



COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES OF GEORGIA

JULY 2019

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COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES NEWS

COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES ANNUAL MEETING

The Council of Accountability Court Judges held elections at the June Annual meeting to vote for FY20 Executive Committee members.

The Council of Accountability Court Judges would like to announce Chief Judge Kathleen F. Gosselin as the new Council Executive Chair. Judge Gosselin presides over the Mental Health and Veterans Treatment Courts in the Northeastern Judicial Circuit. Judge Gosselin received the Executive Chair torch from Chief Judge Brenda S. Weaver. Judge Weaver will continue to serve as the Immediate Past Chair for the Council. Judge D. Scott Smith, Cherokee Judicial Circuit, was elected to serve as the FY20 Vice Chair.

The Council also thanked inaugural Executive Committee members, Chief Judge Jeffrey S. Bagley, Bell- Forsyth Judicial Circuit and Chief Judge T. Russell McClelland, Bell- Forsyth Judicial Circuit, for their dedicated service to the CACJ Executive Committee.

The Council welcomes Judge Charles E. Auslander, Western Judicial Circuit, Judge Russell W. Smith, Mountain Judicial Circuit, and Judge W. James Sizemore Jr., Southwestern Judicial Circuit, as the new Executive Committee members.

GEORGIA'S ACCOUNTABILITY COURTS ARE EXPANDING



The Council of Accountability Court Judges welcomes three new implementation programs in FY20.

- Douglas Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
- Fayette County Veterans Treatment Court
- Piedmont Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court

The total number of CACJ certified accountability court programs in Georgia has increased to **162** as of July 1, 2019.

COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES STAFF UPDATES

Ms. Lasheika Kassa has been promoted and is now serving as the CACJ Treatment Fidelity Program Manager!

The primary responsibility of the Treatment Fidelity Program is to help the courts ensure that the CACJ/CJCC funded treatment is being delivered with fidelity. It is also a technical assistance resource for the courts. Lasheika will lead the Treatment Fidelity Program with the assistance of a new position - Treatment Fidelity Program Monitor.

save *the* date

2019 ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

September 15 - 18, 2019



Transforming a Vision Into Excellence

THE CLASSIC CENTER

300 N THOMAS ST.

ATHENS, GA 30601

2019 Annual Training Conference registration opens *Wednesday, July 17, 2019.*

Court Coordinators will receive a registration email from the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education (ICJE), Event Coordinator Laura Katheryne Hogan.

Accountability court team members should work with the program coordinator to register for the conference and select breakout sessions.

Lodging details will also be included in the conference registration email. Please check the CACJ website for 2019 conference updates.

STAR AWARDS

It's that time of year again! Is there someone on your team that stands out in their role that you think the state of Georgia should know about? If so, take a few minutes to nominate them for a STAR Award.

CACJ is now accepting nominations for STAR Awards until July 18, 2019.

STAR Award categories include Judge, Prosecutor, Defense Attorney, Probation Officer, Case Manager, Coordinator, Treatment Provider, and Law Enforcement Officer.

The results will be announced at the 2019 CACJ Training Conference.

Please feel free to contact Sacha Greene at sacha.greene@georgiacourts.gov with any questions.

PARTICIPANT ART

The Council of Accountability Court Judges will be hosting its annual Art Exhibit at the 2019 Training Conference and requests the submission of artwork from program participants.

- When: Sunday, September 15th –Wednesday, September 18th
- Where: The Classic Center: Grand Hall #1 (Resource Room)

All artwork submitted will need to be on art canvas for display. Coordinators will be responsible for bringing artwork on Sunday, September 15th from 3pm until 6pm, as well as taking all art with them on the last day of the conference.

The theme of the art submissions should be in alignment with this year's conference: Transformations.

If you have any questions, please contact Lasheika.Kassa@georgiacourts.gov.

2019 TRAINING CONFERENCE

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC BREAKOUTS (DSB) SURVEY

At this year's conference, CACJ is excited to offer discipline-specific, facilitated networking breakouts. In an effort to give our courts the opportunity to help drive conference content, we are asking for your help in identifying topics, areas for discussion, and/or questions for these breakout sessions.

A survey was released Thursday, June 6, 2019 via the CACJ Coordinators intranet to identify content for the discipline specific breakouts. Coordinators, please discuss topics of interest with your team for each referenced discipline and use the survey to electronically submit your ideas by *July 12, 2019*.

To receive a link to the discipline specific breakout survey please email Rachel.Gage@georgiacourts.gov.

ACCOUNTABILITY COURT GRADUATIONS & SPECIAL EVENTS

SOUTH GEORGIA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

- ❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Mary Brown. South Georgia Judicial Circuit Drug Court program was featured in the local newspaper: *The Cairo Messenger*.

Drug Court program graduates its third local class

Another class of graduates has completed the South Georgia Judicial Circuit Accountability Felony Drug Court program and the new graduates' achievements were celebrated during a ceremony held Thursday, May 30, at the Grady County Courthouse with a reception following at the Grady County Agri-Center.

Members of the third graduating class include Karen L. Moye and Corzaylan K. Donaldson, who were honored for completing the 18-24 month intensive program designed to help addicts kick the habit and stay out of jail.

Previous graduates include Sam Frisbie, Bryant Horton, Chris Maples, Brandon Osborn, Morgan Ulm, Dustin Fain, Robert Kelly and Albert Bufford.

The drug court has been spearheaded by Superior Court Judge J. Kevin Chason and is grant funded. Coordinator Mary Brown manages the day-to-day operations of the court in consultation with Judge Chason.

In order to graduate, the students must participate in the program at least 18 months, pay \$30 per month, test negative for any drugs during random testing, meet curfew requirements and attend special training classes.



NEW GRADUATES of the South Georgia Judicial Circuit Accountability Felony Drug Court are Karen L. Moye and Corzaylan Donaldson. They are pictured with Superior Court Chief Judge J. Kevin Chason.

MUSCOGEE COUNTY ADULT FELONY DRUG COURT CELEBRATED NATIONAL DRUG COURT MONTH

❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Dayna Solomon.



The Muscogee County Adult Drug Court hosted a Drug Court Field Day activity for National Drug Court Month. All participants and their families were invited to attend the event. There were relay races for the families, a cornhole tournament, and even a family kickball game. Program staff grilled hot dogs and fed the participants and their guests. All who were in attendance received an ADC T-shirt!

BARTOW COUNTY FAMILY TREATMENT COURT HOSTS APPRECIATION EVENT

❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Erica Cawood.

Jamie Cruse, DFCS liaison for the Bartow County Family treatment Court, was awarded a “Reunification Hero” award for Bartow County. She was presented the award by Mr. Todd Causby, DFCS administrator, and participant, Rebecca Moore, assisted with the presentation.



JUNE GRADUATION CELEBRATIONS



Judge Asha F. Jackson is photographed with a Dekalb County Felony Mental Health program graduate.



(Above photo) Judge Jason B. Thompson is photographed with Fayette County DUI Court program graduates.

Molly Laughlin, Program Coordinator, is photographed with the South Enotah Felony Drug Court graduates.

Fayette County DUI Court

South Enotah Drug Court

Dekalb County Felony
Mental Health Court

Bartow County Family
Treatment Court

Upcoming accountability court graduation announcements are located on the CACJ website calendar.

ACCOUNTABILITY COURT Q4 DATA COLLECTION AND SUBMISSION

As you may know, accountability courts will not be able to push/submit accountability court data for the fourth quarter of FY19 as originally scheduled between July 1 and July 15. There will be no penalty for data submissions received after 7/15.

Please stand by and we will update you as soon as we have more information regarding this delay. We thank you for your patience.

In the interim, please view the Q4 Data Submission Tip shared by Ms. Callie Weir.



Drug Screens: Only report substances as “other” if you do not see the positive substance in the drop-down box.

If you have questions about how to report a positive substance in a drug screen, please contact Callie Weir at 404-463-6887 or callie.weir@georgiacourts.gov.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR JULY – AUGUST

- **July 17, 2019** - Conference registration opens
- **July 25, 2019** - MRT Trauma and MRT Booster registration opens
- **August 9, 2019** - MHS, Inc. hosted webinar for LS/CMI assessment users.
- **August 30, 2019** - Conference registration closes

IMPORTANT REMINDER

LS/CMI ASSESSMENT TRAINING PURCHASING DEADLINE IS APPROACHING

As a friendly reminder, effective October 1, 2019, the Level of Service Inventory - Revised (LSI-R) will no longer be provided by the Council of Accountability Court Judges (CACJ). The Level of Service Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) will replace the LSI-R.

The deadline to purchase the LS/CMI assessment user training and training kit from MHS, Inc. is **July 31, 2019**.

The deadline for LS/CMI user training completion is **August 31, 2019**.

Please note, after completion of the online training, the LS/CMI users' training certificate of completion must be submitted to the CACJ website.

After CACJ has received the user's training certificate of completion, details for the mandatory webinar will be emailed to the user.

Courts will not receive LS/CMI uses until the online training and mandatory webinar have been completed.

Please contact Kimberly Howard, CACJ Operations Coordinator, with questions about the transition and a copy of the memorandums: Transition to the LS/CMI from the LSI-R Assessment Tool and Training and Purchasing Details.