



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

IN YOUR
STATE



2024

Georgia

- In 2023, the NCJFCJ fulfilled six requests for technical assistance.
- In 2023, the NCJFCJ trained 434 judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family court-related professionals working to protect **Georgia's** children, families, and victims in our communities.
- The NCJFCJ is funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to provide targeted support to the **Muskogee County** and **Rockdale County Juvenile Drug Treatment Court (JDTC) Teams**, which are implementing the *Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Guidelines* and other key recommended practices. The NCJFCJ provides targeted support through court assessments; on site court observation; strategic planning activities; peer-to-peer learning; and individualized training.
- With funding support from the NoVo Foundation, the NCJFCJ provides training and technical assistance to the **Douglas County Juvenile Court** to identify and promote promising practices in juvenile and family courts to address child sex trafficking.
- The **Dallas NCJFCJ Child Abuse and Neglect Mentor Model Court** is recognized for its efforts to improve outcomes for abused and neglected children and their families.
- As part of the Implementation Sites Project, the NCJFCJ provides targeted training and technical assistance to the **Juvenile Court of Douglas County**, under the leadership of **Judge Michelle Harrison**, to improve practice in the handling of child abuse and neglect cases, reduce the number of children in foster care, and improve outcomes for children in care.
- The **Fulton County Juvenile Probation Department** is one of four jurisdictions receiving training and technical assistance as part of an Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Second Chance Act award made to the NCJFCJ's partner, the Performance-based Standards (PbS) Learning Institute. The Improving Juvenile Reentry Program's Data Collection, Analysis, and Reporting project will build state and local capacity to collect and use data to inform decision-making, monitor progress of juvenile reentry programs and services, and ensure they meet targeted outcomes for reducing reoffending.
- **Georgia** judicial officers received training on the role of the judge in transforming juvenile probation during the Fall Juvenile Court Judges Conference.
- The NCJFCJ, on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), hosted the Justice for Families (JFF) and Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV) New Grantee Orientation in **Atlanta**.
- The NCJFCJ has 271 Judicial and Associate Members in Georgia. **The Office of the Public Defender, Atlanta Judicial Circuit** is an Organizational Member of the NCJFCJ.
- **Judge Amanda Heath** is the **Treasurer** of the NCJFCJ. **Judge Wenona C. Belton (Ret.)** of **Atlanta** was a Board Director of the NCJFCJ and a 2023 Days on the Hill Delegate.
- **Judge Warner Kennon** of **Columbus** was a Board Director of the NCJFCJ. **Judge R. Michael Key** of **LaGrange** and **Judge Peggy H. Walker** of **Douglasville** are NCJFCJ Past Presidents.

National Impact

In 2023, the NCJFCJ work impacted approximately **4 million** families across the nation. The team fulfilled about **550** requests for technical assistance and trained approximately **7,500** judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family-court related professional across the nation.

AREAS OF FOCUS

- ▶ **Diversity, Equity, and Justice**
Diversifying the bench to better represent the children and families served
- ▶ **Domestic Child Sex Trafficking**
Improving outcomes for vulnerable and victimized children through judicial education and action
- ▶ **National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence**
Enhancing judicial skills to promote victim safety and batterer accountability
- ▶ **Juvenile Justice GPS**
Providing juvenile justice policy, practice, and statistics by state
- ▶ **Trauma-Informed Courts & the Adolescent Brain**
Promoting trauma-responsive courts and practices informed by science
- ▶ **Child Abuse & Neglect Institute**
Improving outcomes for abused and neglected children through dependency court best practices
- ▶ **Military-Connected Families**
Enhancing judicial skills to best serve military-connected families
- ▶ **Tribal Courts & ICWA**
Promoting collaboration between tribal and state courts
- ▶ **Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts**
Enhancing effectiveness in addressing youth and substance abuse
- ▶ **Animal Cruelty**
Understanding the link between animal abuse and other forms of violence
- ▶ **Implementation Sites & Project ONE**
Approaching families holistically and improving outcomes for children in care
- ▶ **Self Care and Wellness**
Promoting judicial self-care and wellness for centering oneself for leadership
- ▶ **Court Leadership**
Equip judges, court professionals, & community members with knowledge & skills to improve the justice system

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