



Council of Accountability Court Judges

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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

The Council of Accountability Court Judges Recognizes Carl Vinson Institute of Government Accountability Court Coordinator Certification Program Graduates at Annual Training Conference

Athens, GA --- The Council of Accountability Court Judges (CACJ), along with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government, recognized the 2023 graduates of the prominent Accountability Court Coordinator Certification Program at the annual training conference's graduation ceremony on September 13, 2023.

Beginning in the Spring of 2020, CACJ and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government began providing coordinators and program directors of state-funded and/or certified accountability court programs the Accountability Court Coordinator Certification program. The objectives of this program are to increase the knowledge of the primary administrative functions of accountability court coordinators, develop the skills necessary to carry out the administrative functions as an accountability court coordinator, develop and maintain the high standards for the functioning of the accountability courts, and increase the professionalism of accountability court coordinators.

The program consists of a mixture of face-to-face classroom and online learning and is organized into eight courses for a total of 45 hours of instruction. The courses include Accountability & Advocacy, Communication, Conflict Resolution, Financial Concepts, Grant Administration, Procurement & Contract Management, Succession Planning & Delegation, and Team & Group Dynamics.

In December 2022, CACJ opened the Accountability Court Coordinator Certification Program to additional team member roles. The program is a professional development opportunity for accountability court team members including treatment providers, case managers, probation officers, etc. who are interested in completing the certification program.

The following 46 accountability court professionals completed the Coordinator Certification Program for 2023:

- *Cyndi Akande, Barrow County Drug Court
- *Rebecca Almand, Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit Accountability Courts
- *Breanna Falletta Bain, Enotah Judicial Circuit
- *Amy Bergstrom, Rome Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
- *Joshua Bess, Douglas County DUI/Drug Court
- *Michelle Boatright, Paulding County Mental Health Court
- *Adrienne Bowen, Clayton County Mental Health Court
- *Mark Bowers, Dublin Judicial Circuit Drug Court
- *Stephanie Branom, Dawson County Treatment Court
- *George Butler, Muscogee County Family Treatment Court and Juvenile Drug Court
- *Brooke Comley, Cobb County Drug Treatment Court
- *Shelley Cyphers, Brunswick Judicial Circuit Drug Court
- *Lakitta Daniels, Macon-Bibb Judicial Circuit Drug Court
- *Jamie Dapremont, Douglas County CHANCE Court
- *Hscola Dempsey, DeKalb County Juvenile Drug Court
- *Tamara Epps, Macon Judicial Circuit Family Treatment Court
- *Victoria Ford, Augusta Judicial Circuit Accountability Courts
- *Nikita Franklin, Fulton County Accountability Court
- *Chiquita Gaskin, Clayton Judicial Circuit DUI Court
- *Christa Grayson, Fayette County State Court Accountability Court
- *Sacha Greene, Council of Accountability Court Judges
- *Danny Hawkins, North Enotah Drug Court
- *Donna Ingram, Tifton Judicial Circuit Accountability Courts
- *Brittney Jenkins, Carroll County Mental Health Court
- *Jasmine Johnson, Troup County Mental Health Court and DUI/Drug Court
- *Rhoda Kimble-Wheeler, Columbia Judicial Circuit Accountability Court
- *Kalvin Kirksey, Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court
- *Geoffrey Martin, Lowndes County Juvenile Accountability Court
- *Christia Martinez, Western Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court
- *Mechelle McMullen, Macon Judicial Circuit
- *Cheryl Moon Pittman, Barrow County Family Treatment Court
- *Lisa Nash, Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit Drug Court
- *Cam Parks, Floyd County Drug Court
- *April Riedlinger, Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit Accountability Courts
- *April Robinson, Newton County Juvenile Behavioral Health Court
- *Chris Sconiers, Gwinnett County Accountability Courts
- *Stephanie Shook, Cherokee Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
- *Tiffany Shuff, Chatham County Drug Court
- *Sarah Sistrunk, Fulton County Accountability Courts
- *Suzanne Stewart, Forsyth County Accountability Courts
- *Sandra Strozier, DeKalb County Family Treatment Court
- *Kayla Tomes, Paulding Judicial Circuit Drug Court
- *Emma Walton, Cobb County Family Treatment Court

- *Jennifer Warren, Newton County Family Treatment Court
- *Patricia Waye, Atlantic Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court
- *Tonya Wilson, Jefferson County Drug Court

This graduating class is the third cohort to complete the Coordinator Certification Program, of which there are 166 graduates to date.

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