



COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES OF GEORGIA

NOVEMBER 2018

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ACCOUNTABILITY COURT PROGRAM NEWS

COBB COUNTY DUI COURT CELEBRATES 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Darcy Kamau.

On October 23, 2018, the Cobb County DUI Court hosted its 36th commencement ceremony in conjunction with their 10-year anniversary! The program launched in October of 2008. Since implementation the program has accepted over 525 applicants, had 391 graduates, and maintains an 88% retention rate. The original team of, Judge Clayton, Coordinator Emily Keener, and Probation Officer Kristen Novak returned to help the current team walk down memory lane.



Several program alumni also attended the ceremony. Supreme Court Chief Justice Melton was the special guest speaker for the event. Cobb County Chairman Mike Boyce presented a proclamation during the ceremony, and again that evening at the Board of Commissioners meeting. The support from the community, Department heads, and elected officials has been overwhelming and all program staff are grateful for their encouragement. Judge Brewton and Darcy Kamau as well as the rest of the team looks forward to another successful 10 years!



Photographed are: (upper right) Cobb County DUI Court Team, (middle photo) Cobb County DUI Court Judge Eric Brewton and Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Harold Melton (bottom photo) Cobb County DUI Court program graduate.

ROCKDALE ACCOUNTABILITY COURTS PARTICIPATES IN A COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP EVENT.

❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Mary-Lou Snow.



On Saturday morning, October 13th, the Rockdale Accountability Courts gathered for the 2018 Rivers Alive Clean-up event. In attendance were Superior Court & Resource Court Judge, Robert Mumford; Treatment Facilitators, Brenda Ernest and Misty Brown; Lab Technician, Jim Garrison; Resource Court Coordinator, Mary-Lou Snow; and of course the hard working Resource, Adult Drug and DUI Court Participants. All worked diligently to clean up Black Shoals Park and Randy Poynter Lake. "Team work makes the dream work."

PAULDING JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DRUG COURT PROGRAM

❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Tracy Jacob.

On Friday, October 12, 2018, the Paulding Judicial Circuit Drug Court Program hosted its third graduation since it began in January 2016. There were four graduates, which brings the total number of Paulding Drug Court graduates to twelve. Each of the graduates, accompanied by friends and family, spoke at graduation about how their lives have changed since entering the Program. They have maintained their sobriety, re-connected with their families, and maintained employment. Some of the graduates obtained their GED while in the program. One has paid off all of her sizable restitution payments from her criminal cases and has saved enough to make a down payment on a home and another intends to begin college.

This team is headed up by Superior Court Judge Dean Bucci and Drug Court Coordinator Tracy Jacob. Other team members include therapist Demetrice Way-Watts, Assistant District Attorney Brett Williams, Assistant Public Defender Richard Hull, Deputy Sheriffs Clinton Barker and Michelle Palmer, and Officer Ashley McClure of the Department of Community Supervision.

Photo legend: Chief Magistrate Judge Martin E. Valbuena, Hiram City Councilman Frank Moran, Superior Court Judge Dean C. Bucci, and Drug Court Executive Committee member Dr. Edward Pham appear with the newest four graduates of the Paulding Judicial Circuit Drug Court Program, who are shown wearing their graduation sashes.



In additional news, Deputy Clinton Barker was honored by the Paulding County Board of Commissioners for receiving the coveted “STAR” award during the 2018 CACJ Conference in Athens, GA. Judge Bucci spoke to the Board about Deputy Barker’s diligence, patience and kindness toward the participants. One of the program’s recent graduates also spoke about Deputy Barker’s dedication to the job, participants, and program. Other participants in the program showed up to support their surveillance officer. Deputy Barker’s accomplishment and recognition was also featured in the local newspaper Dallas News Era:

<https://www.thedallasnewera.com/local-news/2698-paulding-judicial-circuit-drug-court-program-nomination-of-deputy-clint-barker-for-star-award>

NEWTON COUNTY RESOURCE COURT HOSTS APPRECIATION EVENT

❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Robert Pelfrey.



Judge Samuel D. Ozburn and Newton County Resource Court staff hosted a dinner and speaking event October 16, 2018 in order to recognize and celebrate Newton County organizations and individuals who have contributed support for the ongoing operation of the mental health accountability court program. Current court participants spoke to the audience about their personal progress and successes.

Eastridge Community Church provided the meeting space, and the Covington Police Department Police Who Care Fund provided dinner for the special guests.

ATLANTIC JUDICIAL CIRCUIT VETERANS TREATMENT COURT'S INAGURAL GRADUATION

- ❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Della Martin-Horne.

The Atlantic Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court held the program's very first Graduation on October 15, 2018. The Coastal Courier attended the ceremony and captured special moments from the first graduation. The special event was featured by the local news outlet: <https://coastalcourier.com/news/veterans-treatment-court-holds-graduation-ceremony/>

ACCOUNTABILITY COURT GRADUATIONS

- ★ *Hall County Veterans Treatment Court*
- ★ *Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court*
- ★ *Fulton County DUI Court*
- ★ *Henry County Drug Court*
- ★ *Fulton County Adult Drug Court*

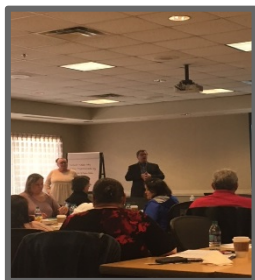


- ★ *Fulton County Drug Court*
- ★ *Forsyth County C.A.R.E Court*
- ★ *Hall County H.E.L.P Court*
- ★ *Troup County DUI/Drug Court*
- ★ *Coweta County DUI Court*

COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES NEWS

CACJ MENTAL HEALTH COURT START-UP TRAINING

The Council of Accountability Court Judges (CACJ) and Staff hosted the inaugural Mental Health Court Start-up Training October 29-30, 2018 in Peachtree City, Georgia. The training was designed for FY19 implementation Mental Health Court (MHC) programs certified by CACJ. Teams in attendance included Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit MHC, Paulding Judicial Circuit MHC, and the Conasauga Judicial Circuit MHC. The goal of the training is to provide the new MHC team members foundational training to operate their new programs.



The two-day training featured topics ranging from CACJ Operations, 10 essential elements of MHC's, Trauma Informed Courts, MHC populations and team member roles and responsibilities. Special guest speakers included Judge Stephen S. Goss from the Georgia Court of Appeals, Dr. Lisa Callahan of Policy Research Associates, Dr. Kevin Baldwin of Applied Research Services, Chief Judge Joe C. Bishop of the Pataula Judicial Circuit, and Ms. Patricia Griffin, Court Coordinator for the Dougherty Judicial Circuit.



CACJ CERTIFICATION

CACJ Certification Applications will be available December 3, 2018. Certification is required to receive state funding from CACJ. This year, primarily DUI Courts and Family Treatment Courts will be required to recertify. However, please review your program's most recent certification letter to see when your certification expires. If there are questions about a program's certification status or application, please contact Josh Becker at Josh.Becker@georgiacourts.gov.

Certification Applications and instructions can be found: <https://www.gaaccountabilitycourts.org/cacj-certification>

The FY20 certification timeline is below:

- ✓ December 3, 2018 – Certification Applications released
- ✓ January 18, 2019 – Certification Applications due back
- ✓ March 1, 2019 – Certification letters mailed

CACJ COORDINATOR MENTOR PROGRAM



The Council of Accountability Court Judges is proud to announce a new training opportunity within our accountability courts, a Coordinator Mentor Program.

Applications are now available online, via the intranet to coordinators interested in having a mentor. Applications are due November 16, 2018. Decisions will be made and announced via email in December.

If you have questions about the program, please feel free to contact Molly Laughlin at dcc.southenotah@gmail.com or Kimberly Howard at Kimberly.Howard@georgiacourts.gov.

2018 CACJ ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

Certificates of attendance for attending the 2018 CACJ Annual Training Conference have been delivered via email to court coordinators by the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education. Coordinators should receive all team members' certificates of attendance.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR NOVEMBER – DECEMBER



① November 12, 2018: CACJ coordinator winter training forum registration opens. Registration will close December 7, 2018.

② November 30, 2018: CACJ FY20 Notice of Intent to apply for funding submission opens. Submissions are due by December 14, 2018.

③ November 30, 2018: Thinking for a Change, START assesment, and Sanctions and Incentives registration closes.

④ December 3, 2018: Operational Tune- up Training registration opens. Registration will close December 14, 2018.

*Teams: Adult Felony Drug Court, Mental Health Court, Family Treatment Court, and Veterans Treatment Court
Teams eligible to attend the FY19 tune -ups will receive an email of invitation from CACJ Staff.*

⑤ December 3, 2018: CACJ Certification application submission opens.

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