



COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES OF GEORGIA

AUGUST 2018

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GEORGIA'S ACCOUNTABILITY COURT PROGRAMS NEWS

ATLANTIC JUDICIAL CIRCUIT VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

- ❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Della Martin.

Atlantic Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court team and program participants recently completed a trip to the Third Infantry Division Museum at Fort Stewart. The Third Infantry Museum is the largest military base east of the Mississippi. This trip was a celebration of the accomplishments and hard work for program participants. Included is a photo from the recent trip to the museum.



CHEROKEE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FEATURED IN THE LOCAL NEWS

- ❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Melissa Johnson.

"A Clean Break: Bartow, Gordon counties celebrate a decade of drug court successes"



On July 7, 2018 Daily Tribune News featured a story celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Cherokee Judicial Circuit Drug Court program and shared a heartwarming story from the first program graduate, Thomas Baker.

Cherokee Judicial Circuit Drug Court began in 2008 and is presided by Judge D. Scott Smith, CACJ Executive Committee member and Training Committee Chair. The program serves program participants in Bartow County and Gordon County.

Photographed are Judge D. Scott Smith, Melissa Johnson, Program Coordinator, and Probation Officer Tommy Robertson in Washington D.C. during a trip to thank national leaders for supporting problem solving courts across the nation.

To read the entire article please visit: <http://www.daily-tribune.com/stories/a-clean-break-bartow-gordon-counties-celebrate-a-decade-of-drug-court-successes,19339>

FAYETTE COUNTY DUI COURT HOSTS AN INAGUARAL PROGRAM PICNIC

- ❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Martha Hall.



Fayette County DUI Court hosted the inaugural program picnic. The event hosted program participants, families, team members, and community supporters. Plenty of food was on hand and even a game of kickball occurred. Ms. Hall is excited to announce the program will host the picnic annually to celebrate the accomplishments of program participants and show appreciation for community support.

ALCOVY RESOURCE COURT

- ❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Robert Pelfrey.



Alcovy Resource Court team members and program partners attended the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program Strategic Planning Meeting in Washington, D.C. as part of a joint planning grant awarded to Newton & Walton County to reduce the prevalence of mental disorders in jails. The grant award will support and promote public safety through the coordination of system resources for people who are accessing services including jails and mental health crisis services. The JMCHP promotes cross-discipline training for justice and treatment professionals, and facilitates communication, collaboration, and the delivery of support services among justice professionals, and treatment and related service providers.

Photographed are Coordinator Robert Pelfrey, Case Manager Anna Watkins, Dr. Orion Mowbray and Dr. Lydia Aletraris - Assistant Director, Center for Research on Behavioral Health and Human Services Delivery, Owens Institute for Behavioral Research.

SOUTH GEORGIA FELONY DRUG COURT'S FIRST GRADUATION

- ❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Mary Brown and Staff Writer Mesha Wind.

South Georgia Accountability Court recently celebrated the program's first graduation on Tuesday July 10, 2018. The felony drug court program began in 2016 and is presided by Judge J. Kevin Chason.

The Cairo Messenger attended the ceremony and captured special moments from the first graduation. Below is a feature:

First graduates of Drug Court were recognized Tuesday

Mesha C. Wind
Staff Writer

The first graduates of a new drug program aimed at keeping nonviolent offenders out of jail were recognized Tuesday with a ceremony at the Grady County Courthouse. Spearheaded by Superior Court Judge J. Kevin Chason, the South Georgia Judicial Circuit Accountability Felony Drug Court is an 18-24 month intensive program designed to help addicts kick the habit and stay out of jail. "The program has really

been a good success. It's going really well," says Mary Brown, program coordinator.

At Tuesday's ceremony, Judge Chason presented each of the five graduates with a diploma of completion and made positive remarks about each.

Pastor Johnny Moore was the featured speaker. Moore said, "In the 80's I've walked where you are and I never had a goal to be a pastor." He told them about his salvation and how the Lord has worked in his life.

Following the ceremony,



Judge Kevin Chason and Program Coordinator Mary Brown are photographed with graduates.



a reception was held in honor of the graduates.

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, attend special training classes.

Although not every student was able to successfully

complete the inaugural Drug Court, five were able to graduate, Sam Frisbie, Bryant Horton, Chris Maples, Brandon Osborn, and Morgan Ulm.

The Drug Court is a grant funded program that began in Grady County, expanded to include Mitchell County last year and Decatur County this year.

ALCOVY JUDICIAL CIRCUIT RESOURCE COURT

❖ Submitted by Coordinator, Robert Pelfrey.

Newton County celebrated a graduate in July. Newton and Walton County also awarded the STAR Award to a deserving program participant. The STAR award is for outstanding progress and commitment to the program and is awarded by team vote. Photographed are Judge Samuel Ozburn with the graduate and STAR award recipient.



PAULDING JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DRUG COURT

❖ Submitted by Coordinator, Tracy Jacob.

Paulding Judicial Circuit Drug Court Program recently celebrated the program's second graduation. Together with the four participants who graduated in January, this brings the total number of program graduates to eight. The graduates have been in the program for approximately two years. All of the graduates have maintained their sobriety, re-established relationships with family members, and maintained employment. Two of the recent graduates obtained their GED while in the Program. One graduate has plans to become a C.A.R.E.S. counselor and a second is studying to obtain his license to sell insurance.



The reception was sponsored by the Rotary Club Dallas.

Photographed are Judge Dean C. Bucci with program graduates.

*Congratulations
July Graduates*

Savannah-Chatham County
Drug Court

Cobb County Veterans
Treatment Court

South Enotah Felony Drug
Court

South Georgia Accountability
Court

Hall County DUI Court

Appalachian Circuit
Accountability Courts

Clayton County Drug Court

Hall County Drug Court

Newton and Walton County
Resource Court

Henry County Drug Court

Paulding Judicial Circuit Drug
Court

Cobb County DUI Court

Gwinnett County Drug Court
Program

COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES NEWS

2018 CACJ TRAINING CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION:

2018 CACJ Training Conference team registration will close on Friday, August 10th. Please complete conference registration using the registration link emailed by ICJE. If there are questions about the registration process please contact CACJ Operations Coordinator, Kimberly Howard or ICJE Event Planner Laura Hogan.

STAR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations for 2018 Training Conference STAR Awards are open until August 10th. STAR Award categories include Judge, Prosecutor, Defense Attorney, Probation Officer, Case Manager, Coordinator, Treatment Provider, and Law Enforcement Officer. Please feel free to contact Sacha Greene with questions. To place nominations visit the CACJ website conference page: <https://www.gaaccountabilitycourts.org/star-awards>

PARTICIPANT ART EXHIBIT

The Council of Accountability Court Judges will be hosting the annual Art Exhibit at the 2018 Training Conference and requests the submission of artwork from accountability court participants.

The theme of the art work should be in alignment with this year's conference: **GROWING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.**

For additional information about the Art Exhibit, please visit the CACJ website conference page:

<https://www.gaaccountabilitycourts.org/participant-art-exhibit>

COORDINATOR ROUND TABLE MEETING SURVEY

The annual Coordinator Round Table Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 16, 2018 from 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM during the CACJ Training Conference in Athens, GA. At this time, CACJ Staff is requesting your ideas for topics to be discussed during the round table meeting. Please suggest three topics that you feel can improve the quality of Georgia's accountability courts by, **Wednesday, August 15, 2018**. Please use the following link to submit topics: https://cacj.formstack.com/forms/coordinator_round_table_meeting_2018

IMPORTANT DATES FOR AUGUST



- 1 August 6, 2018: TREM (Trauma Recovery Empowerment Model) training registration opens.
- 2 August 13- 15, 2018: CBI-SA Training held. (Attendees will receive a registration confirmation from CACJ Operations Coordinator to attend)
- 3 August 20, 2018: FY19 Mental Health Court Start Up training registration opens.
- 4 August 23, 2018: New Coordinator training held. (Attendees will receive a registration confirmation from CACJ Operations Coordinator to attend)

To include a court program in the CACJ Newsletter or share an idea for a future submission, please email: Kimberly.howard@georgiacourts.gov.