



Court Interpreter Training Program Goes Statewide

Today's courts face a multitude of obstacles in dispensing equal justice, providing for the non-English speaker's need to fully participate in court proceedings is at the top of the list.

Ms. Cristina Franco, of the AOC who serves as Program Director for the Georgia Commission on Interpreters, explains that in the past bilingual ability alone was the basis for acting as an interpreter. The job often fell to secretaries, college students, or social workers with no formal training in interpreting and only

a limited understanding of court proceedings. The objective of the Commission on Interpreters is to provide bilinguals who are trained and certified as qualified, professional interpreters.

Interpreter Orientation

Commission staff has devised a comprehensive educational program which includes an orientation program that introduces the interpreter candidate to legal terms, court procedures, and general Georgia law. Each candidate must take a written

examination which tests English language proficiency, knowledge of court proceedings, and ethics. A candidate who passes the written exam is qualified to interpret in any of the courts in Georgia for a twelve-month period. Georgia is one of the first states that has established ethical standards and responsibilities for court interpreters.

The Commission also offers a series of study sessions for practicing court interactions funded by the Georgia Bar Foundation. The oral examination is given in accordance with the National Center for State Courts Consortium for State Court Interpreter Certification. Georgia has one of the highest pass rates in the NSCS Consortium.

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Web Design Consortium Contracts Signed

Chief Justice Norman S. Fletcher (center) recently signed contracts with Georgia Southern University and Valdosta State University for their continuing participation in the AOC's Web Design Consortium. The AOC has renewed a similar contract with Sandersville Technical College.



Seated, Rebecca Davis, GSU; Chief Justice Norman S. Fletcher; Vaughn Vandegriff, provost of Georgia Southern University. Standing, Curtis Ricker, GSU; Greg Arnold, AOC; Judge William Woodrum, Ogeechee Judicial Circuit; Judge F. Gates Peed, Ogeechee Judicial Circuit; and David L. Ratley, AOC Director.

INSIDE

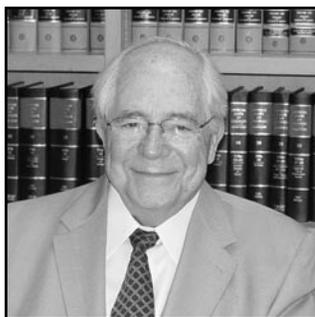
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Profile: Sr. Judge Emory Findley

Above all Judge Emory Findley is engaging. Whether his subject is the evils of the county unit system, a defendant on the stand who drew a pistol and shot the opposing counsel, or the saga of our state's judges learning to work together, the wisdom and energy of the man are apparent. In the 1980's, Judge Findley took the lead in strengthening the Council of Superior Court Judges and gaining a 10% salary increase for judges. Spend an afternoon talking with him now, and you will know why folks listened.

In 1977 when Judge Findley came to the bench of the Atlantic Judicial Circuit, terms of office for superior court judges varied from circuit to circuit, there were no uniform rules of court procedure, and no strong leadership councils for the judicial branch. As president of the Council of Superior Court Judges in 1984, he encouraged his colleagues to work together as allies in seeking increased funding from the General Assembly. The judge credits this successful effort to others including: Judge Osgood Williams of Atlanta, Judge Wallace Cato of Bainbridge, Judge William Fleming of Augusta, Chief Justice Harold Clarke.

Judge Findley's vision galvanized judges across the state and resulted in a strengthened and forward-looking judiciary. In retirement he has lost none of his keenness or commitment. His vision today includes providing sabbaticals to trial judges as a counterbalance to heavy case loads. He continues to work as a senior judge, presiding in more than 60 counties in the past seven years. Reflecting on his career as a judge and a leader, he simply says, "good things have happened." ☪



Sr. Judge Emory Findley

AOC Seeks Improvement in Court Fees Collection

Over the past 52 years, the practice of using court-imposed fees to support state and local programs has expanded from a single fee in 1950 that benefited the Peace Officer's Annuity and Benefit Fund to 21 separate court fees.

Audit Report

The Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts recently published a comprehensive report regarding the assessment, collection, and disbursement of court-ordered fees. In part, the report states, "Based on our review of this system, we have concluded that the cumulative effect of trying to apply 21 fees in over 1,100 courts to a variety of cases makes the current process unwieldy. The fragmented nature of the system makes it difficult for courts or beneficiary programs to effectively manage the fees." According to the study, fees range from \$.50 to 50% of the total fine amount and each fee must be calculated separately.

AOC to Assist Courts

As a result of the Auditor's Report, Mr. Kevin Tolmich, Budget Officer at the AOC, is heading the effort to improve collection and disbursement of fees. He explained, "We will be looking for a solution that simplifies the system while also maintaining the financial integrity of the programs being funded through these court fees."

To assess the current status of court fee collection and distribution, surveys were sent to judges of each level of court in June 2002. AOC staff members are making site visits to determine court collection procedures; dollar amounts assessed, collected, and disbursed; automation needs, etc.

Based on the information gathered, the AOC will continue to study ways to simplify the fee structure, provide training curriculum to appropriate court personnel, develop uniform policies for fee collection and remittance, and design an Action Plan for implementation.

For more information on the court fee study, contact Kevin Tolmich at 404-463-3822 or e-mail tolmichk@gaaoc.us ☪

Interpreter Program *cont.*

Assistance from District Court Administrators

With the assistance of the District Court Administrators across the state, interpreter workshops are now widely available. From January to July of this year, 207 participants have attended orientation sessions held in Atlanta, Kennesaw, Jonesboro, Savannah, Augusta, and Valdosta. One hundred fifty-five of these candidates qualified as interpreters; five were fully certified.

The Administrative Office of the Courts supports the commission and maintains a registry of qualified and certified interpreters on its website — www.georgiacourts.org

Target Languages

Court interpreters are available for the following languages: Arabic, Bosnian, Chinese — Cantonese and Mandarin, Creole Haitian, Farsi, French, German,

Guarani, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Eighty-five percent of interpreters are native speakers of their target language.

Compensation for qualified interpreters begins at \$35 per hour; for certified interpreters, \$55 per hour.

Ms. Franco stated, “Our goal is to substantially increase the number of certified and qualified interpreters, and improve communication in the court system.” She noted that the Commission is fortunate to have support from Georgia universities and colleges that are introducing interpretation courses in their curricula. Kennesaw State University, Georgia State University, and Georgia Perimeter College will be offering interpretation/translation courses as part of their graduate programs and Continuing Education programs. ⚖

Members of the Georgia Commission Interpreters

Presiding Justice Leah Ward Sears
Supreme Court of Georgia

Judge Anne Elizabeth Barnes
Court of Appeals of Georgia

Judge Robert B. Adams
Conasauga Judicial Circuit

Judge Patti Cornett
Probate Court of Hall County

Judge Jerry Day
Chief Magistrate, Walker County

Judge Viviane Ernestes
Municipal Court of Decatur

Judge Chong Kim
Magistrate Court of Fulton County

Judge Wayne Purdom
State Court of DeKalb County

Judge William Schneider
Juvenile Court, Rockdale Judicial Circuit

Ms. Kathy Ashe
State Representative

Ms. Brenda Avera
AOC, Gwinnett Judicial Circuit

Ms. Wendy J. Glasbrenner
Georgia Legal Services Program, Inc.

Ms. Catherine McCabe

Mr. Jesus A. Nerio, Esq.

Ms. Jean Ellen Padberg, Esq.

Mr. Ralph Perales, Esq.

Dr. Helen Ridley
Kennesaw State University

Court Interpreter Training

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| September 14 | Study Language Lab , GA Perimeter College, Clarkston Campus |
| September 19-20 | Orientation Session , Maloof Auditorium, Decatur |
| September 26 | Review/Written Exam , Columbus |
| September 28 | Study Language Lab , GA Perimeter College, Clarkston Campus |
| October 2 | Oral Exam <i>By Appointment</i> , Atlanta, 244 Washington St. |
| October 3 | Review/Written Exam , Maloof Auditorium, Decatur |
| October 4 | Oral Exam <i>By Appointment</i> , Atlanta, 244 Washington St. |
| October 24-25 | Orientation Session , Atlanta, 244 Washington St. |

Contact the Commission on Interpreters at 244 Washington Street, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30334; telephone 404-463-6478.

On-line Travel Reimbursement Form

The AOC Fiscal Office has introduced an on-line travel reimbursement form using Microsoft Excel. Mr. Randy Dennis, Assistant Director for Finance, talks about the features of the new electronic forms.

Q. Why a new travel form?

R.D. Many people who claim expenses are not familiar with the state's regulations on travel. This form has those regulations built in. For example, the state allows a maximum of \$28/day for food expenses, except in high cost areas. Any amount over \$28 will automatically be deducted from the claimed amount.



Mr. Randy Dennis

Also, with the new form when a user selects his group, account numbers are automatically generated which tell AOC fiscal employees which accounts are to be charged for those expenses.

Q. Where do users go to find the form?

R.D. The form is available on the AOC website, www.georgiacourts.org

Q. To complete the form, what program does the user need?

R.D. Microsoft Excel, and be sure to enable the macros when opening the form.

Q. Is the reimbursement form hard to use?

R.D. No. Quite the opposite. The user only needs to download the form and save it to his/her computer hard drive. From there the form can be used over and over again. There's no need to go back to the website. Just input your expense data, Excel does the math.

Instructions are included in the document. Before completing the

form, a vendor ID number must be obtained from the AOC fiscal office. Users can call me at 404-651-7613 to obtain that number.

Q. What happens when I need to use the form again?

R.D. Since you have already saved the form on your computer, all you need to do is press the "clear data" icon at the bottom of the page when you open the document. Personal data (i.e., name, address, phone number) and the vendor ID number will remain on the forms.

Q. Is use of the new form a requirement?

R.D. No. While we want people to use this new form, the AOC fiscal department will accept previous forms.

Q. Are there any other special instructions people need to know about?

R.D. Users must use the print function on the document itself, located at the bottom of the page. Don't use the print command on the Excel tool bar.

For more information about the travel reimbursement form, contact Randy Dennis at 404-651-7613 or dennisr@gaaoc.us

The Judicial Council Committee on Domestic Violence met on August 23, 2002, to announce grant awards to non-profit organizations that provide legal services to victims of domestic violence. The money was distributed as follows: Atlanta Legal Aid Society, \$430,000; Glynn Community Crisis Center, Inc., d/b/a Amity House, \$10,000; Georgia Legal Services, \$1,106,000; and Circle of Hope, \$54,000.



The Judicial Council Committee on Domestic Violence. Pictured (l to r), Ms. Cynthia H. Clanton; Judge William T. Boyett; Dr. Louise Bill; Ms. Linda A. Klein; Judge Melodie Clayton; Judge William P. Bartles; Judge Anne E. Barnes.

Judicial Opinion Survey on Public Trust

The Supreme Court Commission on Public Trust and Confidence in the Courts recently released a report of judicial responses concerning public perception of the courts. The judicial survey questions were based on concerns raised in a telephone survey and a series of focus groups. Researchers at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government devised the survey instrument to gauge the judges' view. The survey was sent to 1,416 judges; thirty-nine percent (551) of judges responded.

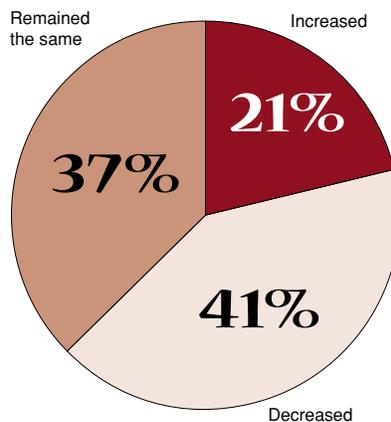
Judges were asked to evaluate (1) public trust and confidence in the courts and factors contributing to such public opinion; (2) the extent to which court personnel contribute to specific public concerns, i.e., timeliness of court proceedings, excessive cost in litigation, perception of unfair or unjust resolution of cases; (3) lawyer conduct; (4) judicial conduct; and (5) possible remedies.

Background information was solicited regarding experience on the bench, class of court, population of jurisdiction. Of the 551 respondents, 21% sit as superior court judges; 15% on the state court; 32% as magistrate court judges; 11% juvenile court; 14% as probate court judges; and 24% as municipal court judges.

What the Survey Revealed

- ❖ Ninety-eight percent of respondents regarded their courts as being viewed by the public with a “great deal of confidence” or “some confidence.”
- ❖ Better qualified judges and better qualified court personnel were seen by 81% of judges as being “highly effective” or “effective” in increasing the public trust and confidence.

In the past 5-10 years has public trust and confidence in the Georgia courts increased, decreased, or remained the same?



-
- ❖ 50% answered that public opinion toward the Georgia courts is based on inaccurate information.
 - ❖ When asked what judicial conduct contributes to increased time and cost of litigation, a majority of judges answered that disorganization/inefficiency; indecisiveness; poor case management and scheduling were among factors that “significantly contribute” or “contribute.”

Comments from Judges

- ❖ We should remember that most of us were lawyers before becoming judges. What is routine to most of us is earth-shattering to a litigant, particularly a party in a divorce/custody action, or a DUI, or a juvenile proceeding. People really appreciate a judge, in any court, who takes the time to act concerned.
- ❖ Streamline the court system with two levels of courts.
- ❖ Better education of the public on the role of the judiciary. Judges who move cases and have judge-driven courts, instead of lawyer-driven courts; more effective use of ADR; do away with jury trials in divorce actions; Drug Courts and Family Courts in all circuits.
- ❖ Litigants need to be better educated as to what expectations to have for their court appearance. Lawyers fail miserably in this regard.
- ❖ My own perception is that the lack of public confidence is almost entirely related to the amount of crime in the community and the lack of discipline of attorneys who flagrantly violate rules of ethics.
- ❖ We must use media to inform. If we do not tell our story, no one else will. We are not even trying.

For more information, contact the AOC at 404-656-5171. ♪



Please Recycle

People, Places and Events ...

In Memoriam

* Former Court of Appeals Judge **Harold R. Banke, Sr.**, died on July 9, 2002, following a lengthy illness. Appointed to the Court of Appeals in 1977, Judge Banke served as chief judge in 1985 and as a presiding judge until his retirement in 1991. He was a superior court judge in the Clayton Judicial Circuit for 15 years. The Clayton County Justice Center complex, dedicated in November 2000, was named in Judge Banke's honor.

Retirements

* **Judge Sallylu Hart**, Probate Court of Thomas County has announced her retirement from the bench effective September 30, 2002. She has served the probate court for 37 years, presiding as Judge for the past 21 years.

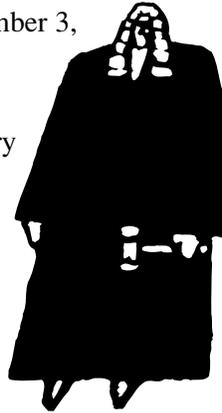


Ms. Gail Arceneaux, Deputy Clerk of the Court of Appeals, was honored at a reception at the court on July 24, 2002. Ms. Arceneaux's career at the court spanned 25 years. (Above) She was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the court by Chief Judge Alan Blackburn.

Appointments

Alcovy Judicial Circuit

* Covington native **Horace Johnson, Jr.** is the new fourth superior court judge in the Alcovy Judicial Circuit. Judge Johnson was sworn in by Governor Barnes on September 3, 2002 at the State Capitol. He is a graduate of Emory University and the University of Georgia School of Law and has practiced law in Covington since 1985.



Atlanta Judicial Circuit

* Governor Barnes has appointed Fulton County State Court **Judge M. Gino Brogdon, Sr.** to the bench of the superior court of the Atlanta Judicial Circuit. Judge Brogdon, a six-year veteran of the State Court, fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Isaac Jenrette. He is a graduate of Oberlin College and the Indiana University School of Law.

* Magistrate **Diane Bessen** of Atlanta has been named by Gov. Barnes to replace Judge Brogdon on the State Court of Fulton County. Judge Bessen is a graduate of Emory University and Emory School of Law.

Paulding Judicial Circuit

* **Judge Tonny Beavers**, Chief Magistrate of Paulding County, was recently appointed to the Superior Court bench by Governor Roy Barnes. Judge Beavers formerly served as associate juvenile court judge and maintained a law practice in Dallas. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia and the John Marshall School of Law.

Juvenile Courts

* **Judge Hugh Hadden** of Augusta has been named to the juvenile court bench in Columbia County. Judge Hadden will serve part-time; he replaces Judge James Blanchard.

* Buena Vista attorney **Wayne Jernigan** has been sworn in as a new juvenile court judge in the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit. Judge Jernigan took the oath of office from Judge Aaron Cohn at the Government Center complex in Columbus early in July.

District Attorney

* **Richard Mallard** is the new DA for the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit. He replaces **Joseph Martin III** who retired earlier this year.

Make Note...

The AOC Fiscal Users Group will meet October 1, 2002, Georgia Center for Continuing Education in Athens, GA.

Contact Mr. Randy Dennis, Asst. Director for Finance, 404-651-7613.

Judicial Council Actions

◆ At the meeting held on August 29, 2002, the Judicial Council recommended new superior court judgeships for the **Gwinnett Judicial Circuit** and the **Cherokee Judicial Circuit**. These recommendations will be forwarded to the Governor and the Legislature. Recommendations for new judgeships are based on a number of factors including: weighted caseload, jury trials per judge, population per judge, etc. Judgeship data is compiled each year by the Research Division of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

◆ David Ratley, AOC Director reported that requests for assistance from the contract architect have been received from: Henry County, Fulton County, Crisp County, Lumpkin County and Sumter County. ♪

Judges of the Judicial Council of Georgia



Standing (l-r): Judge Marion Guess; Judge Bryant Culpepper; Judge Marvin Sorrells; Judge Martha Christian; Judge Michael E. Hancock; Judge Jerry Day; Judge Hal Craig; Judge Carlton Vines; Presiding Judge J.D. Smith; Judge Philip Taylor; Judge George Kreeger; Judge J. Carlisle Overstreet; Judge William Bartles; Judge Phillip West; Judge Dawson Jackson.

Seated (l-r): Judge Michael Karpf; Judge Susan Tate; Chief Judge G. Alan Blackburn; Presiding Justice Leah Ward Sears; Chief Justice Norman S. Fletcher; Judge Melodie Clayton; Judge Peggy Walker; Judge Elizabeth Long; Judge Wallace Cato. 8/29/02

People, Places and Events ... cont.

Magistrate Courts

* **Judge Patricia Barron** has been appointed Chief Magistrate for Clarke County. She succeeds Judge Michael Coleman who resigned to run for superior court judge. Judge Barron is a graduate of Mercer University and the Georgetown School of Law. She has served as an associate magistrate and an adjunct professor at UGA School of Law.

* The Glynn County superior court judges have appointed **Tim Barton**, formerly county public defender, to the position of Chief Magistrate. Judge Barton took office on July 17, 2002, and will complete the unexpired term of Judge Joe Hammill.

Awards & Honors

* **Justice Robert Benham** of the Supreme Court of Georgia was recently honored by the State Bar of Georgia with its Tradition in Excellence Award. Justice Benham was recognized for his outreach efforts during his term as Chief Justice, as well as his distinguished service on the bench.

* Also at the State Bar's annual meeting, **Judge Purnell Davis II** of the Toombs Judicial Circuit was named the first recipient of the Annual Professionalism Award. Judge Davis was nominated by his fellow judges because of his reputation for civility, honesty and integrity.

* Cobb Superior Court Administrator **Skip Chesshire** was awarded the Lady Justice Pin at the annual meeting of the National Association of Court Managers held in July, 2002. Mr. Chesshire is a member of the NACM Board of Directors and has served as the Cobb superior court administrator since 1985. The Lady Justice Award acknowledges exceptional effort and service to the organization.

* **Nolan Martin**, 8th District Court Administrator, recently completed the Court Executive Development Program offered by the Institute of Court Management. His paper, entitled "The Efficacy of Drug Courts in Georgia," received the "Director's Award of Merit for Applied Research."

Judges' Councils Name Officers

Council of Superior Court Judges

Judge J. Carlisle Overstreet

President

Augusta Judicial Circuit

Judge Martha C. Christian

President-Elect

Macon Judicial Circuit

Chief Judge H. Gibbs Flanders

Secretary-Treasurer

Dublin Judicial Circuit

.....

Council of State Court Judges

Judge Melodie H. Clayton

President

Cobb County

Judge Carlton H. Vines

President-Elect

Chattooga County

Judge David M. Fuller

Secretary

Gwinnett County

Judge Brenda H. Cole

Treasurer

Fulton County

.....

Council of Probate Court Judges

Judge Darin McCoy

President

Evans County

Judge W. Marion Guess, Jr.

President-Elect

DeKalb County

Judge Susan Tate

First Vice President

Clarke County

Judge Mary T. Cranford

Secretary-Treasurer

Coweta County

Council of Magistrate

Court Judges

Judge Philip P. Taylor

President

Cobb County

Judge Jerry Day

President-Elect

Walker County

Judge Haynes Henton Townsend

First Vice President

Whitfield County

Judge Alec Glenn Dorsey

Secretary

Wilcox County

Judge Glenda Dowling

Treasurer

Pierce County

.....

Council of Municipal

Court Judges

Judge Viviane Haight Ernestes

President

Decatur

Judge Charles L. Barrett, III

President-Elect

Duluth

Judge William M. Coolidge, III

Vice President

Buford

Judge Kathryn Gerhardt

Secretary

Macon

Judge A. Frost Ward

Treasurer

Morrow

TPO Video Available

Protection Orders: Things You Need to Know” is a video that does just what it says. Introduced by Chief Justice Norman S. Fletcher and narrated by Judge Thelma Wyatt Cummings Moore of the Atlanta Judicial Circuit, the 20 minute video describes what a Temporary Protective Order (TPO) is and gives step-by-step instructions on how to obtain a TPO. Ms. Julie Koob, Executive Director of the Georgia Commission on Family Violence, said, “Protection orders can mean the difference between life and death to victims of domestic violence. This video helps to provide access to the courts for victims to obtain safety.”

Copies of the video are to be widely distributed to shelters, superior court clerks, and secretaries for superior court judges making them accessible to victims. The videos will also be distributed at the 9th Annual Domestic Violence Conference to be held in Pine Mountain, on October 24-25, 2002.

The Judicial Council Pro Se Committee, Georgia Commission on Family Violence, Council of Superior Court Judges, and Criminal Justice Coordinating Council worked jointly on the development and production of this video.

To order a copy of “Protection Orders: Things You Need to Know,” contact Ms. LaShawn Murphy, AOC, at 404-651-6325. ☞

District Updates

7th JAD

Administrative Judge:

Judge George H. Kreeger

District Court Administrator:

Jody Overcash

Circuits:

Cherokee, Cobb, Conasauga, Douglas, Lookout Mountain, Paulding, Rome, Tallapoosa.

✓ The juvenile mediation program in Haralson, Paulding, and Polk counties was awarded a \$44,195 grant to extend mediation services to deprivation cases. Ms. Angela Norris, with the 7th District, says, “We hope to offer services for rehabilitation of delinquent youth at risk and provide shelter care for deprived children. Mediation provides a forum where legal rights of children and parents are protected.”

The goal of the Juvenile Mediation Program is to transfer cases from the court docket that might be better served through mediation. Ms. Norris also pointed out, “We hope to expedite the placement of children in DFAC’s custody and into permanent stable homes.”

✓ Under the direction of Superior Court Judge Jack Partain and Drug Court Coordinator George Shirilla, the Conasauga Judicial Circuit Drug Court has been operating since February 2002.

Click onto what’s happening ...

www.georgiacourts.org

8th JAD

Administrative Judge:

Judge Phillip West

District Court Administrator:

Nolan E. Martin

Circuits :

Cordele, Dublin, Middle, Ocmulgee, Oconee.

✓ Interpreters Training — the 8th District is promoting use of qualified court interpreters. A workshop was held at Heart of Georgia Technical School in Dublin on August 29-30.

✓ An architectural needs assessment is underway in Crisp County for a proposed Justice Center Complex.

✓ Courtroom presentation systems (ELMOs) are in the works for Crisp, Jasper, Jones, Emanuel, and Candler counties.

Children, Family & Courts

The Administrative Office of the Courts has recently contracted with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia to assess court system needs in providing improved services to children and families. Every level of court is involved in decision-making that touches the lives of Georgia’s most vulnerable citizens, our children.

Ms. Karen Baynes, formerly Associate Judge of the Juvenile Court of Fulton County, is now Director of Governmental Services at the Institute of Government and will lead the research team in conducting the needs assessment. Her practical experience, knowledge and compassion for children will be of great value in crafting workable solutions for improvements in service-delivery.

David Ratley, AOC Director, noted that this effort is one more step on the road to making the AOC a pre-eminent service-provider and a nationally recognized leader in judicial support efforts. ☪

CYCC Offers Video on Tobacco Hazards

The Children and Youth Coordinating Council has released “Fatal Addiction: Tobacco’s Deadly Grasp,” a video that features teens and families whose lives have been damaged by a choice to smoke cigarettes.

Dr. Pete Colbenson, director of CYCC, said, “This documentary comes at a time when Georgia is recognizing its need to focus on educating youth about tobacco use.”

Dr. Kathleen Toomer, director of the Georgia Division of Public Health, noted, “the ‘Fatal Addiction’ documentary is a good place to start. This program demonstrates the harm tobacco causes families.”

To receive a free copy of “Fatal Addiction” contact Judy Reynolds, CYCC Public Information Officer, by phone 404-656-9345 or e-mail judyreynolds@cycc.state.ga.us ☪

2002-2003 Georgia Courts Directory Corrections

Some information ran incorrectly or was inadvertently left out of the 2002-2003 Georgia Courts Directory.
Please note these corrections.

SUPERIOR COURT

Alcovy Judicial Circuit

Add: Judge Horace Jerome Johnson, Jr.

116 S. Broad Street
Courthouse Annex 6
Monroe, GA 30655
770-267-1491/F 267-1365

(delete from Juvenile Court of Alcovy Circuit)

Atlanta Judicial Circuit

Judge M. Gino Brogdon, Sr.
Fax 404-730-7160

Coweta Judicial Circuit

Judge Aubrey Duffey
Judge John Simpson
ZIP Code 30112

Paulding Judicial Circuit

Add: Judge Tonny S. Beavers
(delete from Magistrate of Paulding, Municipal Courts of Dallas, Hiram)

SENIOR JUDGES

State Court Judges
Add: Jack B. Smith
1716 Deerfield Circle
Decatur, GA 30033
404-634-7245/F 634-3531

STATE COURT

Burke County

Judge Jerry Daniel
FAX 706-437-9200

Fulton County

Judge Diane Bessen
FAX 404-224-0572

Toombs County

Delete: Judge Malcolm Bryant

JUVENILE COURT

Clayton Circuit

Assoc. Judge Steven Teske
770-477-3260

Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit

Delete: Assoc. Judge Nikki L. Marr

Assoc. Judge Linda Bratton Haynes

404-294-2916/F 297-3907

lbhaynes@co.dekalb.ga.us

Assoc. Judge Desiree Sutton Peagler

Fax 404-294-2143

MAGISTRATE COURT

Baldwin County

Judge Genna McLeod Wilkes
140 Island Drive

Cherokee County

Add: Judge Joseph Henry Oczkowski

90 North Street, Suite 150

Canton, GA 30114

770-479-8516

Clarke County

Chief Magistrate

Delete: Judge John M. Coleman

Add: Judge Patricia D. Barron

DeKalb County

Add: Judge Joyce Averils

3630 Camp Circle

Decatur, GA 30032

678-476-1119/F 476-9428

Fayette County

Chief Magistrate

Delete: Judge A.K. Melear

Add: Judge Charles Floyd

Hart County

Delete: Judge Robert D. Banks

Add: Judge Joseph Haley

PO Box 698

Hartwell, GA 30643

706-246-0580/F 376-6821

Miller County

Add: Judge Joyce S. Newberry

155 South First Street

Colquitt, GA 39837

229-758-4110/F 758-8133

SPECIAL COURTS

City Court of Atlanta

Senior Judge Edward T. Brock

380 Kennedy-Sells Road

Auburn, GA 30011

770-867-3424/F 867-3424

etbrock@mindspring.com

MUNICIPAL COURTS

Covington

Delete: Judge Jerry O. Capes

Judge David Strickland

davidstrickland-covington@

worldnet.att.net

Screven

Delete: Judge Raymond S. Gordon

Monroe

Chief Judge William R. Ashe

Gholbrooks@monroega.com

Videoconferencing Committee Views ELMO

On July 24, 2002, members of the Supreme Court Videoconferencing Committee had a chance to view and interact with the ELMO system that is used in the Supreme Court of Georgia's courtroom in Atlanta. ELMO (Electric Light Machine Organization) is an evidence presentation and videoconferencing tool that could be useful in many court proceedings. The committee is working on a uniform court rule regarding use of such technology.

To demonstrate the capabilities



The July 24 ELMO demonstration in Atlanta.

of ELMO, a student intern acting as a lawyer in the courtroom, questioned George W. Stanley, an expert witness located off-site. Mr.

Stanley, a GBI Firearms Section Manager, was shown on a screen lowered from the ceiling of the courtroom. Computer monitors at the lectern and at each justice's seat provided a clear view of Mr. Stanley as he gave testimony. Committee chair Judge Kathleen Gosselin, of the Northeastern Judicial Circuit; Judge Joseph Iannazzone, of the Gwinnett County State Court; and Mr. Tom Ulbricht, deputy court administrator for Fulton

County Superior Court, viewed the demonstration from the bench.

Other members of the committee watched from the gallery. ☺



Georgia Courts Directory Corrections cont.

US BANKRUPTCY COURT

Northern District

Delete: Judge A. David Kahn

Add: Judge C. Ray Mullins
1270 US Courthouse
75 Spring Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-215-1002

Add: Judge Paul W. Bonapfel
1492 US Courthouse
75 Spring Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-215-1018

DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATORS

District 10

L. Tom Gunnels, Jr.
706-312-7230

STATE COURT CLERKS

Henry County

Marian Bradberry
770-898-7600/F 989-7607

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

Ogeechee Circuit

Delete: R. Joseph Martin, III
Add: Richard Mallard

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTERS

Carroll County

Delete: Jean Clements

Floyd County

Beverly Bailey-Daniel
706-290-6082

JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION

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Bouhan, Williams & Levy LLP
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New Program Director at the Board of Court Reporting

You might not know exactly what the Board of Court Reporting does. Sharon Reiss wants that to change. Ms. Reiss, of the AOC serves as Program Director for the Board of Court Reporting (BCR), and hopes to change the view reporters, judges, court administrators, and others who interact with the Board.

Because the BCR is responsible for the yearly licensing and license renewal of reporters, Ms. Reiss says that “our emphasis is to make sure that the testing produces qualified and competent reporters. By promoting the competence and integrity

of those who become reporters, the Board hopes to gain increased visibility.”

But there’s more to the Board of Court Reporting. Ms. Reiss hopes to send representatives of the Board to regional meetings of judges and others who interact with court reporters. In this manner, the BCR



Ms. Sharon Reiss

can answer questions, distribute information about their duties and responsibilities, develop relationships, and receive feedback.

A new webpage is being designed to allow better access to information about the Board’s function, pertinent information about certification, registration of court reporting firms, fee schedules, legislation, etc. For further information on the Board of Court Reporting, contact Ms. Sharon Reiss at 404-463-4171 or reiss@gaoc.us ☞



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