



# Council of Accountability Court Judges

**Chief Judge Kathleen F. Gosselin**  
*Executive Committee Chair*  
*Northeastern Judicial Circuit*

**Taylor Jones**  
*Executive Director*

## **Inaugural Judge Stephen S. Goss Mental Health Award**

In memory of the late Judge Stephen S. Goss, the Council of Accountability Court Judges has created an award to honor his life and legacy as a nationally recognized expert on mental health. In 2002, Judge Goss founded the Dougherty Superior Court Mental Health & Substance Abuse Treatment Program. It served as one of four learning sites for mental health courts as designated by the United States Bureau of Justice Assistance and was the first mental health court created in the state of Georgia.

One mental health court team member will receive this award and be recognized across the state for outstanding contributions in the field. Criteria for nominees include, but are not limited to: 1) must have worked with the mental health court for at least three years 2) their efforts have had a far-reaching impact and demonstrate a commitment to improving the lives of the participants 3) they've assisted with raising awareness about mental health and the mental health court in the community. In 500 words or less, please tell us why you believe your nominee should be the first recipient of the 2020 Judge Stephen S. Goss Mental Health Award. Please also share details of any particular event or occurrence where this team member exhibited extraordinary conduct.

The selected recipient will be recognized for their outstanding service at this year's annual state conference during the awards ceremony.

*\*Note - portions of the submission/narrative may be quoted as part of the recognition process. Nominees may also be asked to assist with trainings and/or assisting with facilitating discipline-specific, facilitated breakout sessions at future state conferences\**

**Submissions for nominations will close on Friday, August 14, 2020.**