



# COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES OF GEORGIA

JULY 2018

[WWW.GAACCOUNTABILITYCOURTS.ORG](http://WWW.GAACCOUNTABILITYCOURTS.ORG)

## COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES COUNCIL BODY NEWS

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

The Council of Accountability Court Judges and Staff would like to announce Chief Judge Brenda S. Weaver as the new council body Executive Chair. Judge Weaver serves as program judge for the Adult Felony Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court in the Appalachian Judicial Circuit. Judge Weaver received the Executive Chair torch from Judge Stephen S. Goss. As you may know, Judge Goss has recently been appointed to the Appellate Court bench by Governor Nathan Deal. The council thanked Judge Goss for his service during the Annual meeting.



The Council also thanked Judge Phillip B. Spivey and Chief Judge Joe C. Bishop for their service. Judge Spivey has recently been voted the President of the Council of Juvenile Court



Judges and Judge Bishop will retire and serve as a Senior Judge!

The Council welcomes Judge James F. Bass, Eastern Judicial Circuit, Judge Verda M. Colvin, Macon Judicial Circuit, and Judge Alison W. Toller, Northeastern Judicial Circuit, as the new Executive Committee members.

Judge Kathlene F. Gosselin will serve as Vice Chair and Judge Jason J. Deal will continue his role as the Immediate Past Chair.

## GEORGIA'S ACCOUNTABILITY COURTS ARE EXPANDING

The Council of Accountability Court Judges welcomes seven new implementation courts in FY19! The new courts increase the number of Accountability Court programs in Georgia to 156.



- Atlantic Judicial Circuit Family Treatment Court*
- Clayton County Veterans Treatment Court*
- Conasauga Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court*
- Henry County Veterans Treatment Court*
- Lookout Mountain Mental Health Court*
- Paulding Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court*
- Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit Family Treatment Court*

## ACCOUNTABILITY COURTS IN THE NEWS & SPECIAL EVENTS

### CARROLL COUNTY ADULT FELONY DRUG COURT CELEBRATES



Carroll County Adult Felony Drug Court recently celebrated 20 years of helping program participants reach recovery. The program celebrated with a graduation and ceremony to commemorate the anniversary. Superior Court Judge Dustin Hightower, Carroll County Drug Court Coordinator Susan Davenport, Licensed Professional Counselor Tracy Wilson, and former drug court program graduate Bridget McKenzie spoke before the audience of graduates, their families, and other community members.



To read more about the celebration, please visit the program's feature in the local newspaper: [http://www.times-georgian.com/news/local/drug-court-graduates-its-largest-class/article\\_1da8e3f6-2db4-5dc5-bab0-c8da92cf353f.html](http://www.times-georgian.com/news/local/drug-court-graduates-its-largest-class/article_1da8e3f6-2db4-5dc5-bab0-c8da92cf353f.html)

### BULLOCH COUNTY ACCOUNTABILITY TREATMENT COURTS

Bulloch County Accountability Treatment Court landed a special feature in the local newspaper. As of July 1, 2018, Bulloch County Treatment Court will relaunch the Drug Court program under the leadership of Judge Michael Muldrew. To read more about the accomplishment please visit: <https://anvil.statesboroherald.com/local/drug-court-relaunches-mental-health-continues/>

On June 11, 2018, the Bulloch County Mental Health Court celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> graduate and Chief Judge William F. Woodrum's final court session as the Accountability Court's presiding Judge. Photographed are Judge Woodrum, Karen McClain (Coordinator), Participants (current and graduated), Participant Mothers, and Court Team Members. Judge Woodrum received a thank you gift from the Accountability Court team. He was with the Mental Health program from 2013-2018.



### FULTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENTS



The PARTNERS Fulton County Juvenile Behavioral Health Court held a **"Celebration of Achievements"** on June 28, 2018 at the Atlanta-Fulton County Library. This celebration is the second of its kind since PARTNERS' inception in September, 2015. PARTNERS participants, parents, community partners and supporters, court staff, and friends gathered to recognize the achievements and growth of two PARTNERS participants.





PARTNERS' presiding Judge Wenona C. Belton, Defense Attorney Byron Owens, and Probation Officer Teinika Lewis recognized each honoree and their parents. PARTNERS' mission is to facilitate judicial accountability with clinical treatment of court-involved youth with behavioral or co-occurring disorders. PARTNERS is designed to serve the needs of children who would benefit from the support of a team of professionals who monitor mental health treatment, education and medication. This accountability court aims to reduce

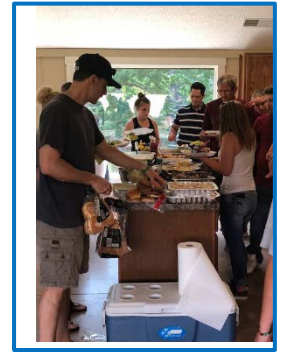
recidivism and provide a pathway for juveniles and their families to reconnect and create a positive impact within their communities.



Congratulations and best wishes to the honorees!

### PAULDING ADULT FELONY DRUG COURT

Paulding Judicial Circuit Drug Court held a picnic for all of the program participants and family members. Judge Dean C. Bucci was the chef for the picnic! Center Beyond Solutions, the program's treatment provider and program coordinator, Tracey Jacob provided burgers, dogs, sides, and desserts for the participants as well. Games were played and prizes were won but the real winners were the family members that saw the "return" of their loved ones.



### JUNE GRADUATIONS



Colquitt Substance Abuse/Mental Health Court celebrated four graduates in June. Photographed are program graduates with Judge James G. Tunison, Jr.

### CACJ UPCOMING EVENTS

#### 2018 ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2018 Annual Training Conference will open July 9, 2018.

#### CBI- SA TRAINING REGISTRATION

Registration for the August CBI-SA training will open July 9, 2018.



CONGRATULATIONS JUNE GRADUATES

HALL COUNTY VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

CARROLL COUNTY DRUG COURT

BULLOCH COUNTY ACCOUNTABILITY COURT

JEFFERSON COUNTY ADULT DRUG COURT