay supplement, and a \$5,000 salary increase effective April 1, 2022. Funds were also appropriated to cover the pay supplement for employees whose salary is entirely grant funded.



The changes represent a \$1,093,024 increase to the AFY22 operating budget. The Judicial Council's amended State Appropriated budget is \$16,708,906.

### **Fiscal Year 2023**

The Judicial Council had a successful 2022 legislative session. All the enhancements requested by the Council were funded for FY23.

#### **Judicial Council - Administrative Office of the Courts:**

<i>Restore funds for operations of the Administrative Office of the Courts</i>	\$593,868
<i>Increase funds for one Research Analyst position</i>	\$83,260
<i>Increase funds for one IT Helpdesk position</i>	\$96,980
<i>Increase funds for one Customer Service Specialist position</i>	\$73,326
<i>Reduce one-time funds for judicial workload assessments</i>	(\$236,113)

#### **Judicial Council - Supreme Court Access to Justice Committee:**

<i>Increase funds for one Policy Counsel position</i>	\$137,926
<i>Increase funds for civil legal services for kinship care families</i>	\$274,674
<i>Increase funds for civil legal services for victims of domestic violence</i>	\$1,322,828

#### **Judicial Council - Child Support Commission**

<i>Reduce one-time matching funds for the Child Support Collaborative Grant</i>	(\$21,600)
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#### **Judicial Council – Council of Magistrate Court Judges:**

<i>Restore funds for operations of the Council of Magistrate Court Judges</i>	\$27,023
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#### **Judicial Council – Council of Probate Court Judges**

<i>Restore funds for operations of the Council of Probate Court Judges</i>	\$25,964
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#### **Council of Accountability Court Judges**

<i>Increase funds to restore FY21 Budget reductions</i>	\$74,374
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#### **Institute of Continuing Judicial Education**

<i>Increase funds for one Training Assistant position</i>	\$49,600
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#### **Judicial Qualifications Commission**

<i>Increase funds for Legal Counsel for Hearing Panel Commission members</i>	\$100,000
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#### **Georgia Resource Center**

<i>Increase funds to restore FY21 Budget reductions</i>	\$25,000
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In addition, funds were appropriated for several statewide adjustments. The first is a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs. Funds were appropriated to allow eligible state employees to withdraw up to 40 hours of earned annual leave annually from their accrued leave balance. Funds were appropriated to reflect an

increase in the employer's contribution rate for the Employees' Retirement System. Finally, changes were made to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered insurance programs, and to reflect an adjustment in TeamWorks billings.

The approved enhancements represent a \$3,632,624 increase to the FY2022 operating budget. The Judicial Council's FY23 State Appropriated budget is \$19,248,576.

**Next Steps: Amended Fiscal Year 2023 and Fiscal Year 2024**

The Standing Committee on Budget will accept White Papers for the AFY22 and FY23 budget cycles from May 3, 2022, to June 15, 2022. A meeting notification will be sent to the Standing Committee on Budget members by May 9, 2022. In this meeting, all enhancement requests will be reviewed for funding. The Standing Committee on Budget will present the enhancement requests to the Judicial Council for approval at the August 12, 2022. General Session meeting. The enhancements approved by the Council will be submitted to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget before the September 1 deadline.

**Attachments:**

Fiscal Year 2022 Budget and Financial Report as of March 31, 2022

Amended Fiscal Year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Comparison Report

**Fiscal Year 2022 - Judicial Council Operations**  
**March 31, 2022**

Department	Project	FY 2022 Budget	YTD Expenditures	Remaining	Budget Spent
<b>Administrative Office of The Courts</b>		<b>\$ 7,960,865</b>	<b>\$ 5,292,487</b>	<b>\$ 2,668,378</b>	<b>66%</b>
Legal Services for Domestic Violence	103	\$ 1,677,172	\$ 1,677,172	\$ -	100%
Georgia Council of Court Administrators	141	\$ 16,389	\$ 16,389	\$ -	100%
Council of Municipal Court Judges	142	\$ 13,919	\$ 4,462	\$ 9,457	32%
Child Support Collaborative	174	\$ 146,838	\$ 86,239	\$ 60,599	59%
Council of Magistrate Court Judges	204	\$ 199,259	\$ 123,140	\$ 76,119	62%
Council of Probate Court Judges	205	\$ 191,692	\$ 119,950	\$ 71,742	63%
Council of State Court Judges	206	\$ 466,628	\$ 190,313	\$ 276,315	41%
Council of State Court Judges Ret.	207	\$ 2,388,814	\$ 23,244	\$ 2,365,570	1%
Legal Services for Kinship Care Families	1103	\$ 475,326	\$ 475,326	\$ -	100%
<b>Other Judicial Council Subprograms</b>		<b>\$ 5,576,037</b>	<b>\$ 2,716,235</b>	<b>\$ 2,859,803</b>	<b>49%</b>
Accountability Courts	195	\$ 652,631	\$ 402,135	\$ 250,496	62%
CACJ-Peer Review Process	199	\$ 66,594	\$ 16,808	\$ 49,786	25%
GA Office of Dispute Resolution	104	\$ 8,074	\$ -	\$ 8,074	0%
Inst of Continuing Jud Ed Administration	301	\$ 585,354	\$ 267,107	\$ 318,247	46%
Judicial Qualifications Commission	400	\$ 1,084,421	\$ 668,172	\$ 416,249	62%
Resource Center	500	\$ 775,000	\$ 516,667	\$ 258,333	67%
<b>Separate Judicial Council Programs</b>		<b>\$ 3,172,074</b>	<b>\$ 1,870,889</b>	<b>\$ 1,301,185</b>	<b>59%</b>
<b>TOTAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL</b>		<b>\$ 16,708,976</b>	<b>\$ 9,879,610</b>	<b>\$ 6,829,366</b>	<b>59%</b>

Amended FY 2022 - Budget Comparison				
Judicial Council Standing Committee on Budget Report				
Judicial Council Program & Subprograms	FY 2022 Budget	FY22 Enhancement Requests	FY 2022 Budget	% Change
Administrative Office of the Courts	\$ 7,075,563		\$ 7,960,864	12.51%
<i>Restoration of FY21 Budget Cuts</i>		\$ 569,928		
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 300,122		
<i>Increase funds for one-time salary adjustment to provide parity for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees not directly state funded to address agency retention needs</i>		\$ 15,251		
Legal Services for Victims of Domestic Violence	\$ 1,677,172		\$ 1,677,172	
Legal Services for Kinship Care Families	\$ 475,326		\$ 475,326	
GA Council of Court Administrators	\$ 16,389		\$ 16,389	
Council of Municipal Court Judges	\$ 13,919		\$ 13,919	
Child Support Collaborative	\$ 140,600		\$ 146,838	4.44%
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 6,238		
Council of Magistrate Court Judges	\$ 165,998		\$ 199,259	20.04%
<i>Restoration of FY21 Budget Cuts</i>		\$ 27,023		
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 6,238		
Council of Probate Court Judges	\$ 159,490		\$ 191,692	20.19%
<i>Restoration of FY21 Budget Cuts</i>		\$ 25,964		
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 6,238		
Council of State Court Judges	\$ 2,849,204		\$ 2,855,442	0.22%
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 6,238		
<b>Judicial Council Programs and Subprograms Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,573,661</b>	<b>\$ 963,241</b>	<b>\$ 13,536,902</b>	<b>7.66%</b>
<b>Other Programs</b>				
Accountability Courts	\$ 667,696		\$ 719,225	7.72%
<i>Restoration of FY21 Budget Cuts</i>		\$ 18,594		
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 30,692		
<i>Increase funds for one-time salary adjustment to provide parity for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees not directly state funded to address agency retention needs</i>		\$ 2,243		
Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution	\$ -		\$ 8,074	
<i>Increase funds for one-time salary adjustment to provide parity for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees not directly state funded to address agency retention needs</i>		\$ 8,074		
Inst of Continuing Jud Ed Operations	\$ 545,866		\$ 585,354	7.23%
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 39,488		
Judicial Qualifications Commission	\$ 1,053,729		\$ 1,084,421	2.91%
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 30,692		
Resource Center	\$ 775,000		\$ 775,000	
<b>Other Programs Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,042,291</b>	<b>\$ 129,783</b>	<b>\$ 3,172,074</b>	<b>4.27%</b>
<b>Judicial Council Totals</b>	<b>\$ 15,615,952</b>	<b>\$ 1,093,024</b>	<b>\$ 16,708,976</b>	<b>7.00%</b>

FY 2023 - Budget Comparison				
Judicial Council Standing Committee on Budget Report				
Judicial Council Program & Subprograms	FY 2022 Budget	FY23 Enhancement Requests	FY 2023 Budget	% Change
Administrative Office of the Courts	\$ 7,075,563		\$ 8,601,345	21.56%
<i>Restoration of FY21 Budget Cuts</i>		\$ 593,868		
<i>Increase funds for an IT Help Desk position</i>		\$ 96,980		
<i>Increase funds for a Research Analyst position</i>		\$ 83,260		
<i>Increase funds for a Customer Support Specialist position</i>		\$ 73,326		
<i>Increase funds for a Policy Counsel I position</i>		\$ 137,926		
<i>Reduce one-time funds for judicial workload assessments</i>		\$ (236,113)		
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 446,398		
<i>Increase funds to allow eligible state employees to withdraw up to 40 hours of earned annual leave annually from their accrued leave balance</i>		\$ 54,232		
<i>Increase funds to reflect a change in the Employees' Retirement System employer contribution rate</i>		\$ 281,198		
<i>Reduce funds to reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered insurance programs</i>		\$ (3,547)		
<i>Reduce funds to reflect an adjustment in TeamWorks billings</i>		\$ (1,746)		
Legal Services for Victims of Domestic Violence	\$ 1,677,172		\$ 3,000,000	78.87%
<i>Increase funds for grants to Civil Legal Services for Victims of Domestic Violence</i>		\$ 1,322,828		
Legal Services for Kinship Care Families	\$ 475,326		\$ 750,000	57.79%
<i>Increase funds for grants to Civil Legal Services for Kinship Care Families</i>		\$ 274,674		
GA Council of Court Administrators	\$ 16,389		\$ 16,389	
Council of Municipal Court Judges	\$ 13,919		\$ 13,919	
Child Support Collaborative	\$ 140,600		\$ 127,406	-9.38%
<i>Reduce funds for one-time matching funds for the Child Support Collaborative Grant</i>		\$ (21,600)		
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 8,406		
Council of Magistrate Court Judges	\$ 165,998		\$ 201,427	21.34%
<i>Restoration of FY21 Budget Cuts</i>		\$ 27,023		
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 8,406		
Council of Probate Court Judges	\$ 159,490		\$ 193,860	21.55%
<i>Restoration of FY21 Budget Cuts</i>		\$ 25,964		
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 8,406		
Council of State Court Judges	\$ 2,849,204		\$ 2,857,610	0.30%
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 8,406		
<b>Judicial Council Programs and Subprograms Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,573,661</b>	<b>\$ 3,188,294</b>	<b>\$ 15,761,955</b>	<b>25.36%</b>
<b>Other Programs</b>				
Accountability Courts	\$ 667,696		\$ 812,318	21.66%
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 45,285		
<i>Increase funds to allow eligible state employees to withdraw up to 40 hours of earned annual leave annually from their accrued leave balance</i>		\$ 1,481		
<i>Increase funds to reflect a change in the Employees' Retirement System employer contribution rate</i>		\$ 23,482		
<i>Increase funds to restore operations</i>		\$ 74,374		
Inst of Continuing Jud Ed Operations	\$ 545,866		\$ 642,932	17.78%
<i>Increase funds for a Training Assistant position</i>		\$ 49,600		
<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>		\$ 45,748		
<i>Increase funds to allow eligible state employees to withdraw up to 40 hours of earned annual leave annually from their accrued leave balance</i>		\$ 1,718		
Judicial Qualifications Commission	\$ 1,053,729		\$ 1,231,371	16.86%
<i>Increase funds for legal counsel for Hearing Panel Commission members</i>		\$ 100,000		

<i>Increase funds for a \$5,000 pay increase for all full-time, benefit eligible state employees to address agency recruitment and retention needs</i>	\$ -	\$ 45,285		
<i>Increase funds to allow eligible state employees to withdraw up to 40 hours of earned annual leave annually from their accrued leave balance</i>		\$ 1,923		
<i>Increase funds to reflect a change in the Employees' Retirement System employer contribution rate</i>		\$ 30,434		
Resource Center	\$ 775,000		\$ 800,000	3.23%
<i>Restoration of FY21 Budget Cuts</i>		\$ 25,000		
<b>Other Programs Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,042,291</b>	<b>\$ 444,330</b>	<b>\$ 3,486,621</b>	<b>14.61%</b>
<b>Judicial Council Totals</b>	<b>\$ 15,615,952</b>	<b>\$ 3,632,624</b>	<b>\$ 19,248,576</b>	<b>23.26%</b>

# TAB 4



## Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias  
*Chair*

Cynthia H. Clanton  
*Director*

### Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Presiding Justice Michael P. Boggs  
Chair, Standing Committee on Legislation

RE: Committee Report

DATE: April 6, 2022

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The General Assembly adjourned *sine die* on Monday, April 4, 2022. The following report provides the final status of each item the Judicial Council took a position of support on during the 2022 legislative session.

- I. **[HB 916](#) – Superior & State Court Appellate Practice Act**  
**Judicial Council**  
OCGA Title 5  
Sponsor: Rep. Rob Leverett (R – Elberton); Sen. John Kennedy (R – Macon)  
Final Status: Senate Passed/Adopted, 4/4/22; **Final Passage.**
- II. **Update and modernize the Court Reporting Act and related statutes**  
**Judicial Council**  
OCGA Titles 5; 9; 15; 17  
Final Status: No legislation filed.
- III. **[HB 620](#) - “Gross” and “Net” Settlement Defined**  
**Council of State Court Judges**  
OCGA § 29-3-1 & 29-3-3  
Sponsor: Rep. Rob Leverett (R – Elberton); Sen. Bo Hatchett (R – Cornelia)  
Final Status: House Agreed to Senate Substitute, 4/1/22; **Final Passage.**
- IV. **[HB 1183](#) - Surety bonds**  
**Council of State Court Judges**  
OCGA § 17-6-72  
Sponsor: Rep. Stan Gunter (R – Blairsville); Sen. Bo Hatchett (R – Cornelia)  
Final Status: House Agreed to Senate Substitute, 4/4/22; **Final Passage.**



The General Assembly also passed legislation creating new superior court judgeships in the following judicial circuits, as recommended by the Judicial Council:

- [HB 624](#) - South Georgia
- [HB 56](#) - Blue Ridge
- [SB 395](#) - Mountain

# TAB 5



# Judicial Council of Georgia

## Administrative Office of the Courts

**Chief Justice David E. Nahmias**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

### Memorandum

TO: The Judicial Council of Georgia

FROM: Chief Judge Robert Leonard  
Chair, Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment

RE: Judicial Workload Assessment Committee Report

DATE: April 13, 2022

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At its March 11 meeting, the Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment voted on the following action items that are submitted for the Judicial Council's approval.

1. Updates to the Judicial Council Policy on the Study of Superior Court Judgeships and Circuit Boundary Studies
2. Changes to the Juvenile Caseload Collection Form
3. Changes to the Juvenile Caseload Definitions in the Georgia Court Guide to Statistical Reporting
4. Changes to the General Civil and Domestic Relations Case Filing Information Form

Additionally, the Committee heard reports from its subcommittees, conducted an orientation, and heard caseload updates.

**Judicial Council Policy on the Study of Superior  
Court Judgeships and Circuit Boundaries**

**Georgia Judicial Workload Assessment  
(Appendix A)**

**Judicial Council Policy on the Submission of  
Caseload Reports by Trial Courts**

# **Policy on the Study of Superior Court Judgeships and Circuit Boundaries**

## **Section 1 – Policy**

### **1.1 – Introduction**

This policy governs the processes, procedures, and methodology used by the Judicial Council when considering requests for additional judgeships and circuit boundary alterations. The Judicial Council recognizes that the addition of a judgeship or circuit boundary alteration is a matter of great gravity and substantial expense to the state's citizens. Therefore, careful inquiry and deliberate study according to a rigorous methodology will lay the foundation for any recommended changes to circuit judgeships or boundaries.

The Judicial Council acknowledges the National Center for State Courts' (NCSC) subject matter expertise in case processing and workload methodology and its documented best practices for assistance in this policy (see Appendix B).

### **1.2 – Policy Statements**

1. The Judicial Council will recommend additional judgeships based only upon need demonstrated through the methodology contained herein.
2. The Judicial Council will recommend circuit boundary alterations based only upon need demonstrated through the methodology contained herein.
3. The Judicial Council will not recommend part-time judgeships or single-judge circuits.

## **Section 2 – Judgeship and Circuit Boundary Study**

### **2.1 – Initiation**

1. The Governor, members of the General Assembly, and superior court judges have standing to initiate judgeship and circuit boundary studies.
2. The AOC will notify the Governor, General Assembly, superior court judges, and district court administrators no later than May 1 that they may request studies in writing by June 1, or the next business day thereafter, prior to the session of the General Assembly during which the judgeship or change in circuit boundaries is sought. Any request received after June 1 will not be considered until the following year except upon approval by the Chair of the Judicial Council in consultation with the Chair of the Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment for good cause shown. Under no circumstances will a request received more than five business days after June 1 be considered during the current year.
3. Requests for studies will be sent to the Director of the AOC. After receiving ~~If anyone, other than a chief judge, a requests for a judgeship, the AOC will inform all judges within the circuit of the request. After receiving a request for a~~ ~~or circuit boundary study, the AOC will inform all judges within the requested circuit, all judges of any adjacent circuits, and their district court administrators~~

by US mail and electronic mail, the chief judge of the same circuit, and any adjacent circuits in the case of boundary studies, that a request has been made. Any request by any party may be withdrawn by the same party at any time for any reason, and staff will notify all parties impacted by such a withdrawal.

4. The AOC will send the caseload and workload status of their respective circuits to all superior court judges and district court administrators no later than May 1 of each year.

#### 2.1(a) — Circuit Boundary Prescreening

1. The AOC shall inquire of the requestor(s) about the specific circuit alteration desired of a circuit boundary request. The AOC shall conduct an analysis for the specific outcome desired by the requestor(s) to determine its feasibility.<sup>1</sup>

2. Upon asking the requester the desired alteration, the AOC shall send notice to the judges located in the specific circuit that is mentioned in the request.

3. If the desired outcome sought by the requestor(s) is not feasible, the request may be withdrawn. If the request is not withdrawn, the AOC will continue with the study as referenced in Section 2.3. The judges of the circuit will be notified if the request is withdrawn.

## **2.2 – Judgeship Study Methodology**

The Judicial Council approves the NCSC reported adopted by the Council on December 7, 2018 (see Appendix A). See Appendix B for the summary of all values. Furthermore, the Judicial Council approved an amendment to the Habeas Corpus and Civil Appeals case weights on December 11, 2020 (see Appendix C).

1. The most recent three-year average of civil case filings and criminal case defendants, for each case type listed in Appendix A, will serve as the *total circuit caseload* for each case type. Each case type's caseload will be multiplied by its respective *case weight*. The resulting figure represents the *total circuit workload*.
2. The *total circuit workload* will be divided by the *judge year value* assigned to the circuit based on its *classification*. The resulting figure represents the *judge workload value*. If the *judge workload value* divided by the total number of authorized judgeships in the circuit meets or exceeds 1.2, then the circuit is qualified for an additional judgeship. If the *judge workload value* divided by the total number of authorized judgeships in the circuit is less than 1.2, then the circuit is not qualified for an additional judgeship. For purpose of analysis and reporting under this policy, workload values shall be rounded to the nearest tenth. When analyzing a circuit for multiple judgeships, the circuit shall first be analyzed to determine a need for one judgeship. If qualified, then the circuit shall be analyzed for one additional judgeship, giving the circuit credit for the additional judgeship need already qualified for. This process shall repeat itself until the circuit is not qualified or the request is exhausted.
3. A circuit that requests and qualifies for an additional judgeship will have its judgeship study prepared and presented at the next Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment

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<sup>1</sup> A preliminary analysis may include factors such as caseload data and workload analysis. It does not represent or constitute a comprehensive or finalized circuit boundary feasibility study.

Committee meeting. Requestors will be notified of their status and the Committee process no later than June 15. The Standing Committee may forward the recommendation to the Judicial Council for consideration at the first meeting of the fiscal year as described in Section 3. If a majority of the judges in a circuit vote to disagree with a request for a judgeship, the Standing Committee may consider that disagreement in their decisions to recommend new judgeships to the Council. The Committee shall vote on request for multiple judgeships independently.

4. A circuit that requests and is not qualified for an additional judgeship has the right to appeal its status to the Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment. Requestors will be notified of their status and the Committee process no later than June 15. If the appeal is approved, then the appealing circuit will have a judgeship study prepared and presented at the next Judicial Council meeting as described in Section 3. Appeals may not be based upon a circuit's caseload.
5. The AOC will present annually to the Committee a list of all circuits whose *judge workload value* divided by the total number of authorized judgeships in the circuit is less than 0.90 and whose per judge workload value would not equal or exceed 1.2 upon reduction of a judgeship. The Committee Chair shall invite all judges from such circuits to appear at the next Committee meeting to discuss their caseload and workload data. The Committee shall provide technical assistance, with the assistance of the AOC and others so designated, to the affected circuits that may include, but is not limited to: a manual hand count of cases for a specified period of time, additional training for clerks and staff on proper case documentation, and a review of caseload reports and other case information. The AOC shall provide the Committee prior to the next year's annual reporting, a report of the technical assistance provided and any recommendations for further assistance. If a circuit is presented for the first time between 2020 and 2021 and is presented for five consecutive years, the Committee may consider and recommend any options it deems appropriate to the Council. If a circuit is presented for the first time on or after 2022 and is presented for three consecutive years, the Committee may take the same action.

### **2.3 – Circuit Boundary Study Methodology**

A proposed circuit boundary alteration will cause study of the requesting circuit and all adjacent circuits. A circuit is qualified for a boundary alteration if, after the proposed alteration, the following conditions are met.

1. Caseload and Workload
  - a. Caseload is more evenly distributed across all circuits impacted by the alteration.
  - b. Workload in altered circuits does not vary significantly from the statewide average workload.
  - c. Caseload trend analysis of altered circuits does not project an imbalance in growth rates that would necessitate a reallocation of resources or alteration of circuit boundaries again in the near future.
2. Population
  - a. Per judge population is more evenly distributed among circuits impacted by altered boundaries.

- b. Per judge population does not vary significantly from the statewide average in altered circuits.
- c. Population trend analysis of altered circuits does not show an imbalance in growth rates that would necessitate a reallocation of resources or alteration of circuit boundaries again within ten years.
- d. The population of altered circuits is more evenly distributed than the original circuits.

### 3. Judges

- a. The number of additional judges needed to serve altered circuits is not significantly greater than the original number.
- b. Judges' travel time and/or distance between courthouses decreases in altered circuits.

### 4. Administrative

- a. The one-time and recurring costs to altered circuits are not overly burdensome to the state or local governments. Changes in cost for personnel services and operations will be considered. These costs include, but are not limited, to the following:
  - i. Salaries and compensation for staff;
  - ii. Cost for items such as furniture, signage, and general startup expenses;
  - iii. Rent or the purchase of new office space;
  - iv. Purchase or lease of a vehicle; and
  - v. Conference and continued education costs.
- b. The operational and case assignment policies are not negatively impacted in altered circuits.
  - i. Any current standing orders regarding case assignment should be submitted to the AOC; and
  - ii. Any item affecting the case assignment not specifically expressed in the Uniform Rules for Superior Courts should be submitted to the AOC.
- c. The Circuit Court Administrator and/or District Court Administrator is required to submit the detailed Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to the AOC to be included within the analysis.

- 5. The preceding conditions (1-4) will be considered for all potential circuit boundary alterations



before qualification status is determined.

6. If a circuit meets a significant number of the preceding conditions, then the circuit is qualified for a boundary alteration. If a circuit does not meet a significant number of the preceding conditions, then the circuit is not qualified for a boundary alteration.
7. The AOC will notify the requestor and all affected judges and district court administrators ~~the circuit's chief judge~~ of the circuit's qualification status no later than July-September 1.
8. A circuit that qualifies for a boundary alteration will have its study prepared and presented ~~at the next no later than the last meeting of the calendar year for the~~ Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment Committee ~~meeting~~. The Standing Committee may forward the recommendation to the Judicial Council for consideration at its next meeting as described in Section 3. If a majority of the judges in a circuit vote to ~~disagree~~ oppose a request for a circuit boundary alteration, the Standing Committee ~~shall~~ may consider ~~that disagreement the circuit's opposition~~ in their decision to recommend circuit boundary alterations to the Council.
9. A circuit not qualified for a boundary alteration has the right to appeal its status to the Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment. If the appeal is approved, then the appealing circuit will have a boundary study prepared and presented at the next Judicial Council meeting as described in Section 3. Appeals may not be based upon a circuit's caseload.

### **Section 3 - Judicial Council Procedure**

The Judicial Council will share judicial personnel allocation recommendations and approved findings of viability for circuit boundary alterations ~~make recommendations to~~ with the Governor and the General Assembly ~~for judicial personnel allocations and circuit boundary alterations~~ annually prior to the beginning of the regular session of the General Assembly.

1. The AOC will prepare and present all Committee recommendations on additional judgeships, viability of circuit boundary adjustments, and reduction of judgeships to the Council. Requestors will be notified of the Council's process no later than a month after the matter is heard by the Committee. ~~August 1~~. The report will include the results of the judgeship and/or boundary studies, any letters of support from requesting circuits, any available CourTools data, and other information the AOC may deem beneficial to Judicial Council deliberations.
2. After reviewing the recommendations, the Judicial Council, in open session, may discuss the merits of each recommendation. Any Judicial Council member in a circuit or county affected by a recommendation will be eligible to vote on motions affecting that circuit but will not be present or participate in deliberations regarding the circuit. Non-Judicial Council members offering support or opposition may be recognized to speak by the Chief Justice.
3. After deliberations, the Judicial Council will, in open session, approve or disapprove the recommendations. The Council shall vote on requests for multiple judgeships independently. Votes on such motions will be by secret, written ballot. Non-qualified circuits with successful

appeals must have a two-thirds (2/3) majority to receive approval. Each ballot must be complete to be counted. The Vice Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals will oversee ballot counting.

4. After determining the circuits recommended for an additional judgeship, the Judicial Council will rank the circuits based on need. The Council shall vote on requests for multiple judgeships independently. Votes on such motions will be by secret, written ballot. Each ballot must be complete to be counted. The Vice Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals will oversee ballot counting.
  - a. The ballots will be counted using the Borda count method. The Borda count determines the outcome of balloting by giving each circuit a number of points corresponding to the number of candidates ranked lower. Where there are  $n$  circuits, a circuit will receive  $n$  points for a first preference ballot,  $n - 1$  points for a second preference ballot,  $n - 2$  for a third preference ballot, and so on until  $n$  equals 1. Once all ballots have been counted, the circuits are then ranked in order of most to fewest points.
5. Upon Judicial Council recommendation of an additional judgeship ~~or circuit boundary alteration~~, the recommendation will remain for a period of three years unless (1) the total caseload of that circuit decreases 10 percent or more or (2) the circuit withdraws the request. In either case, the circuit must requalify before being considered again by the Judicial Council.
6. If the Judicial Council expresses support for the viability of a circuit boundary study, the study will remain valid for a period of one year.
7. The AOC will prepare and distribute letters notifying requestors and chief judges of the Judicial Council's actions and distribute a press release summarizing the Judicial Council's recommendations and/or support.

## Item 2- Juvenile Caseload Collection Form

## Juvenile Court Caseload Report Calendar Year 2021

(January 1- December 31, 2021)

Juvenile Court of Appling County

Instructions for completion of the form

Edit Box, Submitted By, Time Stamp

	Status Categories			Manner of Disposition						Case Characteristics		
	Cases Open	Cases Filed	Cases Disposed	Adjudicated	Dismissed	Transferred to Another Juvenile Court	Transferred to Superior Court	Informal Adjustment	Chins Protocol	Self-Represented Litigant	Limited-English Proficient Litigant	ADR Used
Children In Need of Services												
Class A Delinquency												
Class B Delinquency												
Delinquency Not Designated												
Traffic												

	Status Categories			Manner of Disposition		Case Characteristics				
	Cases Open	Cases Filed (Number of Petitions)	Cases Disposed	Adjudicated	Dismissed	Orders Entered	Case Entries Filed (Number of Juveniles)	Self-Represented Litigant	Limited-English Proficient Litigant	ADR Used
Dependency										

	Status Categories			Manner of Disposition			Case Characteristics			
	Cases Open	Cases Filed	Cases Disposed	Granted	Denied	Dismissed	Orders Entered	Self-Represented Litigant	Limited-English Proficient	ADR Used
Emancipation										
Termination of Parental Rights										
Special Proceeding										

## Minor Abortion Petitions

Data provided pursuant to O.C.G.A. 15-11-64(b) and O.C.G.A. 16-12-141-1(g)

Total Petitions Filed	Appointed Guardian Ad Litem		Appointed Counsel	
Without Notification	Denied	Appealed	Affirmed	Reversed

## Item 3- Juvenile Caseload Definitions

**Adjudicated:** A count of cases in which the court finds the child is dependent.

**Dismissed:** A count of cases in which the court dismisses the case for any reason prior to trial or finds that the child is not dependent at trial.

**Order entered:** A count of cases in which the court enters an order following any hearing, other than the adjudication hearing, on a dependency case.

#### Special Proceedings, Termination of Parental Rights, and Emancipation Dispositions

**Granted:** A count of cases in which the court grants the petition.

**Denied:** A count of cases in which the court denies the petition.

**Dismissed:** A count of cases in which the court dismisses the case for any reason prior to trial or finds that the child is not dependent at trial.

### **Juvenile Case Characteristics**

#### Dependency Dispositions

**Case Entries Filed (Number of Juveniles):** A count of the separate case entries and case numbers that are assigned for each child. Though some of the children are listed on the same petition, each child will count separately here.

**Order entered:** A count of orders which the court enters following any hearing, other than the adjudication hearing, on a dependency case.

#### Special Proceedings Disposition

**Order entered:** A count of orders which the court enters following any hearing, other than the adjudication hearing, on a Special Proceedings case.

#### Termination of Parental Rights Dispositions

**Order entered:** A count of orders which the court enters following any hearing, other than the adjudication hearing, on a Termination of Parental Rights case.

## Emancipation Dispositions

**Order entered:** A count of orders which the court enters following any hearing, other than the adjudication hearing, on an Emancipation case.

## Item 4- Civil and Domestic Filing Form



## General Civil and Domestic Relations Case Filing Instructions

1. Provide the class of court and county in which the case is being filed.
2. Provide the plaintiff's and defendant's names.
3. Provide the plaintiff's attorney's name and Bar number. If you are representing yourself, provide your own name and check the self-represented box.
4. Provide the type of case by checking only *one* appropriate box. Cases can be either general civil or domestic relations and only *one* type of case within those categories. Check the case type that most accurately describes the primary case. If applicable, check one sub-type under the primary case type. If you are making more than one type of claim, check the case type that involves the largest amount of damages or the one you consider most important. See below for definitions of each case type.
5. Provide an answer to the four questions by checking the appropriate boxes and/or filling in the appropriate lines.

### Case Type Definitions

#### General Civil Cases

**Automobile Tort:** Any tort case involving personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death resulting from alleged negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

**Civil Appeal:** Any case disputing the finding of a limited jurisdiction trial court, department, or administrative agency.

**Contract:** Any case involving a dispute over an agreement between two or more parties.

**Contempt/Modification/Other Post-Judgment:** Any case alleging failure to comply with a previously existing court order. seeking to change the terms of a previously existing court order, or any other post-judgment activity in a general civil case.

**Garnishment:** Any case where, after a monetary judgment, a third party who has money or other property belonging to the defendant is required to turn over such money or property to the court.

**General Tort:** Any tort case that is not defined or is not attributable to one of the other torts.

**Habeas Corpus:** Any case designed to test the legality of the detention or imprisonment of an individual, not the question of guilt or innocence.

**Injunction/Mandamus/Other Writ:** Cases involving a written court order directed to a specific person, requiring that person to perform or refrain from performing a specific act.

**Landlord/Tenant:** Any case involving landlord/tenant disputes wherein the landlord removes a tenant and his/her property from the premises or places a lien on tenant property to repay debt.

**Medical Malpractice Tort:** Any tort case that alleges misconduct or negligence by a person in the medical profession acting in a professional capacity, such as doctors, nurses, physician's assistants, dentists, etc.

**Product Liability Tort:** Any tort case that alleges injury is caused to a person by the manufacturer or seller of an article due to a defect in, or the condition of, the article sold or an alleged breach of duty to provide suitable instructions to prevent injury.

**Real Property:** Any case involving disputes over the ownership, use, boundaries, or value of fixed land.

**Restraining Petition:** Any petition for a restraining order that does not result from a domestic altercation or is not between parties considered to be in a domestic relationship.

**Other General Civil:** Any case in which a plaintiff requests the enforcement or protection of a right or the redress or prevention of a wrong, but does not fit into one of the other defined case categories.

#### Domestic Relations Cases

**Adoption:** Cases involving a request for the establishment of a new, permanent relationship of parent and child between persons not so biologically related.

**Contempt:** Any case alleging failure to comply with a previously existing court order. If the contempt action deals with non-payment of child support, medical support, or alimony, check the sub-type box as well.

**Dissolution/Divorce/Separate Maintenance/Alimony:** Any case involving the dissolution of a marriage or the establishment of alimony or separate maintenance.

**Family Violence Petition:** Any case in which a family violence or stalking protective order from a family member or domestic partner is requested.

**Modification of Custody:** Any case seeking to change the terms of any previously existing court order concerning custody, parenting time, or visitation. This category also includes petitions for third-party custody and equitable caregiver status.

**Paternity/Legitimation:** Cases involving the establishment of the identity and/or responsibilities of the father of a minor child or the determination of biological offspring.

**Support – IV-D:** Cases filed by the Georgia Department of Human Services to request maintenance of a minor child by a person who is required, under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act of 1973, to provide such maintenance.

**Support – Private (non-IV-D):** Cases filed to request or modify maintenance of a parent/guardian or a minor child by a person who is required by law, but who is not under the auspices of Title IV-D of the Social Security Act of 1973, to provide such maintenance.

**Other Domestic Relations:** Domestic relations cases, including name changes, that do not adequately fit into any of the other case types.

**Please note:** This form is for statistical purposes only. It shall have no legal effect in the case. The information collected on this form is used solely for court administration purposes. This form does not supplement or replace the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law or court rules. Information on this form cannot be entered into evidence.

## General Civil and Domestic Relations Case Filing Information Form

☐ Superior or ☐ State Court of \_\_\_\_\_ County

### For Clerk Use Only

Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_  
MM-DD-YYYY

Case Number \_\_\_\_\_

### Plaintiff(s)

Last	First	Middle I.	Suffix	Prefix
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

### Defendant(s)

Last	First	Middle I.	Suffix	Prefix
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Plaintiff's Attorney \_\_\_\_\_

Bar Number \_\_\_\_\_

Self-Represented ☐

Check one case type and, if applicable, one sub-type in one box.

#### General Civil Cases

- ☐ Automobile Tort
- ☐ Civil Appeal
- ☐ Contract
- ☐ Contempt/Modification/Other Post-Judgment
- ☐ Garnishment
- ☐ General Tort
- ☐ Habeas Corpus
- ☐ Injunction/Mandamus/Other Writ
- ☐ Landlord/Tenant
- ☐ Medical Malpractice Tort
- ☐ Product Liability Tort
- ☐ Real Property
- ☐ Restraining Petition
- ☐ Other General Civil

#### Domestic Relations Cases

- ☐ Adoption
- ☐ Contempt
  - ☐ Non-payment of child support, medical support, or alimony
- ☐ Dissolution/Divorce/Separate Maintenance/Alimony
- ☐ Family Violence Petition
- ☐ Modification of Custody concerning custody, parenting time, or visitation
- ☐ Paternity/Legitimation
- ☐ Support – IV-D
- ☐ Support – Private (non-IV-D)
- ☐ Other Domestic Relations

- ☐ Check if the action is related to another action(s) pending or previously pending in this court involving some or all of the same parties, subject matter, or factual issues. If so, provide a case number for each.

\_\_\_\_\_ Case Number

\_\_\_\_\_ Case Number

- ☐ I hereby certify that the documents in this filing, including attachments and exhibits, satisfy the requirements for redaction of personal or confidential information in O.C.G.A. § 9-11-7.1.

- ☐ Is a foreign language or sign-language interpreter needed in this case? If so, provide the language(s) required.

\_\_\_\_\_ Language(s) Required

- ☐ Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? If so, please describe the accommodation request.

# TAB 6



## Judicial Council of Georgia

### Administrative Office of the Courts

**Chief Justice David E. Nahmias**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

#### Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Judge Stephen Kelley, Co-Chair

RE: Committee Report - Judicial Council Standing Committee on Technology

DATE: April 4, 2022

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The Judicial Council Standing Committee on Technology met on Friday, March 18, 2022. The following report reflects matters and topics discussed during that meeting.

#### *Gateway Sub-Committee* – Mr. Ben Luke, Sub-Committee member

Mr. Luke provided an update on the Judicial Gateway. The mobile access to the Gateway continues to be the primary access option; a graphic designer has been consulted to ensure the mobile view continues to be optimized. The direction of the Gateway intends to be led by the audience's needs and will review the requirements in an ongoing manner.

#### *Rules Committee*- Judge Jim Altman, Committee Chair

Judge Altman addressed that the rules would need adjustment with the ending of the single-sign-on project. The protective order registry rule needs to be further discussed with the committee; the focus has been on the Magistrate court. However, all types of courts will be impacted by the rule. After reviewing, Judge Altman recommends that the rule be written post-development of the GCIC protective order addition.

#### *New Business*

##### *Automated Data Collection project*- Mrs. Stephanie Hines

Mrs. Hines shared that the sub-committee continues to review the data submitted by the judicial partners who completed the NODS data spreadsheet. Additional outreach is taking place to engage judicial partners and related vendors. The research team has been collecting and organizing the data received thus far.

##### *AOC Updates*-Mr. Ben Luke

Mr. Luke provided an update on the Administrative Office of the Courts' technology projects. He provided the Committee with an update on the virtual calendar call that is underdevelopment. The feedback from the Committee was positive, and more will be shared at the next meeting.

*GCIC POR project*-Judge Emerson, and Mr. Ben Luke

Marsha O'Neal from GCIC provided an update to the Committee. Ms. O'Neal shared that the protective order server has been moved from development and is waiting for production. Several items are needed for production to be completed: forms and documentation. The Committee engaged in discussions around the needs and concerns related to producing the protective order rule.

*Standardization of file format*, Justice LaGrua

Justice LaGrua stated that standardizing the structure would provide uniformity, and the work on this project continues. The sub-committee continues to meet and define the necessary items to move the development forward.

*SB 441 Update*, Justice LaGrua, and Judge Kelley

Justice LaGrua and Judge Kelley provided an overview of the bill. The bill is undergoing changes and amendments. Mike Holiman shared feedback from the clerks' view on the bill; the committee discussed concerns about funding to support the bill and the proposals defined within.

*Next Meeting*

The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 26, 2022.

# TAB 7



## Judicial Council of Georgia

### Administrative Office of the Courts

**Chief Justice David E. Nahmias**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

#### Memorandum

TO: Judicial Council Members

FROM: Justice Shawn Ellen LaGrua, Co-Chair  
Chief Judge T. Russell McClelland, Co-Chair

RE: Judicial COVID-19 Task Force Update

DATE: April 6, 2022

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The Judicial COVID-19 Task Force last met on March 30 and is next scheduled to meet on May 4. Since January, the working groups have been revising the current Pandemic Bench Guide by integrating and updating the information from the COVID-19 Task Force Report. The working groups will be providing their revised sections for compilation and integration over the next several weeks.

Some examples of the content being created is listed below.

Criminal working group – chaired by Judge Gosselin and Judge Hodges

- Judicial Emergency orders and sample orders
- Guidance to statutory speedy trial and access to legal resources
- “Day One Checklist” of what to do first in the event of a pandemic or emergency
- Grand jury considerations and procedures

Civil working group - chaired by Elizabeth Fite, President of the State Bar

- Moving a civil docket in a pandemic
- How to conduct virtual voir dire and virtual depositions
- Guidance on setting civil trial dockets

Family working group – chaired by Judge Whitaker

- Revisions and updates to the juvenile justice section in the COVID-19 Task Force Report
- Review of ADR procedures
- Guidance on cases appropriate for virtual vs. in-person proceedings

# TAB 8





## Judicial Council of Georgia

### Administrative Office of the Courts

**Chief Justice David E. Nahmias**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

#### **Memorandum**

TO: Judicial Council of Georgia

FROM: Judge Sara L. Doyle, Chair

RE: Strategic Plan Standing Committee Report

DATE: April 11, 2022

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The Strategic Plan Standing Committee met on March 22, 2022, and continued work on the strategic plan. The Committee heard strategic plan updates and closed out two communications initiatives. The Committee will meet next on August 2, 2022 and anticipates closing out additional initiatives.

#### **Strategic Objectives 1 and 4**

As part of Key Initiative 1.2, *Increase resources for public accessibility*, and 1.4, *Develop plan for public/self-represented party accessibility to courts during a crisis*, the AOC, through the Judicial Council Ad Hoc Committee on Improving Community Access to Legal Resources and the Access to Justice (A2J) Committee, worked with stakeholders to develop standard forms and is working on automating these forms. Through the A2J Committee, the AOC is continuing to hold expungement clinics and is moving toward a hybrid model for holding in-person and virtual clinics.

The AOC continues to promote judges participating in civics events and publish stories on community engagement as part of Key Initiative 4.1, *Support judges in community engagement*, and is currently supporting an art contest for Georgia students to celebrate Law Day.

After hearing a summary of work under Key Initiatives 4.2, *Develop a clearinghouse of resources for community engagement*, and 4.3, *Communicate and promote the clearinghouse*, the Committee voted to close out these initiatives. The Committee plans to close out additional communications initiatives at its next meeting.

## **Key Initiative 2.1**

Throughout the 2022 legislative session, AOC Legislative staff continued to communicate legislative updates to stakeholders as part of Key Initiative 2.1, *Foster ongoing executive and legislative branch communications and initiatives of mutual interest*. AOC Staff will continue work on the court reporting bill this summer and start the legislative process for this effort next year.

## **Key Initiative 2.2**

The Committee reviewed a new more interactive caseload dashboard as part of key Initiative 2.2, *Improve the process for data collection and data integrity*. The AOC plans to incorporate the dashboard into its public facing website in 2022.

The Automated Data Collection Committee, a joint subcommittee of the Judicial Council Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment and the Standing Committee on Technology, continues to meet and review open data standards which is part of the National Open Court Data Standards (NODS) project. NODS includes data elements of all case types with over 1,000 case types. AOC staff have reached out to judicial partners including judges' councils, clerks, GBI, and the Prosecuting Attorney's Council for feedback on types of data to collect. The subcommittee will next invite case management vendors to provide input and determine how they can integrate these elements into automated data collection.

## **Key Initiative 2.4**

As part of Key Initiative 2.4, *Improve technology access, support and training across all classes of courts*, the AOC's IT Division is visiting courts to solicit feedback on technology services the AOC provides and making improvements on those services. The AOC is also developing security templates and IT framework for all classes of court. The templates will allow courts to evaluate gaps they may have in their own structure and see how they can improve.

# TAB 9



## **Judicial Council of Georgia**

### **Administrative Office of the Courts**

**Chief Justice David E. Nahmias**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

### **Judicial Council of Georgia**

#### **Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Emergency Preparedness**

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Judicial Council, ad hoc committees exist to address issues of limited scope and duration, and the Judicial Council Chair shall create and charge ad hoc committees as are necessary to conduct the business of the Judicial Council.

Therefore, I hereby establish the Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Emergency Preparedness with the mission of coordinating the accreditation plan for Continuity of Government for the Georgia Judicial Branch. The Committee will create a comprehensive plan that contemplates thirteen identified hazards and the processes, protocols, and succession plans for continuing court operations if they occur, as outlined by the federal and Georgia emergency management agencies.

The Committee will include judges from the various classes of court and State Bar representative, and will obtain input from key stakeholders, including the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, prosecutors and public defenders, civil plaintiff and defense attorneys, clerks of court, sheriffs, and the public.

The following members are hereby appointed to the Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Emergency Preparedness:

- Judge Trea Pipkin, Court of Appeals of Georgia, Co-Chair.
- Judge Amanda Petty, Superior Court, Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit, Co-Chair.
- Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, chosen by the Chief Justice.
- Georgia State-wide Business Court Judge, or designee.
- Judge of an Accountability Court, chosen by the Chair of the Council of Accountability Court Judges.
- State Court Judge, chosen by the President of the Council of State Court Judges.
- Juvenile Court Judge, chosen by the President of the Council of Juvenile Court Judges.
- Probate Court Judge, chosen by the President of the Council of Probate Court Judges.
- Magistrate Court Judge, chosen by the President of the Council of Magistrate Court Judges.
- Municipal Court Judge, chosen by the President of the Council of Municipal Court Judges.
- Member of the State Bar of Georgia, chosen by the President of the State Bar of Georgia.

In addition, designees from the following organizations are invited to participate as advisory members to the Committee:

- Administrative Office of the Courts.
- Association County Commissioners of Georgia.
- Council of Superior Court Clerks.
- Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police.
- Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.
- Georgia Chamber of Commerce - Law and Judiciary Committee.
- Georgia Council of Court Administrators.
- Georgia Defense Lawyers Association.
- Georgia Department of Community Health.
- Georgia Department of Community Supervision.
- Georgia Department of Corrections.
- Georgia Department of Law.
- Georgia Department of Public Health.
- Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency.
- Georgia Municipal Association.
- Georgia Public Defender Council.
- Georgia Sheriffs' Association.
- Georgia Trial Lawyers Association.
- Institute of Continuing Judicial Education.
- Judicial Qualifications Commission.
- Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia.

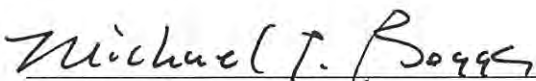
Committee membership may include additional advisory members appointed, as needed, by the Committee Co-Chairs. Advisory members may be heard but shall not be entitled to vote.

The Administrative Office of the Courts shall provide staff support to the Committee. Recommendations from the Committee shall be presented to the Judicial Council and Supreme Court of Georgia for consideration. The Committee shall exist from May 1, 2022, until December 31, 2023.

So decided this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022.



Chief Justice David E. Nahmias  
Chair, Judicial Council of Georgia



Presiding Justice Michael Boggs  
Vice-Chair, Judicial Council of Georgia



## Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias  
*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: April 22, 2022

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 Chief Justice David Nahmias; the Georgia Commission on Child Support, chaired by Troup County Juvenile Court Judge Michael Key; and the Judicial Council Standing Committee on Access to Justice, chaired by Justice Verda Colvin. This Division also 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 is in place through FY 2022. Court Improvement Program (CIP) Director Diana Rugh Johnson presented the updated budget to the Committee at its December 7, 2021 meeting. The priorities for J4C now include:
  - 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 (CASAs) to stay up-to-date on each aspect of a child's dependency case and progress toward permanency. CPRS enables the uploading and e-filing of court orders, which all special assistant attorneys general (SAAGs) representing the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) are required to do. CPRS makes these orders available to all parties and automatically transmits all filed orders to the DFCS SHINES system, where the orders are readily accessible to users. DFCS estimates 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. In the most recent 2021 title IV-E reimbursement audit, DFCS was able to produce all but one requested court order containing the required

reasonable efforts language and passed the audit successfully. To meet the needs of Georgia CASA, CPRS now contains CASA-specific features, which allow case-tracking by CASA volunteers, dissemination of written reports to parties, and periodic reporting to national CASA. In 2022, CPRS will be updated with new access and search parameters for different types of users.

- The Cold Case Project is a joint project of the J4C Committee and DFCS. Using a computer model, the Project identifies children in foster care whose cases are not moving toward permanency and convenes stakeholders in roundtable meetings to review the substantive due process rights of the children and to brainstorm ways to navigate around roadblocks to permanency. Cold Case roundtable meetings are continuing by phone and video conferencing at this time.
- The Court Improvement Initiative (CII) brings together leading juvenile court judges and court teams twice a year. CII reviews the best-practice model with each jurisdiction and prior to each meeting, each jurisdiction reports on its latest efforts to implement these best practices. The most recent CII meeting was held on March 3-4, 2022 and focused on issues of racial disparity in child welfare.
- J4C hosted a meeting of Georgia's Child Welfare Law Specialists on September 16-17, 2021. We currently have 61 Georgia attorneys and 7 juvenile court judges who are certified Child Welfare Law Specialists (CWLS). J4C is focused on the recruitment and retention of CWLSs and is offering financial assistance with application fees as well as annual renewal and recertification fees. J4C is planning to host another CWLS meeting in the fall of 2022.
- J4C, DFCS, OCA, and GA CASA held their fifth annual statewide Child Welfare Law Summit for November 17-19, 2021. The Summit had 402 on-site attendees and 233 virtual attendees consisting of juvenile court judges, Special Assistant Attorneys General (SAAGs), parent attorneys, child attorneys, guardians ad litem, case managers, service providers, foster parents, and parents and youth with lived experience. Offering virtual attendance allowed the content to be available on-demand to all attendees for 90 days following the close of the Summit. Planning has already begun for the 2022 Summit on November 30-December 2.
- Multi-Disciplinary Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (MD CANI) trainings continue to be offered to individual counties and judicial circuits. The most recent MD CANI training was hosted in Douglas County with Haralson, Polk, and Gordon Counties also in attendance. J4C remains focused on evaluating the efficacy of MD CANI and making changes as necessary to ensure that these trainings meet with needs of the individual counties and result in measurable changes in practice and in permanency outcomes in participating jurisdictions.
- J4C also sponsors the Justice P. Harris Hines Awards for outstanding advocacy for children in dependency proceedings. Justice Charles Bethel will present the 2022 Hines Awards at the State Bar Annual Meeting in June. This year's case manager winner is Katherine Hamm from Hall County DFCS and the attorney winner is Jennifer Cline, the Special Assistant Attorney General (SAAG) in Rockdale County.
- **The next J4C Committee meeting will be held on May 10, 2022.**
- **Communications:** Improving communication can improve justice in all Georgia courts through collaboration and innovation, so it is a priority under the Judicial Council's Strategic Plan. One communication tool is our monthly e-newsletter, the Georgia Courts

Journal which may be found at <https://georgiacourtsjournal.org/>. At that website, in addition to back issues of the Georgia Courts Journal, you will find webpages dedicated to wellness and civics—providing many resources including links on everything from chair yoga to decision fatigue on the wellness page to a list of great read-aloud, civics-oriented books sorted by grade and subject matter on the civics page. We also promote and create positive content about Georgia’s judicial branch—every class of court—through our social media daily. 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. To foster community engagement, we concentrate on three civic holidays: Law Day (May 1<sup>st</sup>), Constitution Day (September 17<sup>th</sup>), and Bill of Rights Day (December 15<sup>th</sup>) working with judges and schools to host events—in person or virtual as needed. We also manage the Georgia Courts Directory: <http://georgiacourts.knack.com/gcd2/>; Our social media platforms are: <https://www.facebook.com/GACourts>; <https://twitter.com/Gacourts>; <https://www.instagram.com/gacourts/> and our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/judicialcouncilofgeorgia>.

- **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. These areas include providing an online child support calculator <https://csc.georgiacourts.gov/>, for court and public use, training on the calculator for courts, lawyers, and the public, supporting the Parental Accountability Courts (PAC), providing a website for self-represented litigants with resources on Georgia’s Income Deduction Order (IDO) process in private cases, and generally supporting the process and the law surrounding child support.
  - The latest Child Support Commission Meeting was held virtually on Friday, December 10, 2021, during which several items of business were discussed, including status of the work being conducted by the Parenting Time Deviation Study Committee, status of the work being conducted by the Economic Subcommittee, and the upcoming economic study scheduled in 2022. The Commission has authorized the JC/AOC to contract with Dr. Jane Venohr with the Center for Policy Research, Inc. (CPR), to conduct the economic study. Fifteen counties have been selected to participate in the study, and those counties are: Appling County, Early County, Echols County, Elbert County, Fannin County, Fayette County, Forsyth County, Glascock County, Glynn County, Houston County, Paulding County, Rockdale County, Stewart County, Troup County, and Ware County. Staff is communicating with the Clerks of Superior Court for those counties and will obtain copies of child support orders and worksheets entered during the months of September and October 2021 to use as the case sampling component of the study.
  - Legislation: The Commission has no plans to submit legislation during the 2022 session. There is the potential for legislation in 2023 following the economic study of the child support guidelines and basic child support obligation table that will take place in 2022.
  - Study Committees: The Child Support Commission established a Parenting Time Deviation Study Committee at the end of 2018 for a two-year period and initially extended this study committee through December 2021. During the December 10, 2021 Commission meeting, the study committee was extended again through April 2022, so the study committee may complete its work. The purpose of that study committee is to explore whether changes, including adding a formula to the



child support calculation to account for parenting time, should be made.

Commission member and Attorney Kathleen Connell chairs that study committee.

- Subcommittees: The Economic Subcommittee, chaired by Dr. Roger Tutterow, held meetings on June 4, 2021 and October 6, 2021. Next steps include staff preparation for the 2022 case sampling and economic study. Two listening sessions were held on August 26<sup>th</sup> and September 23<sup>rd</sup> to gather public comments, which was a very successful process in receiving comments and ideas from the general public, judges, attorneys, mediators, and the Division of Child Support Services (DCSS). The Economic Subcommittee voted during its June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting to recommend that the Administrative Office of the Courts contract with Dr. Jane Venohr of the Center for Policy Research, Inc., (CPR) in Denver, Colorado, to conduct the 2022 economic study. The Child Support Commission approved this recommendation during its meeting on October 15, 2021. Commission staff have prepared the scope of service and the AOC legal department has prepared the contract, which should be fully executed by the end of January 2022.
  - 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 an issue around the state. The Excel version of the calculator was permanently retired on October 1, 2018. Staff have temporarily discontinued in-person training and have developed virtual training to comply with social distancing. Trainings include, but are not limited to, using the low-income deviation, steps to impute income, and generally how to use the calculator. Online training is going well and all sessions (at least once a month) have been very well attended. Staff have prepared training videos available on the Child Support Commission website for parents (self-represented litigants). A training video has also been created for the Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) staff, which has been recorded and is currently being reviewed by DCSS.
  - Parental Accountability Court (PAC) evaluation: Staff continues to support and train PAC coordinators on the use of the database to produce statistical evidence of the efficacy of those courts. JC/AOC's Research Division completed a second study and evaluation in June, 2021, on six courts in the Alcovy, Appalachian, Coweta, Flint, Northeastern, and Southwestern Judicial Circuits. The study was furnished to the Parental Accountability Court judges on June 10, 2021. The findings were once again very positive demonstrating continued efficiency and success in these courts. Staff is currently in conversation with DCSS on the next set of courts to evaluate during 2022.
- **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 promoting meaningful and effective access to courts and fairness to all. The A2J Committee is currently working on several projects:
    - The A2J Committee's Landlord/Tenant Working Group which includes: Magistrate Court Chief Judge Cassandra Kirk (Fulton), Magistrate Court Chief Judge Kristina Blum (Gwinnett), Magistrate Court Chief Judge Murphy (Cobb), Executive Director of GODR Tracy Johnson (representing mediation), the JC/AOC webmaster (representing IT), Judge Daphne Walker (representing DCA), and Ashley Clark (representing GLSP) are all working to research the current state of Georgia's housing crisis and creating possible statewide Landlord/Tenant rental assistance webinars. Judge Kasper (President of the Council of Magistrate Court

Judges) recommended Judge Jennifer Lewis, as our rural judge for this working group. A webinar “lunch and learn” with DCA representative (Daphne Walker) was presented on November 5, 2021, for all Magistrate Judges. We have also disseminated, via the Council of Magistrate Judges’ listserve, a statewide DCA regional contact list. The working group recently created a digital rental flyer to forward to all Magistrate Courts statewide.

- The A2J Committee is continuing to partner with and has adopted the State Bar's ATJ Committee's Justice for All (JFA) Strategic Plan and suggested projects. Work to assist the Dougherty County Law Library has created a local-level model for assisting self-represented litigants. The Committee is focused 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 and the Director of the Dougherty County Law Library. Additionally, the AOC's Research Division is assisting with the metrics of the model's effectiveness. The A2J Committee recently received a grant in the amount of \$40,000.00 from the State Bar of Georgia's Commission on Continuing Lawyer Competency (CCLC) 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. In an effort to continue collaborative work, both Committees traveled to Alabama for retreat and as result, several new initiatives will be forthcoming
- In 2019, we began hosting free Pop-up Legal Clinics, and the 3rd Clinic was planned for March 13th in Dalton but was canceled at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak. In light of our “new normal” under COVID-19 restrictions, we are collaborating with the Georgia Justice Project and the State Bar Pro Bono Committee to continue these important services through a Virtual Free Legal/Record Restrictions Clinic. The State Justice Institute awarded the A2J Committee a grant to assist in funding our clinics throughout the state last year. This year money was requested and granted to continue the virtual clinics from the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. Some of the grant will be utilized to provide low-bono pay to our volunteer attorneys. Our first virtual attorney training session was held on April 23, 2020. The first Educational Webinar was held on April 29, 2020, and a second Educational Webinar was held on May 6, 2020. Virtual Free Record Restriction Clinics were successfully hosted on May 19, 2020 (Dalton), June 30, 2020 (Augusta), and September 11, 2020 & September 28, 2020 (Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit). We recently held a virtual clinic in Tifton on May 22, 2021 and a virtual clinic in Macon on June 9, 2021. We recently held our first phase Town Hall in Statesboro on August 23, 2021, and we hosted the first phase Town Hall for the Gainesville area on October 4, 2021. The local team in Tifton requested a hybrid model follow-up townhall, as rural areas need in-person options because of the scarcity of resources such as internet and home computers. Therefore, instead of moving to phase two, we hosted a follow-up town hall for the Tifton Area and Ogeechee Circuit on October 18, 2021. The participation was much better, and we are now in phase two which consists of pairing the applicants with attorneys. Through the continued funding support from CJCP, several clinics are underway in the Albany and Fort Valley areas.
- The A2J Committee's Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) Working Group collaborated with several Americans with Disabilities Act 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 Counter card is ready for distribution, and we collaborated with GTA and Georgia Tech to have the 159 Counter Cards translated into Braille format. The DHH Braille Cards were mailed out last month to all district court administrators to be disseminated to every county in the state. The working group has identified a grant opportunity with the National Center for State Courts and will be applying. In our continued effort to become ADA compliant, funds are needed to secure hearing devices. The devices will be strategically placed in every judicial district so that all courts will have access to hearing devices, as needed. This working group is researching a funding mechanism too several DHH teaching modules on ADA compliance for judges, court staff, and bar members.

- The A2J Committee's Self Represented Litigants (SRL) Forms Working Group is updating the most frequently used family law forms. This working group will ensure that all of the forms are pdf-fillable and translated into "plain language". We are continuing to work on several self-help family law video scripts to accompany the related forms. Our first set of forms, "Divorce without Children", along with the "how-to" video is complete and currently available on [georgiacourts.gov](http://georgiacourts.gov). We recently completed our "Divorce with Children Forms" and the same has been uploaded to our website. We are grateful to have the Council of Superior Court Judges approve the use of these forms. We are currently editing forms for legitimation, custody and eviction proceedings.

Any judges interested in learning or participating should contact Tabitha Ponder at [tabitha.ponder@georgiacourts.gov](mailto:tabitha.ponder@georgiacourts.gov). **The next A2J Committee meeting will be via Zoom on May 11, 2021.**

# TAB 10



## SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

NATHAN DEAL JUDICIAL CENTER  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

FROM THE CHAMBERS OF  
DAVID E. NAHMIAS  
CHIEF JUSTICE

(404) 656-3474

### Supreme Court Report

Since our last meeting, much has changed in the landscape of our day-to-day court operations with respect to COVID protocols. Most counties in Georgia are now at low transmission levels, allowing courts to remove some precautions. I know it is a relief that we are mostly able to offer the option of wearing masks, rather than requiring them, and while social distancing remains a consideration, the continued decline in positive cases and hospitalizations is encouraging. The easing of social distancing requirements is a key step toward resuming full court operations.

After two years of navigating alternatives for the Georgia Bar Exam, our Office of Bar Admissions was able to successfully conduct the February exam in person. After administering three remote bar exams and converting to a fitness process that is entirely digital, the office has leveraged technological advances to make the admissions process more transparent and applicant-focused. We commend the efforts of Director John Earls and his staff to improve the application process.

This month brought the 2022 Legislative Session to a close. We are grateful to the General Assembly for appropriating full restorations to our budget from the reductions during COVID, in addition to the cost of living increases to State employee salaries. As we continue to work to address the case backlogs in Georgia's courts, it is more important than ever that our courts have the necessary resources. We are particularly thankful for the partnership with the House Appropriations Public Safety Subcommittee, the Senate Appropriations Judicial Subcommittee, and the leadership of Chairman England and Chairman Tillery throughout the budget process.

The Judicial Council's Ad Hoc Committee on ARPA Funding, under the leadership of Presiding Justice Michael Boggs, continues to work diligently in reviewing grant applications and making awards. Through the first two funding cycles for 2022, the committee has allocated more than \$40 million to 41 of the 50 judicial circuits. I thank all of the circuits that have applied for their work in gathering the necessary information in order to get our trial courts the assistance they need to address the backlog of serious violent felonies and other cases.



We are looking forward to honoring the late Chief Justice P. Harris Hines with the unveiling of his portrait on May 19. The ceremony, which will take place in the Supreme Court Courtroom at 2 p.m., will be livestreamed on our website. The Hines family will join us, and it will be a special time to celebrate the long and dedicated service of our dearly missed colleague.

Our Court's website was recently updated with two new features. There is now a tab dedicated solely to Judicial Qualifications Commission matters, where publicly accessible documents regarding formal complaints are posted. Inquiries about JQC matters are the Court's most common document request, so this feature will promote transparency and be useful to the public. A new tool has also been added to facilitate scheduling group tours of the Supreme Court and the Nathan Deal Judicial Center.

As you probably know, I have submitted my resignation from the Supreme Court effective July 17. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve our State's citizens alongside each of you. As this is my last Judicial Council meeting, I want to thank you all for your dedication to our State's judiciary, as well as your friendship to me during my years on the Supreme Court and particularly my time as Chief Justice. Navigating these past two years has required much from us all, and I can think of no better group to shepherd the judiciary forward. You will have exceptional leadership in soon-to-be Chief Justice Boggs and Presiding Justice Nels Peterson. I congratulate Judge Andrew Pinson on his appointment to fill my seat; he will bring outstanding appellate-law experience and acumen to the Court.

I look forward to watching the important work of the Judicial Council, and I hope we will continue our friendships.

Respectfully submitted,



David E. Nahmias



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

CHAMBERS OF  
CHIEF JUDGE BRIAN M. RICKMAN

(404) 232-1591  
rickmanb@gaappeals.us

Report to Judicial Council of Georgia  
April 22, 2022 Meeting

As we have said before, change has been a constant at the Court of Appeals for the past decade, and 2022 has been no different. In February 2022, Governor Brian Kemp appointed Court of Appeals Judge Andrew Pinson to move to the Georgia Supreme Court upon Chief Justice Nahmias's departure in July. We enjoyed our short time with soon-to-be Justice Pinson and wish him the best in the next phase of his career on the bench.

Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit Superior Court Judge Benjamin Land will begin serving on the Court of Appeals next July, and we are looking forward to working with him. Judge Land lives in Columbus, spreading our judges' home towns from east to west. With Judge Ken Hodges and Senior Judge Herbert Phipps in Albany, Judge Elizabeth Gobeil in Savannah, Judge Trent Brown in Eatonton, Judge Trea Pipkin in McDonough, Presiding Judge Anne Elizabeth Barnes, Presiding Judge Sara Doyle, and Judge Todd Markle in Atlanta, Presiding Judge Christopher McFadden in Decatur, Presiding Judges Yvette Miller and Stephen Dillard in Macon, Vice Chief Judge Amanda Mercier in Blue Ridge and me in Tiger, Georgia, the State of Georgia is pretty well-represented by its intermediate appellate court judges.

The Court has continued holding in-person oral arguments with the option for counsel to appear via Zoom. The Court has also begun planning its next off-site oral arguments, which were put on hold by the pandemic. On September 28, 2022, Presiding Judge McFadden, Judge Gobeil, and Judge Land will hear arguments at the University of Georgia School of Law in Athens. Presiding Judge Barnes, Judge Brown, and Judge Hodges will hold court in Valdosta after that, with more off-site events to follow.

In the meantime, I encourage all of you to come visit us in the Nathan Deal Judicial Center.

Brian M. Rickman  
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 April 2022**

The Council of Superior Court Judges (CSCJ) thanks all superior court judges for adapting to manage their caseloads and maintain public access while protecting the public and court personnel.

CSCJ is currently working with staff of the Institute for Continuing Judicial Education to plan the summer conference and training seminar which is scheduled for the first week in August. Topics will include new drugs for non-drug court judges; legal writing; merger; receivers and special masters; case assistance exchanges on sex crime case issues, opening and closing, and voir dire; injunctions and restraining orders; presentations by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and the Judicial Qualifications Commission; senior judges; family violence issues; courthouse security; and case law and evidence updates.

Judge Arthur L. Smith, III, of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit will become CSCJ President on May 1, 2022. Judge John E. Morse, Jr., of the Eastern Judicial Circuit will become President-Elect, and Judge Ann Harris of the Cobb Judicial Circuit will become Secretary-Treasurer at that time. J. Wade Padgett of the Columbia Judicial Circuit will continue to serve as a member of the Executive Committee as Immediate Past President.

CSCJ is grateful to the General Assembly for much needed funding for senior judges and the Judicial Administrative Districts, the pay increase for all full-time state employees including Superior Court Judges, the additional raise for state paid law clerks to raise their salaries above \$50,000, and the three new judgeships in the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit, the Mountain Judicial Circuit, and the South Georgia Judicial Circuit. CSCJ thanks the judges of its Legislative Support Team chaired by Judge Bill Hamrick and Director of External Affairs Debra Nesbit for their work during the legislative session.

CSCJ congratulates Judge Benjamin Land of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit on his appointment to the Court of Appeals by Governor Kemp. The Council also congratulates Judge Mary Staley Clark and Judge Tain Kell of the Cobb Judicial Circuit on their retirement and thanks them for their service.

Governor Brian Kemp appointed Judge Benjamin Richardson to the bench of the Chattahoochee Circuit to fill the vacancy created by the elevation of Judge Land. He also appointed Judge John T. Martin to the bench of the Chattahoochee Circuit to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge William Rumer and Judge Deah Warren to the bench of the Douglas Judicial Circuit to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge David Emerson.



CSCJ is sad to report the recent deaths of Senior Judge William Ison of the Clayton Judicial Circuit and Senior Judge Robert Bryan Struble, Sr. of the Mountain Judicial Circuit.



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

*Executive Committee*

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

*Judge R. Violet Bennett*  
*President-Elect (Wayne)*

*Judge John K. Edwards, Jr.*  
*Secretary (Lowndes)*

*Judge Jeffrey B. Hanson*  
*Treasurer (Bibb)*

*Judge Wesley B. Taylor*  
*Immediate Past President (Fulton)*

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

*District 2*  
*Judge Shawn Rowland (Jeff Davis)*

*District 3*  
*Judge Ellen S. Golden (Lowndes)*

*District 4*  
*Judge Eddie Barker (Douglas)*

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

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

*District 7*  
*Judge Eric A. Richardson (Fulton)*

*District 8*  
*Judge Allison Barnes Salter (Cobb)*

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Atlanta, GA 30334  
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*Staff*

*Bob Bray*  
*Executive Director*

**Report of the Council of State Court Judges**  
**Judicial Council Meeting**  
**April 22, 2022**

The Council expresses its congratulations to Chief Justice David E. Nahmias on his upcoming retirement from the Supreme Court of Georgia and wishes him the best in his new endeavors.

The Council thanks the hard work of our Director and the Legislative Team at the Judicial Council's Administrative Office of the Courts for the successful passage of HB 620 that clarifies the process of settlements with minors and when a Conservator is required to be appointed; HB 1183 which removes confusion over the process of remission of a bail judgement to the surety upon the surrender or return of the principal; and HB 1570 that creates a seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) judge for the State Court of Gwinnett County. The Council also thanks the other classes of court, especially the Council of Probate Court Judges, for the collaborative efforts to effect meaningful statutory change that will produce long-lasting efficiencies across the entire justice system. SB 441 creates a Criminal Data Exchange Board and an Advisory Board which includes the President and Executive Director of the Council of State and Superior Court Judges.

The Council expresses its appreciation and gratitude to the Ad Hoc Committee on ARPA Grants for awarding funds to assist many State Courts to alleviate the backlog of cases created by the suspension of trials during the pandemic.

In February, the Education Committee hosted a Zoom presentation by Senior Judge David Darden, Senior Judge Greg Fowler, and Judge Emeritus Jeannette Little on what to expect upon retirement.

Governor Brian Kemp recently reappointed Judge Ellen Golden with the State Court of Lowndes County as a member to the Board of Trustees for the Georgia Judicial Retirement System.

President Al Wong has reappointed Judge Allison Salter with the State Court of Cobb County to the Board of Trustees for the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education.

Judge Wong also appointed Judge Eric A. Richardson of the Fulton County State Court to the Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Emergencies.

The Council wishes to congratulate two Judges that have recently retired as of April 1, 2022:  
*Judge Patricia Booker with the State Court of Richmond County; and*  
*Chief Judge David B. Brown with the State Court of Henry County.*

The Council recognizes Judge Eric Brewton who presides over the DUI Accountability Court in Cobb County. He was recently highlighted in an article in the Fulton County Daily Report for having the honor and privilege to swear in an attorney into the practice of law – who was once a participant in his DUI Court program.



*Judge Eric Brewton (left) and newly sworn-in attorney Jacob Pruett.*

The following State Court Judges have chosen not to run for re-election and will be retiring at the end of this year. These four distinguished jurists have a combined total of 80 years of judicial experience.

*Judge Alan W. Thrower (Baldwin) with 23 years of service to his community on the bench  
Judge Leslie Abernathy-Maddox (Forsyth) with 10 years of service to her community on the bench  
Chief Judge Pamela D. South (Gwinnett) with 22 years of service to her community on the bench  
Chief Judge David D. Watkins (Richmond) with 25 years of service to his community on the bench*

Governor Brian Kemp will soon be swearing in Peter Temesgen as a State Court Judge in Muscogee County to replace the vacancy that will occur on July 1, 2022, with the appointment of Judge Ben Richardson to the Superior Court of the Chattahoochee Circuit. Three other counties have vacancies to be filled: one by election and two by gubernatorial appointment. The State Court Judge in Effingham County will be determined by election, and the Governor will fill the vacancy in Henry County, and the second vacancy in Richmond County.

With much sadness the Council reports the recent passing of Senior Judge Jack M. McLaughlin who served on the State Court of DeKalb County. Judge McLaughlin served as Chair of the Education Committee for many, many years. In 2002 the Council presented him with the Ogden Doremus Award for his service to the community and to the court.

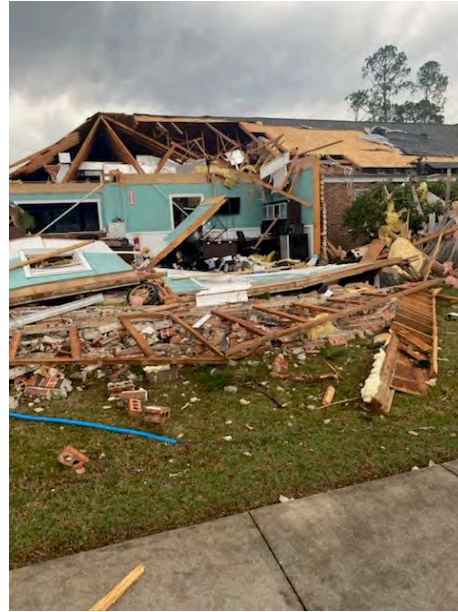


*Figure 1 Dr. Robert W. Livingston*

The Council has invited Harvard University Professor Robert W. Livingston, Ph. D. who is a Lecturer on Public Policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government Center for Public Leadership to present educational classes at the Fall Conference. Dr. Livingston will give two presentations on implicit bias. Dr. Livingston was the keynote speaker at the February National Judicial College Racial Justice Roundtable Webinar.

His recent book: *“The Conversation: How Seeking And Speaking The Truth About Racism Can Radically Transform Individuals And Corporations”* will be used in these two classes.

The Council extends its distress and sadness to Bryan County State Court Judge Billy Tomlinson and to all of the Judges and staff at the Bryan County Courthouse on the extensive damage to the courthouse and the courthouse annex when a tornado struck the buildings on April 5, 2022. Fortunately, the people in the courthouse were able to shelter safely in the courthouse vault as the tornado hit the building, and no one was hurt.



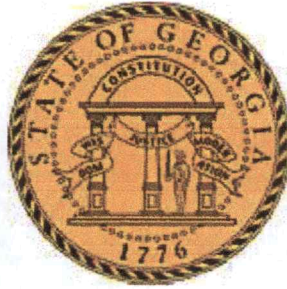
Finally, this year’s Spring Judicial Training Conference will be held May 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> at the Legacy Lodge and Conference Center on Lake Lanier. The Conference will be available to judges as both a live, in-person event and as a recorded view-on-demand event. The Dinner Banquet Speech by the Incoming President of the State Bar of Georgia Sarah B. “Sally” Aikens. All committee meetings will be held prior to the Conference utilizing Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

*Alvin T. Wong*

Judge Alvin T. Wong, President





**REPORT**  
**COUNCIL OF JUVENILE COURT JUDGES**  
**to**  
**SUPREME COURT/AOC JUDICIAL COUNCIL**  
**APRIL 22, 2022**

Since the last full Judicial Council meeting, the Council of Juvenile Court Judges has successfully, through its Education/Certification Committee, established an agenda and protocols for the upcoming bi-annual conference and training seminar in St. Simons, Georgia. The protocol for attendance will be a Hybrid Conference with both “in-person” and “simulcast” presentations and trainings. The Executive Committee of CJCJ has engaged with new Institute of Continuing Juvenile Education Executive Director, Lynn Moore Nelson, and Susan Mason of ICJE as to facilitating a supplemental election requirement for all attending Judges.

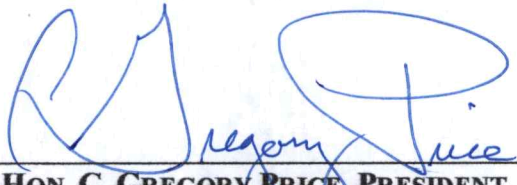
As previously reported, CJCJ retained a legislative liaison to present the position or concerns of CJCJ to legislators concerning proposed legislation affecting the Juvenile Courts. Rusty Sewell of Capitol Partners addressed several issues of concern to the Council with various and appropriate legislators. It has been reported that HB 272 by Senate Substitute was given a “do pass” for the Senate judiciary Committee but did not make it to the floor before close of the legislative session.

According to the Senate substitute, no definitive determination would have been made as to an immediate implementation. However, if the Bill had passed it would have required the establishment of an Implementation “Study” committee to make investigation and report as to methodologies, expense, infrastructure and other fiscal and physical needs to facilitate such process of raising the age of Delinquent responsibility to age seventeen (17).

On a different issue, Honorable Lindsay Burton of Hall County has been elected to move to the Superior Court beginning January 1, 2023. Our Juvenile Court Judges are proud of her service to our council and wish her well in her new judicial direction.

Juvenile Courts are concerned over recent Department of Juvenile Justice's recent memorandum that it will no longer provide "virtual appearances" from the State's YDC's and RYDC's. President Greg Price of CJCJ is arranging a meeting with DJJ Commissioner Oliver, Cindy Wang, Eric John, CJCJ Executive Director as well as CJCJ President-Elect, Render Heard to discuss possible compromises to this issue.

As to virtual hearings in Juvenile Courts, it still appears that a significant number of the Juvenile Courts throughout the state are still utilizing virtual Court hearings (Zoom™, Google Meet™, Go To Meeting™, and Microsoft Teams™) to facilitate both Dependency and Delinquent trials. Most Courts are insuring Constitutionally required public access to hearings via YouTube Live streaming services or similar publicly accessible services.



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**HON. C. GREGORY PRICE, PRESIDENT  
COUNCIL OF JUVENILE COURT JUDGES,  
STATE OF GEORGIA**



# Council of Probate Court Judges of Georgia

**Judge Thomas Lakes**  
*President (Harris)*

**Judge B. Shawn Rhodes**  
*President Elect (Wilcox)*

**Judge Danielle McRae**  
*Vice President (Upson)*

**Judge Darin McCoy**  
*Secretary-Treasurer (Evans)*

**Judge Kelli Wolk**  
*Immediate Past President (Cobb)*

**Kevin D. Holder**  
*Executive Director*

## Report to Judicial Council of Georgia April 22, 2022

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

### 2022 Spring Conference

Our annual Spring Conference was held April 11-14, 2022 at the Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier in Buford. We are thankful to the staff of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education for yet again ensuring that we had another successful conference.

### 2022-2023 Council Officers

During our conference, we formally nominated and elected our 2022-2023 slate of officers. Our new slate of elected officers are as follows: Judge B. Shawn Rhodes, President (Wilcox); Judge Danielle McRae, President-elect (Upson); Judge Christopher Ballar, Vice President (Gwinnett); and Judge Darin McCoy, Secretary-Treasurer (Evans).

### 2022 Council Award Honorees

This year, during our annual Spring Conference awards luncheon, the following individuals were honored: Rising Star Award – Judge Scott Chastain (Gilmer); District Director of the Year – Judge Bruce Wright (Walton); Committee of the Year: Court Forms and Rules Committee, chaired by Judge Christopher Ballar (Gwinnett); Meritorious Service Award – Judge LaVerne Ogletree (Greene) and Judge Kelley Powell (Henry); Instructor of the Year – Judge Keith Wood (Cherokee); Executive Committee Member of the Year – Judge Christopher Ballar (Gwinnett); and Outstanding Probate Judge of the Year – Judge Patty Walters Laine (Hall).

### Judge Mike Greene

At the end of March, Judge Mike Greene retired after having served for four decades as the probate judge and chief magistrate of Jones County. In fact, at the time of his election in 1981, he was the youngest judge in the state of Georgia, as he was 25 years old at the time. During his many years in office, he has been a constant presence and leader of our Council, including his service as Council president and serving as the longtime chair of our Audit and Budget Committee. We will miss his wise counsel and kindness, but we wish him all the best in his retirement.

### Thank You!

For the past two years, I have had the distinct privilege serving as a member of the Judicial Council. Within those two years I have had the honor to serve with judges from each of the respective classes of court and I count myself as better for having had this rewarding experience. Finally, I would like to specifically thank Chief Justice David Nahmias for his devotion to public service and his able leadership. I wish Chief Justice Nahmias all the best in the next chapter of his professional life.

Respectfully submitted,

Judge Thomas Lakes  
President, Council of Probate Court Judges of Georgia





# Council of Magistrate Court Judges

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Georgiamagistratecouncil.com

Executive Director  
Sharon Reiss

President  
Judge Quinn Kasper  
Cobb County

President-Elect  
Judge Becky Pitts  
Butts County

Vice-President  
Judge Brandon Bryson  
Bartow County

Secretary  
Judge Berryl A. Anderson  
DeKalb County

Treasurer  
Judge Jennifer Lewis  
Camden County

Immediate Past President  
Judge Michael Barker  
Chatham County

District One  
Judge Nathan Grantham  
Judge Scott Lewis

District Two  
Judge David Crosby  
Judge Heather Culpepper

District Three  
Judge Angela Sammons  
Judge Jennifer Webb

District Four  
Judge Phinia Aten  
Judge Matt McCoy

District Five  
Judge Linda Borsky  
Judge Cassandra Kirk

District Six  
Judge Amanda Flora  
Judge Megan Kinsey

District Seven  
Judge Chris Griffin  
Judge Jennifer Inmon

District Eight  
Judge Colby Crabb  
Judge Shawn Rhodes

District Nine  
Judge Bill Brogdon  
Judge Tony Tarnacki

District Ten  
Judge Mike Burke  
Judge Caroline Evans

Members-at-Large  
Judge Jim Altman  
Judge Todd Ashley

## Report of the Council of Magistrate Court Judges April 22, 2022

The Council of Magistrate Court Judges (CMCJ) has had two in person training classes since the last Judicial Council meeting. Our New Judge Criminal Basic class met during the last week of February and our Chief Training was at the end of March. Both classes were successful and we received positive feedback. Our members and speakers were extremely excited to get back to in person learning and it was wonderful to see everyone in person and be off of Zoom. Our officers taught classes at both trainings and enjoyed meeting many of our new judges. In particular, our Chief Training included many newly elected chiefs who were excited to get some administrative training specific to their role that is not usually covered in our Recertification Training.

The CMCJ was successful in receiving full restoration of funding during the current session. Our leadership worked hard to ensure we provided all necessary information so that all questions could be answered. We are grateful for the support of the Judicial Council in accomplishing this goal so we can continue to serve our judges well.

Our Spring Recertification will be in person at the end of April. This year we have been recording all training sessions and making those video replays available for judges to watch and receive credit. This option has been well utilized by many judges and is proving to be a popular alternative. Taping the trainings also allows our judges to be able to watch trainings that they did not attend in addition to their required training hours. These taped classes will allow our judges to obtain additional training in specific areas of interest throughout the year on their own time. Our courts are still extremely busy and by allowing a video replay option, we were able to be more flexible and reduce the number of judges who did not complete the required training from the previous year.

As we hopefully move forward into a post pandemic world, with a plethora of new issues to discuss, we are reassessing what our new normal should be and have planned a meeting in June to update our strategic plan accordingly. While we still continue to handle the aftermath of some pandemic induced changes and issues, we look forward to adopting new ways of doing business to ensure that we are able to move more quickly and successfully adapt to a changing world.

Respectfully submitted,

Judge Quinn M. Kasper  
President, Council of Magistrate Court Judges





## COUNCIL OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

April 13, 2022

### **Judge Lori B. Duff, President**

City of Monroe  
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Loganville, GA 30052  
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[duff@jonesandduff.com](mailto:duff@jonesandduff.com)

### **Judge JaDawnya Baker, President-Elect**

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### **Chief Judge Matthew McCord,**

**Vice President**  
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### **Judge Robert Cowan, Secretary**

City of Dalton  
[robcowan@cowanlawoffice.com](mailto:robcowan@cowanlawoffice.com)

### **Judge David Will, Treasurer**

City of Clarkston  
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### **Chief Judge Willie Weaver Sr.**

**Immediate Past President**  
Cities of Albany, Sylvester  
[wwaverlaw@aol.com](mailto:wwaverlaw@aol.com)

### **District One**

Judge Joe Huffman  
Judge Richard Sanders

### **District Two**

Chief Judge Willie Weaver Sr.  
Judge Gregory T. Williams

### **District Three**

Judge Chimere Trimble  
Judge Bill NeSmith

### **District Four**

Judge Michael Nation  
Judge Jennifer Mann

### **District Five**

Judge Gary E. Jackson  
Judge Roberta Cooper

### **District Six**

Judge James Dalton II  
Judge Wanda Dallas

### **District Seven**

Judge Robert Cowan  
Vacant

### **District Eight**

Judge Joseph Sumner  
Judge Dexter Wimbish

### **District Nine**

Judge Pamela Boles  
Judge William Brogdon

### **District Ten**

Judge Dale "Bubba" Samuels  
Judge Ryan S. Hope

## Report to the Judicial Council of Georgia – April 22, 2022

The following is an overview of recent events, programs, and activities of the Council of Municipal Court Judges (CMuCJ):

### Thank You

This is my final meeting of the Judicial Council as my presidency concludes at the end of June. I am grateful for being allowed to participate and serve on this Council. I believe in the mission of the Council—to improve the Courts and the judicial system as a whole, and to ensure that our own policies and procedures reflect the highest ethical standards and work to address the needs of Georgia's citizens. I also want to thank our President-Elect, Judge JaDawnya Baker, for her help and support on various committees and activities. I have no doubt that she will help take our Council to the next level and make her mark on the judicial community. Additionally, I would be remiss in failing to acknowledge LaShawn Murphy, our Trial Court Liaison. Her title does not do her justice: she is our right hand, our taskmaster, and our conscience, and she is the most organized and hard-working person I have ever encountered. We are fortunate to have her on our side.

### Council Meeting Endeavors

The Council's full Executive Committee is scheduled to meet April 14, 2021, via Zoom. The summer quarterly meeting will be held June 14 at The Jekyll Island Club, Jekyll Island, Georgia. The Council will also hold its annual Summer Business Meeting on June 16, where the membership will elect new officers, district representatives and Training Council members.

Over the past year, we have worked very hard to keep up with ever-changing COVID-19 guidelines and provide best-practice policies to our member judges. Judge Norman Cuadra has worked tirelessly with the Judicial Council's COVID-19 Task Force and has helped to coordinate our Council's efforts with the Judicial Council's. I would like to publicly acknowledge his selfless service to this committee and the others on which he serves.

Lately, our focus has been primarily on legislation, which I will address specifically in the following section. We have been unusually successful in that the three bills in which we participated were all passed, for the most part, unanimously.

### Legislation

The 2022 session of the General Assembly proved to be very active, with the Council playing offense and defense against proposed legislation affecting municipal courts.

For the 2022 session of the General Assembly, the CMuCJ shepherded a "clean up" bill amending OCGA 36-32-2.1 (e) to provide for procedural rules to comport with due process in proceedings to remove appointed municipal court judges. The bill also amends the referenced code section to eliminate the exception for consolidated

## COUNCIL OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

governments. The Council pursued this measure to ensure that removal proceedings are conducted fairly, statewide. Filed as [HB 1275](#), which was sponsored by Representative Bonnie Rich, (House District 97) passed on Day 40 (Sine Die) of the session; her advocacy cannot be overstated. The legislation becomes effective July 1, 2022.

The Council celebrates, along with the Judicial Council, on the passage to HB 916, the [Superior-and-State-Court-Appellate-Practice-Act](#), which was a labor of love of the Certiorari Review Subcommittee. This modernization of the statutes streamlines and economizes the appellate practice from a lower judicatory to superior or state court in Georgia. We thank Judge Gary Jackson, Municipal Court of Atlanta, for his steadfast efforts in getting this initiative passed.

In final, the Council also extends a gratitude of thanks to the Council of Probate Court Judges for their collaboration in ensuring that the language of SB 353, which achieved final passage as part of SB 10, met the needs of each council's best interests and did not create any unfunded mandates or additional burdens on the courts. After its introduction, we became involved with SB 353. The bill provides discretion to judges relating to driver's license suspensions for failure to appear and helping to get Georgians back to work. This was an initiative of the Georgia Justice Project. I would like to specifically thank Wade Askew with GJP and George Ray with Nelson Mullins for working with us to improve this bill.

### **Municipal Court Judges Benchbook**

The E-Book of the Municipal Judges Benchbook will be updated with any new legislation passed in the 2022 Legislative session. Three separate trainings are scheduled for the current year, for seasoned and new judges, provided by MyCLE staff and Judge Parag Shah (former) at the Law & Practice Updates, titled Benchbook Tour: Nuts & Bolts and an Introduction to the Benchbook.

### **Continuing Judicial Education**

Beginning with our summer conference in June 2021, we have so far been able to have in-person conferences and educational programs with a virtual option available for those who did not feel comfortable attending or were unable to attend in person. Our Training Council, under the leadership of its chair Judge Matthew McCord, has taken steps to keep our continuing judicial education fresh and targeted towards issues that our judges face on a regular basis. I was proud to see that "this is the way we've always done it" has no place with this current Training Council and we have been offering creative and thought-provoking programs like bringing in national speakers and allowing our judges to participate in a poverty simulator to help them have empathy with much of our clientele.

The Council's Summer Law and Practice Update Seminar is scheduled for June 15- 17, 2022, in Jekyll Island, Georgia. Conducted through the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education (ICJE), the three-day program will provide accreditation for those serving as of January 1, 2022 (New Judges), in addition to recertifying judges. The curriculum will include sessions such as Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) Roundtable; Update on DUI Law; Legislative-Case Law-Evidence Updates; JQC Update; Profit & Punishment: "How America Criminalizes the Poor in the Name of Justice"; Poverty Simulator; Utilizing Technology in Unprecedented Times; Municipal Courts by Hon. Frank Caprio; and Probation: Sentencing Alternatives & Revocation. Additional subject matter tracks will be provided to new judges as well.

### **Conclusion**

As Municipal Court Judges, we are often referred to as a "lower court", and, indeed, we are often considered the lowest of the lower courts. Despite this, we have a bright and talented field of judges across the state who are mindful of and proud of the fact that we are the face of the judiciary for most Georgians. The majority of folks in this state will never see the inside of an appellate courtroom, or even a State or Superior Court courtroom. However, receiving a traffic ticket is a common experience. What we do will affect people's opinions and trust in the judiciary as a whole. I am extremely proud (the

## COUNCIL OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

untranslatable Yiddish word is ‘kvell’) of our judges for making sure that the judiciary not only *is* but looks fair and trustworthy. Although I have thanked a number of particular municipal court judges in this report, my thanks really go out to all of them for being the stewards of justice that they are. I am humbled that for the past year I have been able to be the President of this august body and am eternally grateful for the chance to serve in this capacity.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Council of Municipal Court Judges Executive Committee is scheduled to take place June 14, 2022, in conjunction with the Summer Law & Practice Update.

Respectfully submitted,

*Judge Lori B. Duff*

Judge Lori B. Duff

President, Council of Municipal Court Judges

# TAB 11



# Council of Accountability Court Judges

**Chief Judge D. Scott Smith**  
*Executive Committee Chair*  
*Cherokee Judicial Circuit*

**Taylor Jones**  
*Executive Director*

## **Council of Accountability Court Judges Report to Judicial Council April 2022**

In the time since the Council of Accountability Court Judges (CACJ) last reported to the Judicial Council, several of CACJ's standing committees have been busy supporting accountability courts. A snapshot of some of CACJ's activity is detailed below.

### **Training Committee**

- During the months of February and March 2022, CACJ's Training Committee hosted the following trainings:
  - An adult felony drug court operational tune-up training was provided by the National Drug Court Institute (NDCI). The following teams were in attendance: Carroll County, Cobb County, Gwinnett County, and Rockdale County.
  - NDCI also provided an operational tune-up training for family treatment courts. The following teams attended: Bartow County, Cobb County, Rockdale County, Tallapoosa Circuit, and Troup County.
  - Justice for Vets provided an operational tune-up for veterans' treatment courts. The following teams attended: Appalachian Circuit, DeKalb County, Fulton County, and Richmond County.
  - CACJ hosted the following training opportunities: the 2022 Winter Forum for judges and court coordinators, Cognitive Behavioral Health-Substance Use Adult for treatment providers, and a Seeking Safety training for treatment providers. Additionally, CACJ is looking forward to hosting attorney specific webinars in May for prosecutors and defense attorneys.

### **Funding Committee**

- CACJ's Funding Committee met on February 25, 2022 to review accountability court FY22 emergency grant solicitations. Emergency grant funds are for courts that have experienced an unexpected increase in program census and need funds to support drug testing, treatment, contracted case management, and community policing. Thirty applications were received for this funding from the courts totaling \$520,612. The committee was able to approve \$217,347 for 26 courts that applied for funding.
- The Funding Committee is scheduled to meet again on April 26-27, 2022 to review applications for FY23 accountability court funding for existing accountability courts and from 15 jurisdictions that wish to implement an accountability court on or about July 1, 2022. CACJ will also be reviewing the annual Notice of Intent (NOI) to apply for funds process. Modifications to the NOI process are anticipated to begin in FY24.

## **Standards and Certification Committee**

- CACJ's Standards and Certification Committee met in February to review certification applications from 98 accountability courts including adult felony drug courts, adult mental health courts, veterans' treatment courts, and family treatment courts. All reviewed courts were certified, and technical assistance is being provided, as needed. The remaining courts will certify during the certification season that begins in November of this year.



# GEORGIA COMMISSION ON DISPUTE RESOLUTION

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The following is an update on the initiatives and activities for the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution (GCDR):

## **Chair**

Judge M. Cindy Morris

## **Executive Director**

Tracy B. Johnson

## **Deputy Director**

Karlie A. Sahs

## **Commission Members**

Justice John J. Ellington

Judge Amanda H. Mercier

Emily S. Bair, Esq.

Judge Jane C. Barwick

N. Staten Bitting Jr., Esq.

Hon. Rebecca Crumrine Rieder

Judge Clarence Cuthbert, Jr.

Mary Donovan, Esq.

Judge C. Andrew Fuller

Herbert H. (Hal) Gray III, Esq.

Melissa C. Heard, M.S.S.W.

Nicole Woolfork Hull, Esq.

Rep. Rob Leverett, Esq.

Judge Carrie B. Markham

Patrick T. O'Connor, Esq.

Edith B. Primm, Esq.

Judge Renata D. Turner

Randall Weiland

Peggy McCoy Wilson

## **Committee Appointments**

Ms. Peggy McCoy Wilson was appointed Chair of the Domestic Violence Rules Committee. Other committee appointments include: Judge Renata D. Turner and Judge Clarence Cuthbert Jr. to the Budget and Personnel Committee; Judge Carrie B. Markham and Hon. Rebecca Crumrine Rieder to the Ethics Committee; and Hon. Rebecca Crumrine Rieder to the Training and Credential Committee.

## **Training for Mediators**

The GCDR is sponsoring four (4) continuing education events for registered neutrals in 2022. The three-hour course entitled "Safety Precautions and Screening for General Civil Cases" is designed to serve as a refresher course on screening, best practices, safety processes, and procedures while addressing advancements in technology and research. Leading the training is Mr. Lee Robbins with The Mediation Center of the Coastal Empire, Inc. The first event was held on Friday, March 18, and 132 mediators attended.

The Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution (GODR) is once again teaming up with the Commission on Child Support to provide targeted training on the calculator to mediators. There are four (4) trainings scheduled, two (2) focused on calculator functionality and two (2) lunch-n-learn sessions. For the lunch-n-learn sessions, mediators are asked to submit questions and difficult scenarios in advance, to be addressed by Child Support Commission staff. The first training is scheduled for April 13, 2022. We would like to express our appreciation to Ms. Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez, Ms. Elaine Johnson, and Ms. Latoinna Lawrence for co-coordinating and leading these events.

## **2022 Program Directors' Conference**

Court ADR Program Directors, GCDR Members, and GODR staff will gather in Savannah April 25-27 for the annual Program Directors' Conference. The agenda this year includes sessions on Probate Court Mediation Working Group recommendations, Caseload Data Collection Plan, and Cyber/Zoom Security. Also scheduled are several roundtable discussions to address any program needs.

## **Data Collection Plan**

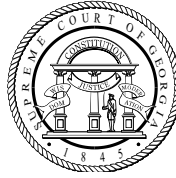
To improve both quantitative and qualitative data, the GCDR is working with the JC/AOC Office of Research and Data Analysis (ORDA) on a three-year data collection plan, with programs becoming fully compliant with all data standards established by the 2024 collection. The ORDA and the GODR are working with program directors to establish data standards and solidify a data collection plan, to be presented to the GCDR in May.

## **Upcoming Commission Meeting Date**

The next Commission meeting date is May 4, at 2:00 p.m. Meeting information as well as minutes from past meetings are posted on the GODR website at [www.godr.org](http://www.godr.org).

# CHIEF JUSTICE'S COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

Hon. David E. Nahmias, 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: April 22, 2022

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The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism (Commission), 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 David E. Nahmias** serves as the current Chair of the Commission. Other judges who serve on the Commission are as follows: **Judge Clyde L. Reese III** for the Court of Appeals of Georgia; **Judge Shondeana Crews Morris** (Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit) for the Council of Superior Court Judges; and **Chief Judge T. Russell McClelland III** (State Court of Forsyth County) for the Council of State Court Judges. **Judge William McCrary Ray II** serves on the Commission for the federal judiciary. **Justice Shawn Ellen LaGrua** is the Supreme Court of Georgia advisor to the Commission. **Judge Andrew Pinson** also serves as an Advisor to the Commission. You may find a complete list of Commission members, advisors, and liaisons at the Commission's web site at <http://cjcpga.org/commission-members-2021-2022/>. A brief update of some of the Commission's activities is as follows.

### 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL JUSTICE ROBERT BENHAM AWARDS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service (CSA22) **was held on Saturday, March 19, 2022, at the Loudermilk Conference Center**. The CSA22 Co-Chairs were Commission members **Christopher J. Chan**, Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP, and **LaToya S. Williams**, Esq., LL.M., Warner Robins, Georgia. Commission member, **Adwoa Ghartey-Tagoe Seymour**, Vice President Litigation, Albertsons Companies, served as an advisor for CSA22. The honorees were as follows.

#### District Award Recipients

**Mr. Michael D. St. Amand**, *Atlanta*  
**Ms. Lindsay Beth Gardner**, *Marietta*  
**Mr. Paul E. Weathington**, *Atlanta*

#### Lifetime Award Recipients

**Mr. Richard Gerakitis**, *Atlanta*  
**Mr. S. Wade Malone**, *Atlanta*

Additional information about each of the honorees and their community service contributions may be found in the CSA22 Program Book, which is available on the Commission's web site at <http://cjcpga.org/benhamcsa22/>.



In addition, the Commission thanks all twenty-four CSA22 sponsors who were as follows.

**Platinum**

Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP

**Gold**

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP  
King & Spalding LLP

**Silver**

Drew Eckl & Farnham LLP  
Georgia Trial Lawyers Association  
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP  
Miller & Martin  
Smith, Gambrell & Russell  
Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP

**Bronze**

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP  
Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP  
Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association  
Georgia Defense Lawyers Association  
Krevolin & Horst, LLC  
Weathington, LLC  
Jenn Weizenecker  
LaToya S. Williams

**Supporter**

Ann Baird Bishop  
Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys  
Georgia Hispanic Bar Association  
Gray, Rust, St. Amand, Moffett & Brieske, LLP  
Karlise Yvette Grier  
Adwoa Ghartey-Tagoe Seymour

### **FINAL REPORT FOR THE FEBRUARY 22, 2022: PERSPECTIVES ON PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS CLE**

The Commission held its first **FREE** online CLE for 2022 entitled “*Perspectives on Professionalism and Ethics*” on February 22, 2022, from 2:55 pm – 5:00 p.m. The Program presenters were **Hon. Eric Richardson**, Judge State Court of Fulton County; **T. Matthew Mashburn**, Partner, Aldridge Pite, LLP; **Angela Hsu**, Counsel, Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner; and **Jenny K. Mittelman**, Deputy General Counsel, State Bar of Georgia. The Commission hosted the CLE on the Zoom Webinar platform. According to the Zoom report generated for the CLE, the CLE was attended by 846 “Unique Viewers.” The Commission has reported attendance for 826 attorneys to the State Bar of Georgia’s Commission on Continuing Legal Education Department. Local and voluntary bar associations are encouraged to use the materials from the CLE to continue a discussion of the issues raised by the hypotheticals in their local judicial circuits. To view the complete materials for the CLE, please visit: <http://cjcpga.org/022222-cjcp-cle/>.

### **FINAL REPORT ON THE MARCH 24, 2022, CLE REGARDING THE SIGNIFICANT LAWYER: The Pursuit of Purpose and Professionalism**

The Commission held its second **FREE** online CLE for 2022 entitled “*The Significant Lawyer: The Pursuit of Purpose and Professionalism*” on March 24, 2022, from 12:15 pm – 1:30 p.m. The special guest presenter was Judge William S. Duffey, Jr. (Retired). In 2018, Judge Duffey retired from the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia after serving for 14 years as a federal judge. Prior to becoming a federal judge, he served as the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia and worked as a partner at a large Atlanta law firm. During the CLE, Judge Duffey shared some of the insights he learned during his 45-year career. The Commission hosted the CLE on the Zoom Webinar platform. According to the Zoom report generated for the CLE, the CLE was attended by 1,081 “Unique Viewers.” The Commission has reported attendance for 1,075 attorneys to the State Bar of Georgia’s Commission on Continuing Legal Education Department. To view the complete materials for the CLE, please visit: <http://cjcpga.org/032422-cjcp-cle/>.

### **PROFESSIONALISM PAGE ARTICLES**

The Commission communicates with judges and lawyers through the Professionalism Page that appears in each issue of the Georgia Bar Journal, which is published six times per year. The February 2022 Georgia Bar Journal Professionalism Page, entitled *Designated Attorney Fellowship and CLE*, discussed the Commission’s December 17, 2021, CLE. The article is attached hereto as “Exhibit A.”

### **LAW SCHOOL ORIENTATIONS ON PROFESSIONALISM**

The Commission staffs the State Bar of Georgia Committee on Professionalism (Committee), currently chaired by Mr. Joshua I. Bosin. In that role, the Commission funds and supports the Committee’s work on the Law School Orientations on Professionalism. The orientations are designed to provide incoming 1Ls with their first introduction to professionalism. Georgia judges and lawyers are invited to serve as “Group Leaders” during the orientations to help students learn the meaning of professionalism and why it is important for them as law students. The sub-committee that is planning the 2022 law school orientation programs is chaired by Mr. Michael

Herskowitz, U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Georgia. The Commission and the Committee will begin recruiting volunteers to serve as Group Leaders in May 2022. Please look for additional information about the Law School Orientations on Professionalism in the State Bar of Georgia's E-News or on the Commission's website at <http://cjcpga.org/law-school-orientations-on-professionalism-2022/>. We would love to have our judges as Group Leader volunteers. Please email me at [kygrier@cjcpga.org](mailto:kygrier@cjcpga.org) if you are interested in serving.

#### **COMMISSION ASSISTANCE WITH BAR ASSOCIATION AND SECTION PROFESSIONALISM CLE PROGRAMS**

The Commission's Executive Director is available to assist State Bar of Georgia sections, local and voluntary Bar associations, and other law-related organizations with their professionalism CLE programming. Please contact the Commission's Executive Director if you would like assistance in planning a professionalism CLE program or if you would like to have the Commission's Executive Director to make a professionalism presentation to your organization. Please contact the Commission's Executive Director, Karlise Y. Grier, via e-mail at [kygrier@cjcpga.org](mailto:kygrier@cjcpga.org) for information or assistance.

#### **COMMISSION WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

We invite you to visit the Commission website, [www.cjcpga.org](http://www.cjcpga.org). The Commission also enjoys communicating with judges and lawyers about #professionalism on the Commission's social media platforms. Connect with us!

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

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

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



# Designated Attorney Fellowship and CLE

The Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism hosted a Designated Attorney Fellowship and CLE on Dec. 17, 2021.

BY KARLISE Y. GRIER



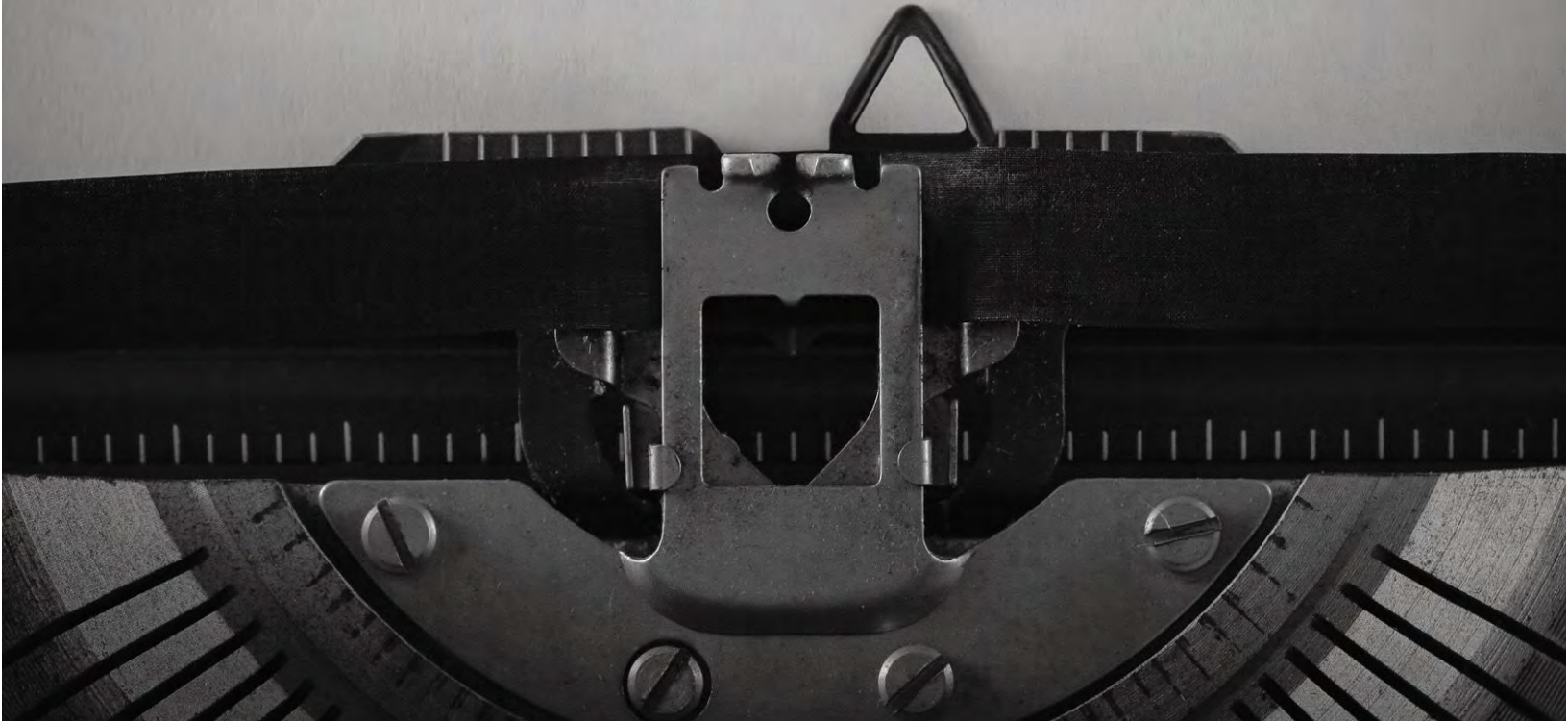
SCREENSHOT COURTESY OF KARLISE Y. GRIER

Chief Justice David E. Nahmias shared that he hoped planning for a volunteer designated attorney becomes a normal routine of law practice management.

**"The Lawyer's Creed<sup>1</sup> encourages us** to prioritize fidelity to our clients and to preserve the dignity and integrity of our profession. An important way to adhere to these ideals is to engage in succession planning for your practice," said State Bar of Georgia Committee on Professionalism Vice Chair and CLE program Co-Chair Terrica Ganzy, who opened the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism's Designated Attorney Fellowship and CLE on Dec. 17, 2021. The Commission hosted the Designated Attorney Fellowship and CLE, in part, to assist the State Bar of Georgia in educating attorneys about the voluntary Designated Attorney Program and to alert attorneys, regardless of their age or practice setting, that selecting or becoming a volunteer designated attorney is an affirmative way to enhance professionalism and a sense of community among lawyers.<sup>2</sup> Ganzy, who serves as the executive director of the Southern Center for Human Rights, also told the CLE audience she looked at the topic of designated attorneys and succession planning in a whole new light because in May 2021, the Southern Center lost a dear friend and colleague, Marissa McCall Dodson, who died unexpectedly at the age of 37. Ganzy continued, "We often live each day like we'll



# Are you ready?



GETTYIMAGES.COM/MICHAIL\_PETROV-96

have many more tomorrows, like sudden illness couldn't strike us or people in our care, like natural disasters happen to other people, as if each day is going to be sunshine and blue skies. But failing to think about and prepare for rainy days does not prevent them from occurring. And rainy days happen to organizations, too."

Jim Hogan, another presenter at the CLE, spoke about his experiences after years of volunteering with the Cobb County Bar Association to assist the staff and families of deceased attorneys in winding up their practices. One thing Hogan noted about solo practitioners in particular was that through the years of helping in this process, he learned that most of the spouses of a deceased lawyer had little or no knowledge of the inner workings of the law practice. Hogan concluded, "If we care about our spouses and families and the difficulties they may face in the absence of a smooth transition of our law practice, then we need to make a succession plan a priority." Takisha Heyward confirmed Hogan's anecdotal observations from her own personal experience. Heyward lost her husband, attorney Sparticus Heyward then age 45, in February 2021, in a car accident. Ms. Heyward said she and her husband did not discuss the operation of his law practice

and she had very little information about it at the time of his death. In addition, she said that while she and her husband had discussed preparing a will, they thought they had more time to do so. In the midst of grieving for her husband, Heyward shared she received calls from her late husband's clients about their cases. One client's case was scheduled for a murder trial the week after her husband's death. She said having attorney Jim Hogan to assist her in transitioning her husband's cases to other attorneys was a tremendous help. She encouraged attorneys to learn from her experience and to discuss the basics of their law practices with their spouses, partners or other family members, and to have plans in place if the unexpected happened.

Hon. LaTisha Dear Jackson and Hon. Martin Valbuena spoke about their experiences helping to wind up practices for attorneys who had unexpectedly left the practice of law. Prior to becoming a judge in the DeKalb County Superior Court, Dear Jackson said she shared space with another attorney who unexpectedly entered a coma and then later died. Since she shared space with the attorney, Dear Jackson assisted in managing the attorney's affairs when his unexpected absence occurred. She emphasized that attorneys

who ensure their volunteer designated attorney can easily determine their cases' status—and especially upcoming court dates, depositions and mediations—not only perform a professionalism service for their clients, but also for opposing counsel and the courts. Valbuena, a member of the State Bar of Georgia's Executive Committee, concurred and shared an experience in which he was able to easily transition cases in one instance compared with difficulties in another instance when information was not as readily available.

Bill Gentry, another member of the State Bar of Georgia's Executive Committee and the chair of the Senior Lawyers Committee, who also served as a co-chair of the CLE Program, explained to the audience the numerous resources that are available to Bar members on the Bar's Sudden Health Crisis Succession Plan (SHCSP) webpage.<sup>3</sup> The SHCSP portal is divided into two primary sections, he said. The first section is designed with resources to help lawyers plan in advance for a possible sudden exit from the practice of law. The other section of the portal is designed to help guide a lawyer's staff and family through the process of closing down and transitioning the lawyer's practice in the event that the lawyer had

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The Commission encourages all lawyers—regardless of their age or practice setting—to establish a meaningful relationship with a volunteer designated attorney and to create and regularly update a sudden health crisis succession plan.

failed to create a sudden health crisis exit plan from the practice of law. Gentry also encouraged attorneys to consider how the one or two people with the most knowledge of the workings of the firm and the clients' cases, would be compensated for a reasonable period of time crisis to help in transitioning the clients' cases, and perhaps to preserve any value of the practice for the absent attorney's family, after an attorney's death or sudden health crisis.

Nkoyo Effiong, director of the Bar's Law Practice Management Program, also told the audience how her office could assist Bar members in planning for unexpected absences from the practice of law. She shared that technology such as password management software could greatly assist a volunteer designated attorney if the unexpected happened. She also explained that her office could assist attorneys in finding the correct software to meet their needs for both day-to-day law practice management and if a volunteer designated attorney needed to assist in transitioning an absent attorney's cases. Paula Frederick, the general counsel for the State Bar of Georgia and a member of the CLE planning team, reviewed some of the ethical rules that govern receiverships. She said that not all volunteer designated attorneys needed to be appointed as receivers, but she discussed the process if a receivership was needed and when a volunteer designated attorney might want to consider a receivership. Frederick also talked about the impact on clients when a volunteer designated attorney could not be located and the State Bar of Georgia became the receiver.

To close the CLE program, Chief Justice David E. Nahmias shared his thoughts. He said that the Commission hoped that planning for a volunteer designated attorney becomes as much a part of the normal routine of law practice management as using written retainer agreements and establishing sound fiscal practices for managing trust accounts. Lawyers are an integral part in ensuring the efficient and effective administration of justice, he continued. If an attorney leaves the practice of law with little to no advance warning, whether due to death, disability or otherwise, making plans in advance for how to transition client files and property not only fulfills a private duty to a client, it is also in the public interest. It is a courtesy that judges will appreciate because it is a great help to the courts as the court fulfills its responsibilities to all of the parties.

The CLE was moderated by Commission member Molly Barrett Gillis, a partner at the Gillis Law Firm, LLC. During the CLE, Gillis discussed the importance of a lawyer's reputation. She then shared that if she unexpectedly became absent from the practice of law, she would want her clients to remember in their last interactions with her law practice that Gillis had taken steps to ensure her client's cases were properly handled and smoothly transitioned to another attorney. In conclusion, the Commission encourages all lawyers—regardless of their age or practice setting—to establish a meaningful relationship with a volunteer designated attorney and to create and regularly update a sudden health crisis succession plan. ●



**Karlise Y. Grier**  
Executive Director  
*Chief Justice's Commission  
on Professionalism*

kygrier@cjcpga.org

## Endnotes

1. See A Lawyer's Creed and the Aspirational Statement on Professionalism, <http://cjcpga.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2-Lawyers-CreedAspStatement-v-2013-Line-Number-with-new-logo-and-seal-v07-25-19.pdf>.
2. Beginning with the State Bar of Georgia's 2018-19 State Bar of Georgia License Fee Notice, the Bar began to ask attorneys to nominate a fellow Georgia Bar member to assist with coordinating the return of client files and property in the event the attorney completing the License Fee Notice became an "absent attorney" as defined under Rule 4-228(a) of the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct. In implementing this voluntary program, the Bar asked attorneys to consider, "What happens to your clients if you suddenly become an 'absent attorney,' one who leaves the practice of law with little to no advance warning, whether due to death, disability or otherwise?" Noting that other states that had implemented this program had seen substantial success in timely transitioning client files to other lawyers, the Bar encouraged Georgia lawyers to speak with another lawyer and obtain his or her willingness to work with the State Bar to return files and other property to clients in the event an attorney became an absent attorney through death, disability or otherwise.
3. See <https://www.gabar.org/attorneyresources/succession.cfm>.





# When life doesn't make sense.

The SOLACE program is designed to assist any member of the legal community (lawyers, judges, law office and court staff, law students and their families) in Georgia who suffer serious loss due to a sudden catastrophic event, injury or illness. Visit [www.gabar.org](http://www.gabar.org) for more information on SOLACE, or email [solace@gabar.org](mailto:solace@gabar.org).

Support of Lawyers, All Concern Encouraged



# 2022 FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

**JULY 2021 – FEBRUARY 2022**

FOR REVENUE AND EXPENSES ADMINISTERED BY ICJE OF GEORGIA\*

COMPILED BY

**Lynne Moore Nelson, Esq., ICJE Executive Director**

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**Emily Rashidi, ICJE Business Operations Manager**

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*\*To promote constituent confidence and to foster transparency, this information is made available to all ICJE constituent groups. These reports include ICJE – administered expenses only. For ICJE – administered expenses, any ICJE – maintained document (e.g. contract, invoice, travel reimbursement claim, etc.) is available for review upon request. These expenditures do not include any event expense authorized or administered by a constituent group's leadership or educational apparatus that was not administered by ICJE.*

*This financial reporting template was developed in collaboration with the AOC Fiscal Staff; the UGA School of Law Business Office; and, Royals & Associates, CPAs.*





# SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD ALLOCATION

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

1	<b>Overhead allocation based on FY2022 budgeted expenses</b>			
2	Total ICJE FY21 Budgeted Overhead Cost			\$106,589.00
3	Less: Amount Not Allocated To Constituent Groups*			(\$27,556.00)
4	<b>OVERHEAD COSTS SUBJECT TO ALLOCATION:</b>			<b>\$79,033.00</b>
5	<b>Constituent Group</b>	<b>FY22 Budgeted Expense</b>	<b>% of Total Expenses</b>	<b>Allocated Overhead</b>
6	State Court Judges	\$71,664.00	4%	\$3,249.00
7	Juvenile Court Judges	\$71,550.00	4%	\$3,244.00
8	Juvenile Court Clerks	\$22,578.00	1%	\$1,024.00
9	Probate Court Judges – Non Traffic	\$104,647.00	6%	\$4,744.00
10	Probate Court Judges – Traffic	\$39,598.00	2%	\$1,795.00
11	Probate Court Clerks	\$29,213.00	2%	\$1,324.00
12	Magistrate Court Judges	\$228,553.00	13%	\$10,361.00
13	Magistrate Court Clerks	\$23,201.00	1%	\$1,052.00
14	Municipal Court Judges	\$128,264.00	7%	\$5,815.00
15	Municipal Court Clerks	\$106,705.00	6%	\$4,837.00
16	Superior Court Judges	\$550,000.00	32%	\$24,934.00
17	Judicial Staff Attorneys	\$22,352.00	1%	\$1,013.00
18	Accountability Court Judges	\$345,000.00	20%	\$15,641.00
19	<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$1,743,325.00</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$79,033.00</b>

### FAQ # 1: Why Are ICJE Constituent Groups Assessed A “Shared Office Overhead” Allocation?

**Answer:** Because the appropriated funds ICJE receives does not cover the entire cost of ICJE operations. Further, the directive to reduce appropriated funds for FY2021 exacerbates this problem.

### FAQ #2: What Is The Overhead Allocation Formula?

**Answer:** The formula follows a customary method for allocating shared costs as equitably as possible. Specifically, the cost allocation is based on the ratio of each constituent group’s cost before overhead allocation to total costs of all the groups before overhead allocation. The resulting percentage is multiplied by the total cost to allocate a portion of cost to each group.

The end result is that constituent groups with a larger number of members and larger expenditures, will be assessed more overhead costs than constituent groups with a smaller number of members and smaller expenditures.



# ICJE ADMINISTRATIVE/OFFICE OVERHEAD

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

### February 2022 – Administrative Office of the Courts

<b>1</b>	<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>		
2	<i>Appropriated Funds</i>		
3	Administrative Costs Appropriation	\$545,866.00	
4	Programming Costs Appropriation	\$0.00	
5	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS:</b>	<b>\$545,866.00</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – PERSONNEL</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
7	(Fund Source 01/Project Code 301)		
8	Quarter 1: Salaries, Benefits & Indirect Costs	\$0.00	-\$123,677.29
9	Quarter 2: Salaries, Benefits & Indirect Costs	\$0.00	-\$143,429.28
10	Quarter 3: Salaries, Benefits & Indirect Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
11	Quarter 4: Salaries, Benefits & Indirect Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
12	<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$267,106.57</b>
13	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS REMAINING:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$278,759.43</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>		
15	FY21 Office Overhead Allocation Carryforward	\$13,124.87	
16	Constituent Groups Office Overhead Allocation	\$89,353.00*	
17	<b>TOTAL SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD:</b>	<b>\$102,477.87</b>	
<b>18</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – OPERATIONS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
19	Rent	-\$49,388.40	-\$49,388.40
20	Utilities	\$0.00	\$0.00
21	Janitorial Services	-\$192.00	-\$1,344.00
22	Postage	\$0.00	-\$4.56
23	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	-\$80.66	-\$4,279.53
24	Dues & Memberships	\$0.00	-\$139.00
25	ICJE Board of Trustees Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00
26	Staff Travel – Executive Director	\$0.00	\$0.00
27	Professional Fees (Accounting/Auditing)	\$0.00	-\$12,500.00
28	IT Support – AOC Wifi	-\$152.04	-\$1,070.45
29	IT Support – Hardware, Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00
30	Software License/Subscriptions	\$0.00	-\$7,535.81
31	<b>TOTAL OVERHEAD EXPENSES:</b>	<b>-\$49,813.10</b>	<b>-\$76,261.75</b>
<b>32</b>	<b>ENDING OVERHEAD FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>-\$49,813.10</b>	<b>\$26,216.12</b>

\*This amount furnished to ICJE Staff by the constituent groups at the Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts. A sum of \$32,500.00 was deposited as revenue funds to the ICJE's project 300 fund balance as agreed upon with the Council of Accountability Court Judges for services provided by ICJE staff. A sum of \$56,853.00 was transferred to the ICJE's project 300 fund balance as the overhead allocation. The remaining overhead in the amount \$22,180.00 will be requested for transfer later in FY 2022.

The title and order of overhead categories are based upon overhead expenses listed in the State Bar of Georgia Financial Reports.



# ICJE ADMINISTRATIVE

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

### February 2022 – University of Georgia

1	<b>REVENUES</b>		
2	FY21 Funds carried over to FY22 at the University of Georgia	\$25,339.70	
3	International Judges Conference	\$0.00*	
4	<b>TOTAL OPERATING FUNDS:</b>	<b>\$25,339.70</b>	
5	<b>EXPENDITURES – OPERATIONS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
6	Utilities	-\$258.60	-\$1,667.77
7	Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	\$0.00	-\$300.00
9	Dues & Memberships	\$0.00	\$0.00
10	IT Support – UGA Wifi	-\$1,333.32	-\$10,666.56
11	IT Support – Hardware, Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00
12	Copier – UGA	-\$131.46	-\$525.84
13	Copier Overages - UGA	-\$14.34	-\$147.65
14	Software License	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	<b>TOTAL OVERHEAD EXPENSES:</b>	<b>-\$1,737.72</b>	<b>-\$11,570.10</b>
16	<b>ENDING OVERHEAD FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>-\$1,737.72</b>	<b>\$12,031.88</b>

\*This amount furnished to ICJE Staff by UGA School of Law Business Office. The source of these revenues includes contracted fees for educational training provided in conjunction with the UGA Law School (e.g. International Judge Training provided in collaboration with UGA Law School Dean Rusk Center).

The title and order of overhead categories are based upon overhead expenses listed in the State Bar of Georgia Financial Reports.



# STATE COURT JUDGES

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42006 Project Code: 319

**Training Mandates:** These training events are mandated by Uniform State Court Rule 43.1(A) & 43.1(B). The venues are contracted in collaboration with the CSCJ Educational Programs Committee; CSCJ NJO & Mentoring Committee; and, the CSCJ Executive Committee.

1	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$76,489.86*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$76,387.13**
4	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$13,920.00	\$59,625.00***
7	Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	<b>TOTAL REVENUES:</b>	<b>\$13,920.00</b>	<b>\$59,625.00</b>
9	<b>EXPENDITURES – EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
11	Fall Conference	\$0.00	-\$40,195.86
12	New Judge Orientation Conference	\$0.00	-\$2,360.00
13	Spring Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	Fall 2022 Conference	-\$2,100.00	-\$2,100.00
16	<b>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</b>	<b>-\$2,100.00</b>	<b>-\$44,655.86</b>
17	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
18	Educational Programs Committee Meetings (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
19	New Judge Orientation Conference Committee Mtgs (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
20	ICJE Board Meetings (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
21	<b>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
22	<b>EXPENDITURES - OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
23	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$2.87
24	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
25	<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$2.87</b>
26	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
27	Pro Rata (\$3,249.00)	\$0.00	-\$3,249.00
28	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$11,820.00</b>	<b>\$88,207.13</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021.

\*\*A miscalculation occurred in the December 2021 financial reports. A total of \$585.59 was calculated twice as expenditures in the total ending fund balance. The correct ending fund balance should have been \$66,500.63.

\*\*\*In the January 2022 financial reports, the total revenue was reported as \$47,705.00. This total was incorrect and should have been listed as \$45,705.00. The total revenue was corrected in the February 2022 financial reports to reflect the true data.



# JUVENILE COURT JUDGES

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

**Fund Source: 42003 Project Code: 308**

**Training Mandates:** These training events are mandated by OCGA §15-11-59(d); §15-11-62; Uniform Juvenile Court Rule 4.3; 4.4; & CJCJ Executive Committee Protocol. The venues are contracted in collaboration with CJCJ Educational and Certification Committee; and, the CJCJ Executive Committee.

<b>1</b>	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$120,625.66*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$114,288.77
<b>4</b>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$11,904.00	\$26,496.00
7	Grant – Justice for Children (J4C)	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
8	Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
9	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	<b>\$11,904.00</b>	<b>\$36,496.00</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
11	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
12	Fall Conference	\$0.00	-\$27,684.89
13	Spring Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$27,684.89</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETING</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
17	Education and Certification Committee Meetings (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	ICJE Board Meeting (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
19	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES - OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
21	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
22	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
23	Printing/Publications	\$0.00	\$0.00
24	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
26	Pro Rata (\$3,244.00)	\$0.00	-\$3,244.00
<b>27</b>	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$11,904.00</b>	<b>\$126,192.77</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021.



# JUVENILE COURT CLERKS

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42000 Project Code: 306

**Training Mandates:** These training events are mandated by OCGA §15-11-65. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Georgia Association of Juvenile Court Clerks.

1	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$28,652.29*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$29,278.29
4	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$7,200.00	\$8,850.00
7	Grant – Justice for Children (J4C)	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	Refund	\$0.00	\$0.00
9	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	<b>\$7,200.00</b>	<b>\$8,850.00</b>
10	<b>EXPENDITURES – EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
11	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
12	Annual Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00
13	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
14	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS/MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
16	Georgia Association of Juvenile Court Clerks (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
17	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
18	<b>EXPENDITURES – OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
19	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
20	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
21	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
22	Pro Rata (\$1,024.00)	\$0.00	-\$1,024.00
23	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$7,200.00</b>	<b>\$36,478.29</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.



# PROBATE COURT JUDGES – NON TRAFFIC

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42005 Project Code: 315

**Training Mandates:** These training events are mandated by OCGA §15-9-1.1(a); §15-9-1.1(b); §15-9-2.1(c)(2); Uniform Probate Court Rule 14.2(A) & 14.2(B); & Probate Judges Training Council Policy. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Probate Judges Training Council.

<b>1</b>	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCES</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance*		\$43,012.07*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$80,299.18
<b>4</b>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$42,965.00	\$82,740.00
7	Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	<b>\$42,965.00</b>	<b>\$82,740.00</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
11	Fall Conference COAG	\$0.00	-\$2,482.43
12	Spring Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00
13	New Judge Orientation Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$2,482.43</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
17	Probate Judge Training Council Meetings (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	ICJE Board Meeting (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
19	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – CERTIFICATE PROGRAM &amp; MENTORING</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
21	Non-Traffic Probate Certificate Plaque & Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
22	Mentoring – Travel Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00
23	<i>TOTAL CERTIFICATE &amp; MENTORING EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES - OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
25	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
26	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$5.46
27	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$4.88</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
29	Pro Rata (\$4,744.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>30</b>	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE*</b>	<b>\$42,965.00</b>	<b>\$123,264.18</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.



# PROBATE COURT JUDGES - TRAFFIC

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

**Fund Source: 42005 Project Code: 352**

**Training Mandates:** These training events are mandated by OCGA §15-9-1.1(a); §15-9-1.1(b); §15-9-2.1(c)(2); Uniform Probate Court Rule 14.2(A) & 14.2(B); & Probate Judges Training Council Policy. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Probate Judges Training Council.

<b>1</b>	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCES</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$8,060.61*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$26,061.31
<b>5</b>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
6	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
7	Annual Support Fees	\$18,050.00	\$36,325.00
8	Refunds	\$0.00	-\$240.00
9	<b>TOTAL REVENUES:</b>	<b>\$18,050.00</b>	<b>\$36,085.00</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
11	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
12	Annual Traffic Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00
13	New Judge Orientation	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	<b>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
17	Probate Judge Traffic Committee Meetings (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	ICJE Board Meeting (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
19	<b>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – CERTIFICATE PROGRAM &amp; MENTORING</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
21	Probate Traffic Certificate Program/Postage	\$0.00	-\$34.30
22	Mentoring – Travel Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00
23	<b>TOTAL CERTIFICATE &amp; MENTORING EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$34.30</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES - OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
25	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
26	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
27	<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
29	Pro Rata (\$1,795.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>30</b>	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$18,050.00</b>	<b>\$44,111.31</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.





# PROBATE COURT CLERKS

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42004 Project Code: 314

**Training Mandates:** These training events are not mandated by statute, uniform rule, or educational apparatus policy. ICJE is pleased to provide them as an accommodation for this group. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Probate Judges Training Council.

1	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCES</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance*		\$13,771.90*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$18,994.03
4	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$13,860.00	\$22,740.00
7	Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	<b>TOTAL REVENUES:</b>	<b>\$13,860.00</b>	<b>\$22,740.00</b>
9	<b>EXPENDITURES – EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
11	LWEG & Traffic Training – June 2021 (occurred during FY 2021)	\$0.00	-\$2,329.30
12	LWEG & Traffic Training - July 2021	\$0.00	\$0.00
13	LWEG & Traffic Training - August 2021	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	LWEG & Traffic Training - June 2022	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	<b>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$2,329.30</b>
16	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS/POSTAGE</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
17	Educational Apparatus Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	<b>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
19	<b>EXPENDITURES – OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
20	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$4.57
21	Training Certificate Program	-\$16.95	-\$16.95
22	<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</b>	<b>-\$16.95</b>	<b>-\$21.52</b>
23	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
24	Pro Rata (\$1,324.00)	\$0.00	-\$1,324.00
25	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE*</b>	<b>\$13,843.05</b>	<b>\$32,837.08</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.



# MAGISTRATE COURT JUDGES

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

**Fund Source: 42001 Project Code: 337**

**Training Mandates:** These training events are mandated by OCGA §15-10-25; §15-10-131; §15-10-136(2); §15-10-137(a); §15-10-137(c)(1); §15-10-233; & Magistrate Court Training Council Policy. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Executive Council of the Council of Magistrate Court Judges of Georgia.

<b>1</b>	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCES</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$222,033.39*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$273,617.97
<b>4</b>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees (CY 2021 \$0.00/person)	\$83,740.00	\$157,615.00
7	Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	<b>TOTAL REVENUES:</b>	<b>\$83,740.00</b>	<b>\$157,615.00</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
11	40 Hr. Basic Civil Certification	\$0.00	-\$4,913.02
12	Fall Recertification	\$0.00	-\$152.70
13	Chief Judges' Update	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	40 Hr. Criminal Certification	-\$1,603.15	-\$1,603.15
15	Spring Recertification	\$0.00	\$0.00
16	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses	\$0.00	\$0.00
17	Financial Assistance for National Training	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	<b>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$1,603.15</b>	<b>-\$6,668.87</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS &amp; MENTORING</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
20	Magistrate Judge Training Council Meetings (Judge & ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
21	ICJE Board Meeting (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
22	Mentoring – Travel Reimbursements	\$0.00	-\$189.91
23	<b>TOTAL MEETINGS &amp; MENTORING EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$189.91</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – PUBLICATIONS/PRINTING</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
25	Benchbook	\$0.00	\$0.00
26	40 Hr. Civil: Landlord/Tenant Law (40 Hr. Civil Training Event)	\$0.00	-\$6,673.79
27	40 Hr. Criminal: GA Law Enforcement Handbook	\$0.00	\$0.00
28	40 Hr. Criminal: GA Magistrate Court Handbook	\$0.00	\$0.00
29	<b>TOTAL PUBLICATION/PRINTING EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$6,673.79</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
31	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
32	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
33	<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>34</b>	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
35	Pro Rata (\$10,361.00)	\$0.00	-\$10,361.00
<b>36</b>	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$82,136.85</b>	<b>\$355,754.82</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021.



# MAGISTRATE COURT JUDGES HISTORIC RESERVES\*

**Fund Source: 42001 Project Code: 371**

*To promote constituent confidence and to foster transparency, this information is made available to all ICJE constituent groups. These reports include ICJE – administered expenses only. For ICJE – administered expenses, any ICJE – maintained document (e.g. contract, invoice, travel reimbursement claim, etc.) is available for review upon request. These expenditures do not include any event expense authorized or administered by this group’s leadership or educational apparatus that was not administered by ICJE.*

1	HISTORICAL RESERVES	TOTAL RESERVES
2	Total Funds	\$49,289.30
3	EXPENDITURES – APPROVED BY MCTC	TOTAL EXPENDITURES
4	Professional Fees – Royals & Associates, CPA	\$262.50
5	TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	\$262.50
6	TOTAL HISTORICAL RESERVES REMAINING:	\$49,026.80

*\*The amounts on this sheet were designated as “historic reserves” by the ICJE Board of Trustees’ Budget Committee. Since July, 2017, the AOC, as ICJE’s fiscal agent, has held these “historic reserves”. Prior to July, 2017, the “historic reserves” were on deposit at SunTrust Bank in two accounts: the account labeled “Magistrate” contained \$49,289.30 at the time of account closure and transfer to AOC fiscal; and, the account labeled “Municipal” contained \$116,501.03 at the time of account closure and transfer to AOC fiscal. The closure of the two accounts and the transfer of the funds in those accounts over to AOC fiscal in July 2017 was based upon the recommendation of the AOC Chief Financial Officer.*

**On October, 23, 2020, the ICJE Board of Trustees unanimously approved the following motion:**

## **MOTION:**

The amount of \$49,026.80, currently designated as “Historic Reserves” (“Magistrate” Project Code 371) be transferred/reallocated/redesignated as soon as practicable to Fund Source 42001 “Magistrate Court Judges”; and that the full amount of the \$49,026.80 be expended for future expenditures of educational events; meetings; publications; mentoring; and, shared office overhead, for Magistrate Court Judges in the same manner that revenues derived from annual CJE Support Fees are expended as directed by the Magistrate Court Training Council.



# MAGISTRATE COURT CLERKS

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORTS

Fund Source: 42008 Project Code: 331

**Training Mandates:** These training events are not mandated by statute, uniform rule, or educational apparatus policy. ICJE is pleased to provide them as an accommodation for this group. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Executive Council of the Council of Magistrate Courts Clerks Incorporated.

1	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$12,672.21*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$19,021.21
4	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$12,825.00	\$20,250.00
7	Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	<b>\$12,825.00</b>	<b>\$20,250.00</b>
9	<b>EXPENDITURES – EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
10	Clerks Annual Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00
11	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
12	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
13	Educational Apparatus Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
15	<b>EXPENDITURES - OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
16	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
17	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	CLE Fees (2021 Annual Conference)	\$0.00	-\$24.00
19	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$24.00</b>
20	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
21	Pro Rata (\$1,052.00)	\$0.00	-\$1,052.00
22	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$12,825.00</b>	<b>\$31,846.21</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021.



# MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

**Fund Source: 42002 Project Code: 344**

**Training Mandates:** These training events are mandated by OCGA §36-32-27 (b) & (c); Municipal Court Training Council Policy. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Municipal Court Training Council.

<b>1</b>	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCES</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$174,793.60*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$
<b>4</b>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees	\$19,175.00	\$29,575.00
7	Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	<b>\$19,175.00</b>	<b>\$29,575.00</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
11	2021 Summer 20 Hr. Recertification / Law & Practice	\$0.00	-\$4,347.61
12	Fall 20 Hr. Recertification / Law & Practice	\$0.00	-\$31,535.89
13	Summer 20 Hr. Recertification / Law & Practice	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	Multi-Class of Court/Online Courses	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	Financial Assistance for National Training	\$0.00	\$0.00
16	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$35,883.50</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
18	Municipal Judge Training Council Meetings (Judge & ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
19	ICJE Board Meeting (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
20	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES - PUBLICATIONS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
22	Benchbook/Purchased Publication	\$0.00	-\$3,000.00
23	<i>TOTAL PUBLICATION EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$3,000.00</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
25	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
26	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$0.55
27	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$0.55</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
29	Pro Rata (\$5,815.00)	\$0.00	-\$5,815.00
<b>30</b>	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$19,175.00</b>	<b>\$178,844.55</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021.



# MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES HISTORIC RESERVES\*

**Fund Source: 42002 Project Code: 371**

*To promote constituent confidence and to foster transparency, this information is made available to all ICJE constituent groups. These reports include ICJE – administered expenses only. For ICJE – administered expenses, any ICJE – maintained document (e.g. contract, invoice, travel reimbursement claim, etc.) is available for review upon request. These expenditures do not include any event expense authorized or administered by this group’s leadership or educational apparatus that was not administered by ICJE.*

1	<b>HISTORICAL RESERVES</b>	<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>
2	Total Funds	\$116,501.03
3	<b>EXPENDITURES – APPROVED BY CMCI</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>
4	Professional Fees – Royals & Associates, CPA	\$262.50
5	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>\$262.50</b>
6	<b>TOTAL HISTORICAL RESERVES REMAINING:</b>	<b>\$116,238.53</b>

*\*The amounts on this sheet were designated as “historic reserves” by the ICJE Board of Trustees’ Budget Committee. Since July, 2017, the AOC, as ICJE’s fiscal agent, has held these “historic reserves”. Prior to July, 2017, the “historic reserves” were on deposit at SunTrust Bank in two accounts: the account labeled “Magistrate” contained \$49,289.30 at the time of account closure and transfer to AOC fiscal; and, the account labeled “Municipal” contained \$116,501.03 at the time of account closure and transfer to AOC fiscal. The closure of the two accounts and the transfer of the funds in those accounts over to AOC fiscal in July 2017 was based upon the recommendation of the AOC Chief Financial Officer.*

**On October, 23, 2020, the ICJE Board of Trustees unanimously approved the following motion:**

## **MOTION:**

The amount of \$116,238.53, currently designated as “Historic Reserves” (“Municipal” Project Code 371) be transferred/reallocated/redesignated as soon as practicable to Fund Source 42002 “Municipal Court Judges”; and that the full amount of the \$116,238.53 be expended for future expenditures of educational events; meetings; publications; and, shared office overhead, for Municipal Court Judges in the same manner that revenues derived from annual CJE Support Fees are expended as directed by the Municipal Court Training Council.



# MUNICIPAL COURT CLERKS

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 42009 Project Code: 345

**Training Mandates:** These training events are mandated by OCGA §36-32-13(b)(1); §36-32-13(b)(2); & Municipal Court Training Council Policy. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Georgia Municipal Court Clerks Council.

<b>1</b>	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCES</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$254,947.55*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$192,675.92**
<b>4</b>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	<i>CJE Support Fees</i>		
6	Annual Support Fees (CY 2021 \$0.00/person)	\$14,250.00	\$39,225.00
7	Refunds	-\$150.00	-\$150.00
8	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	<b>\$14,100.00</b>	<b>\$39,075.00</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
10	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
11	Recertification – August	\$0.00	-\$23,827.89
12	16 Hour Certification – September	\$0.00	-\$16,902.66
13	Online Recertification – November	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	Recertification – November	-\$517.16	-\$31,700.00
15	16 Hour Certification – February	-\$11,121.25	-\$11,121.25
16	Recertification – May	\$0.00	\$0.00
17	Recertification – November 2022 Venue Deposit	\$0.00	-\$5,000.00
18	Recertification – November 2024 Venue Deposit	\$0.00	-\$5,000.00
19	<i>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</i>	<b>-\$11,638.41</b>	<b>\$93,551.91</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
21	Educational Apparatus Meetings/Site Visits	\$0.00	-\$495.58
22	<i>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$495.58</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
24	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$0.55
25	Vimeo Subscription Fee	\$0.00	\$0.00
26	<i>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$0.55</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
28	Pro Rata (\$4,837.00)	\$0.00	-\$4,837.00
<b>29</b>	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$2,461.59</b>	<b>\$195,137.51</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.

\*\*There were two (2) travel expenditures that occurred for the Municipal Court Clerks that were not previously included in the October and November 2021 financial reports. These expenses have been included and recorded accordingly, thus making the beginning December 2021 fund balance at \$207,868.25.





# SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

**Fund Source: 42007 Project Code: 323**

**Training Mandates:** Training expenses are addressed by OCGA §15-6-32; training is mandated by Uniform Superior Court Rule 43; and, by CSCJ MCJE Committee Protocol. The venues are contracted in collaboration with CSCJ MCJE Committee; and, CSCJ Executive Committee.

<b>1</b>	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$471,896.22*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$166,684.68**
<b>4</b>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	Appropriated Funds	\$155,000.00	\$155,000.00
6	<b>TOTAL REVENUES:</b>	<b>\$155,000.00</b>	<b>\$155,000.00</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES - EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
8	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
9	Summer Conference (217 Attendees)	\$0.00	-\$396,780.29
10	New Judge Orientation Conference	\$0.00	-\$35,190.76
11	Winter Conference	\$0.00	-\$82.94
12	Judicial Staff Attorneys' CLE Hours (2021 Winter Conference)	-\$332.00	-\$2,542.00
13	<b>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</b>	<b>-\$332.00</b>	<b>-\$434,595.99</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
15	CSCJ Meetings (ICJE Staff Travel)	\$0.00	\$0.00
16	ICJE Board Meetings (Board Appointee Travel Reimbursement)	\$0.00	\$0.00
17	<b>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
19	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
20	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	-\$0.55
21	<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$0.55</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
23	Pro Rata – (\$25,947.00 for Superior Court Judges & Judicial Staff Attorneys)	\$0.00	-\$25,947.00
<b>24</b>	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>-\$332.00</b>	<b>\$166,352.68</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts in October 2021.

\*\*A travel expenditure from the Summer Conference was not included in the previous financial reports. This expense has been included and recorded accordingly, thus making the December beginning fund balance at \$202,435.05.

**Superior Court Judges' Educational Training & Appropriated Funds:** The revenue source for all amounts shown on this report for Superior Court Judge educational training is appropriated funds; specifically, appropriations to the Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia ("CSCJ"). ICJE facilitates three educational programs for CSCJ each year: (1) Summer Conference; (2) Winter Conference; and, (3) New Judge Orientation. ICJE invoices CSCJ for the expense of each event; and, CSCJ, using funds appropriated to CSCJ, pays ICJE. This transaction represents a payment of a CJE Support Fee on behalf of each Superior Court Judge by CSCJ. The amounts paid during each fiscal year varies, depending on the cost of the events. These funds are included in the ICJE Fiscal Year Budget.

**Superior Court Judges' Travel Reimbursement & Appropriated Funds:** In addition to paying ICJE for the cost of training events, CSCJ also pays for Superior Court Judges' allowable travel expenses associated with training events. (OCGA §15-6-32). The revenue source for the travel expenses is appropriated funds; specifically, appropriations to the Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia ("CSCJ"). The amounts paid during each fiscal year varies, depending on the amount of allowable travel expenses. **All funds received by ICJE are deposited with the AOC as fiscal agent. The revenue is subsequently identified, designated, and the expenditures tracked, in accordance with the State Accounting Policy and Procedure/Accounting Manual Reference.**





# JUDICIAL STAFF ATTORNEYS

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

**Fund Source: 42006 Project Code: 367**

**Training Mandates:** These events fulfill Continuing Legal Education Requirements promulgated in State Bar of Georgia Rule 8-104. The venues are contracted in collaboration with the Superior Court Judges' MCJE Committee; and, the State Court Judges' Educational Programs Committee.

1	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$5,259.83
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$5,259.83
4	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	Appropriated Funds (CSCJ pays for Superior Court) (Fund Source 42007)		
6	Registration Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
7	<b>TOTAL REVENUES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
8	<b>EXPENDITURES - EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
9	Educational Training Events (Fund Source 42007/Project Code 323)		
10	Annual Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00
11	<b>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
12	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
13	Educational Apparatus Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00
14	<b>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
15	<b>EXPENDITURES – OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
16	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
17	<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
18	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
19	Pro Rata (\$1,013.00*)	\$0.00	\$0.00
20	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$5,259.83</b>

\*The Judicial Staff Attorneys' portion of shared office overhead funds is paid for by the Council of Superior Court Judges from Fund Source 42007, Project Code 323 and is reflected in the Superior Court Judges' Fiscal Year Financial Report.



# ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES

## FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: 44195 Project Code: 368

**Training Mandates:** Training is mandated by Article 10 – Training, of the CACJ Rules and Regulations; and by CACJ Standing Committee on Training Protocol. The venues are contracted in collaboration with CACJ Executive Committee; and, CACJ Executive Director.

1	<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year fund balance		\$38,965.70*
3	Beginning February 2022 fund balance		\$32,422.30
4	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	Annual Training Conference (Revenue from grant)	\$0.00	\$267,059.30
6	New Judge Orientation	\$0.00	\$0.00
7	<b>TOTAL REVENUES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$267,059.30</b>
8	<b>EXPENDITURES - EVENTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expense</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
9	<i>Educational Training Events</i>		
10	Annual Training Conference (Expenditures not paid from grant)	\$0.00	-\$6,523.40
	Annual Training Conference (Expenditures paid from grant)	\$0.00	-\$267,059.30**
11	New Judge Orientation	\$0.00	\$0.00
12	<b>TOTAL EVENT EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$273,582.70</b>
13	<b>EXPENDITURES – MEETINGS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
14	Educational Apparatus Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00
15	<b>TOTAL MEETING EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
16	<b>EXPENDITURES – OTHER</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
17	Vimeo Subscription Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
18	Quarterly Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
19	<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
20	<b>SHARED OFFICE OVERHEAD</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
21	Pro Rata (\$15,641.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
22	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$32,422.30</b>

\*Beginning fiscal year fund balance adjusted to reflect true balance given by the Administrative Office of the Courts.

\*\*An adjustment was made in February 2022 in the sum of \$249,849.30 for venue expenses. This adjustment did not change the total cost of the Annual Training Conference of \$267,059.30.





# GEORGIA COMMISSION ON FAMILY VIOLENCE

## (GRANT – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BENCH BOOK)

### FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

**Fund Source: 42012 Project Code: 353**

*\*To promote constituent confidence and to foster transparency, this information is made available to all ICJE constituent groups. These reports include ICJE – administered expenses only. For ICJE – administered expenses, any ICJE – maintained document (e.g. contract, invoice, travel reimbursement claim, etc.) is available for review upon request. These expenditures do not include any event expense authorized or administered by this group's leadership or educational apparatus that was not administered by ICJE.*

<b>1</b>	<b>BEGINNING BALANCES</b>		
2	Beginning fiscal year balance		\$0.00
3	Beginning February 2022 balance		\$0.00
<b>4</b>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Monthly Revenues</b>	<b>YTD Revenues</b>
5	VAWA Grant Funds	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
6	<i>TOTAL REVENUES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES – CONTRACTS</b>	<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>
8	<i>Services by Subcontractor</i>		
9	Joan Prittie – Attorney (Invoice #1)	\$0.00	-\$7,500.00
10	Joan Prittie – Attorney (Invoice #2)	\$0.00	-\$7,500.00
11	<i>TOTAL CONTRACT EXPENSES:</i>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$15,000.00</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>