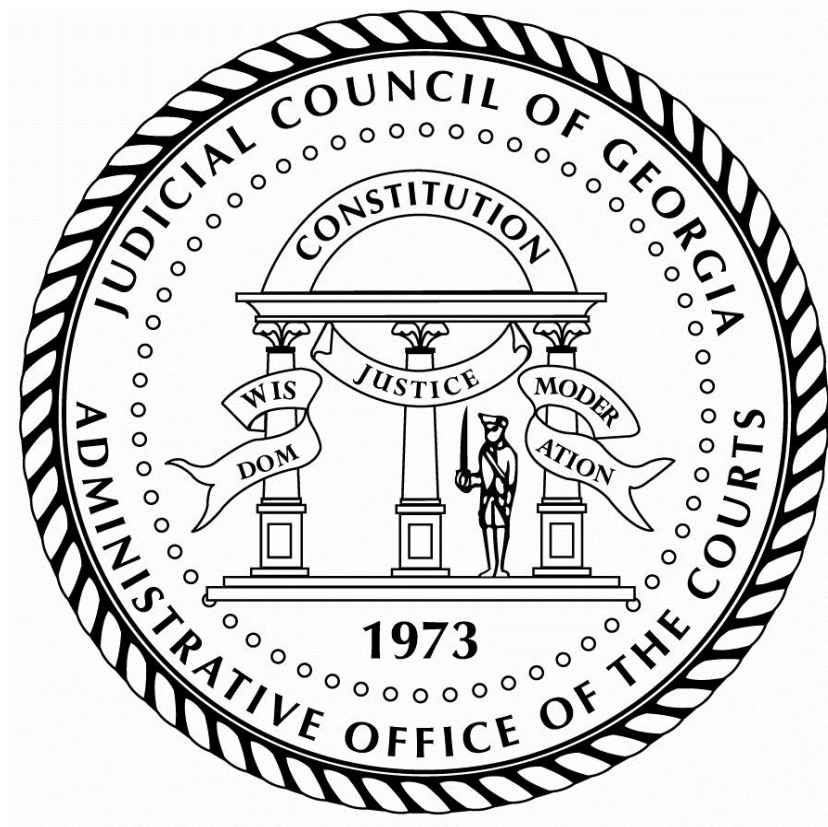


# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA

**General Session**  
Supplemental Materials

**Friday, December 11, 2020**  
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



**By Remote Conferencing**



## Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

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

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Director*

**To:** Judicial Council Members

**From:** Standing Committee on Budget  
Justice Michael Boggs, Chair *MPB*

**Date:** November 17, 2020

**Re:** Fiscal Year 2021 Judicial Council Budget and Financial Report

**Fiscal Year 2021 Judicial Council Budget and Financial Report as of October 31, 2020**

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

**Amended Fiscal Year 2021 and Fiscal Year 2022 Judicial Council Budget Requests**

The House Appropriations Public Safety Subcommittee Chairman Andrew Welch requested a meeting with the Standing Committee on Budget on October 20, 2020. The four Judicial Council budget requests submitted on behalf of the Supreme Court's Committee on Justice for Children, Standing Committee on Grants, Juvenile Data Exchange Program, and Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment were reviewed and discussed in preparation for the 2021 legislative session.

**Amended Fiscal Year 2021**

The Judicial Council has no enhancement requests for the Amended Fiscal Year 2021. The Council voted to support an annual operating budget of \$14,359,385.

**Fiscal Year 2022**

In the August 14, 2020 meeting, the Judicial Council voted to support four FY 2022 enhancement requests totaling \$755,058, an increase of 5%. The FY 2022 budget requests are:

- 1) Supreme Court's Committee on Justice for Children - Civil Legal Services for Kinship Care Families in the amount of \$100,000.
- 2) Standing Committee on Grants - Civil Legal Services for Domestic Violence Victims in the amount of \$175,000.
- 3) Juvenile Data Exchange Program (JDEX) in the amount of \$243,945.
- 4) Standing Committee on Judicial Workload Assessment – Judicial Workload Assessments in the amount of \$236,113.

The Judicial Council also voted to support the FY 2022 annual operating budget of \$15,114,443.

**Attachments:** Fiscal Year 2021 Judicial Council Operations Budget and Financial Report

**Fiscal Year 2021 - Judicial Council Operations**

**October 31, 2021**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>FY 2021 Budget</b>	<b>YTD Expenditures</b>	<b>Remaining</b>	<b>Budget Spent</b>
<b>Administrative Office of The Courts</b>		<b>\$ 6,520,505</b>	<b>\$ 2,365,435</b>	<b>\$ 4,155,070</b>	<b>36%</b>
Legal Services for Domestic Violence	103	\$ 1,502,172	\$ 536,642	\$ 965,530	36%
Legal Services for Kinship Care Families	1103	\$ 225,326	\$ 225,326	\$ -	100%
Georgia Council of Court Administrators	141	16,389	\$ -	\$ 16,389	0%
Council of Municipal Court Judges	142	13,919	570	\$ 13,349	4%
Child Support Collaborative	174	119,000	38,331	\$ 80,669	32%
Council of Magistrate Court Judges	204	165,998	54,102	\$ 111,896	33%
Council of Probate Court Judges	205	159,490	57,378	\$ 102,112	36%
Council of State Court Judges	206	275,390	70,644	\$ 204,746	26%
Council of State Court Judges Ret.	207	2,573,814	7,789	\$ 2,566,025	0%
<b>Other Judicial Council Subprograms</b>		<b>\$ 5,051,498</b>	<b>\$ 990,782</b>	<b>\$ 4,060,716</b>	<b>20%</b>
Accountability Courts	195	\$ 625,696	\$ 150,214	\$ 475,482	24%
CACJ-Peer Review Porcess	199	\$ 42,000	\$ -	\$ 42,000	0%
Inst of Continuing Jud Ed Administration	301	\$ 545,866	118,639	\$ 427,227	22%
Judicial Qualifications Commission	400	\$ 798,820	263,329	\$ 535,491	33%
Resource Center	500	\$ 775,000	258,333	\$ 516,667	33%
<b>Separate Judicial Council Programs</b>		<b>\$ 2,787,382</b>	<b>\$ 790,516</b>	<b>\$ 1,996,866</b>	<b>28%</b>
<b>TOTAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL</b>		<b>\$ 14,359,385</b>	<b>\$ 4,146,733</b>	<b>\$ 10,212,652</b>	<b>29%</b>



# GEORGIA STATE-WIDE BUSINESS COURT

NATHAN DEAL JUDICIAL CENTER  
330 CAPITOL AVENUE, S.E., SUITE 3500  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

WALTER W. DAVIS  
JUDGE

DAVISW@GSBC.US  
404.656.3080

## Georgia State-wide Business Court Judicial Council Meeting December 11, 2020

To the Judicial Council:

When we last reported to this group in August, the Court had been operational for a mere two weeks. We were not yet fully staffed, construction on the courtroom was just beginning, our court-specific rules were still being revised, and there were more than a few “odd and ends” that required attention.

I am pleased to report that as of this report we are fully operational. In September, we welcomed Tynesha Manuel (Sr. Deputy Clerk), formerly of the Administrative Office of the Courts (“AOC”), and Darlene Rector (Judicial Assistant), and in October, Ariel Pinsky (Term Clerk) and Jonathan Kaufman (Term Clerk) joined the team upon taking the bar exam. We are working regularly from the office, while following CDC guidance, and continue to receive unparalleled support from the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Supreme Court (IT), respectively.

As of the date of this report, there have been 16 cases either filed or transferred into the Court since its inception. The Court, however, has dismissed more than half of the aforementioned cases, each of which was brought to the Court without the consent of all parties. Even so, the Court has held five public hearings via Zoom on a variety of requests for relief over the last several months (<https://www.georgiabusinesscourt.com/oral-arguments>), and with our new courtroom coming on line next week, we expect to begin holding in-person proceedings, as circumstances warrant, in early 2021.<sup>1</sup>

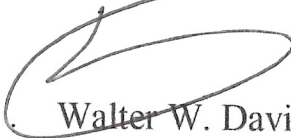
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<sup>1</sup> The Court would like to particularly thank and recognize Dr. Mark Swancutt, who supports the Judicial Council’s COVID-19 Taskforce, for taking the time to visit the Court and provide us

I have also continued the Court's outreach to organizations across the State, oftentimes with the assistance of Judicial Council members. In the last several months, I have presented to more than a dozen law firms, businesses, and civic organizations interested in learning about the Court. I intend to continue this effort into well into 2021. Along these lines, I owe special thanks to Judge Ken Hodges of the Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia for inviting me to speak to the Albany Rotary Club in early November.

As we look to the New Year, and I personally close the book on my first full year as a member of the Georgia judiciary (though I am often reminded that I have only been a "real" judge for four months), I would be remiss if I did not express my sincere gratitude to all of you who have supported, and continue to support, all of us here at the Georgia State-wide Business Court. I remain humbled by the opportunity to serve and be a part of this esteemed group, and I look forward to seeing you all in person (at some point) in 2021. Happy Holidays.

Respectfully submitted,



Walter W. Davis  
Judge, Georgia State-wide Business Court

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with recommendations on threshold safety precautions and other measures the Court can implement to allow for safe in-person proceedings.