



# Judicial Council of Georgia

## Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice P. Harris Hines  
Chair

Cynthia H. Clanton  
Director

### Judicial Council Strategic Plan Standing Committee Strategic Plan Update

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Initiative	Update
<p><b>Initiative 1 -</b> Promote public accessibility and transparency in the courts</p>	<p>Meetings, events, and classes are being livestreamed and recorded as available.</p> <p>A panel on public accessibility and transparency in the courts took place on August 9, 2017. (<a href="https://livestream.com/accounts/15641258/events/7642160/videos/161052146">https://livestream.com/accounts/15641258/events/7642160/videos/161052146</a>)</p> <p>The inaugural Judge Lovett and Chief Justice Hines Awards for Excellence in Juvenile Justice and Child Advocacy were livestreamed. (<a href="https://twitter.com/J4C_law/status/873261799763824640">https://twitter.com/J4C_law/status/873261799763824640</a> and <a href="https://livestream.com/accounts/7043450">https://livestream.com/accounts/7043450</a>)</p>
<p><b>Initiative 2 -</b> Promote the use of technology as an effective communication tool</p>	<p>Statewide content is being posted on a regular basis on Facebook and twitter. The Georgia Courts Journal is now available electronically. Below are some examples of content:</p> <p>A second Twitter Town Hall has been conducted with two appellate judges leading the discussion along with other Georgia judges as part of Law Day. (<a href="https://storify.com/ashleystollar/askgajudges-lawday-edition">https://storify.com/ashleystollar/askgajudges-lawday-edition</a>)</p> <p>The Republic of Georgia on-going teaching and learning exchange with four Georgia Judges is highlighted in the Georgia Courts Journal. (<a href="http://journal.georgiacourts.gov/article/judges-state-georgia-visit-republic-georgia">http://journal.georgiacourts.gov/article/judges-state-georgia-visit-republic-georgia</a>)</p>
<p><b>Initiative 3 -</b> Encourage ongoing use of <i>CourTools</i> measures to promote access</p>	<p>Surveys have been distributed to nearly 400 individuals who participated in a prior statewide Access and Fairness survey to determine what changes courts have implemented.</p> <p>Surveys have also been distributed to individuals who previously took CourTools trainings to determine if, as a result of the trainings, those courts have implemented CourTools measures. The survey will help determine if</p>

and fairness in the courts	<p>future trainings should be conducted or if another approach to increasing awareness of CourTools is needed.</p> <p>A summary of the survey results is expected in January 2018.</p>
<b>Initiative 4</b> - Encourage Legislative branch communications and initiatives of mutual interest	<p>Regular communications with Executive and Legislative branch partners is increasing as the legislative session nears. AOC legislative staff are communicating with court councils on a regular basis in support of their legislative and budget initiatives and to share information in advance of the legislative session.</p> <p>The AOC will continue to communicate with all councils throughout the legislative session via daily meeting notes, twice-weekly legislative reports, weekly teleconferences, and a legislative tracking website.</p>
<b>Initiative 5</b> - Modernize court information collection and workload assessment to accurately reflect the work of the courts	<p>The Judicial Council adopted the Georgia Court Guide to Statistical Reporting at its August 9, 2017 meeting. The Guide will serve as the official, approved way for Georgia courts to report their caseload.</p> <p>Research is working to improve the availability of caseload data and make it more interactive. The goal is to move towards a click-based interface that will allow users to create reports and compare county caseloads.</p>
<b>Initiative 6</b> - Promote effective multi-disciplinary judicial education practices across multiple councils and groups	<p>Recommendations on best practices in training and education for trial court judges are being created by the Judicial Council Standing Committee on Education and Training. The recommendations seek to advance and support efforts made by the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education.</p>
<b>Initiative 7</b> - Enhance the professional and ethical image of the judiciary in the community	<p>Georgia judges who “ride the circuit” have been profiled in the Georgia Courts Journal. (<a href="http://journal.georgiacourts.gov/article/riding-pine-judge-raymond-george">http://journal.georgiacourts.gov/article/riding-pine-judge-raymond-george</a>)</p> <p>A Law Day coloring contest has been held. Award ceremonies honoring the winners of the contest have taken place. (<a href="http://journal.georgiacourts.gov/article/law-day-coloring-contest">http://journal.georgiacourts.gov/article/law-day-coloring-contest</a>)</p>
<b>Initiative 8</b> - Monitor and	<p>AOC staff are identifying emerging topics and trends impacting the courts and will offer best practices or recommendations for addressing such trends.</p>

<p>share trends and best practices of interest to the judiciary</p>	
<p><b>Initiative 9</b> - Assist the judiciary in business continuity and leadership succession planning</p>	<p>A Sub-Committee on Emergency Preparedness and Continuity of Judicial Operations is being created. The Sub-Committee will update and modernize the Judicial Council Emergency Operations Plan previously created in 2005.</p>