



# The Citation

## SBA Celebrates Annual Cocktail Party

On June 16, 2022, the Savannah Bar Association held its annual cocktail party at the Charles H. Morris Center at Trustees' Garden. Outgoing SBA President Colby E. Longley thanked the 2021-2022 officers for their hard work and introduced the following new officers for 2022-2023, who were sworn in by Penny Haas Freeseemann, Chief Judge of the Superior Court of Chatham County, Eastern Judicial Circuit of Georgia:

- President: K. Paul Johnson
- President-Elect: Richard A. Sanders, Jr.
- Secretary: Julia H. Sullivan
- Treasurer: Leslie Cecil Keene



After the officers were sworn in, scholarships were awarded by SBA Scholarship Committee Chair Matthew Mills of the United States Department of Justice's U.S. Trustee Program, Region 21. The scholarships awarded were the Judge Eugene H. Gadsden Memorial Scholarship and the Judge Phyllis Kravitch Memorial Scholarship, which were

established by the Savannah Bar Association in tribute to the memory and legacy of these outstanding community leaders known for their character, integrity, and compassion. Their fairness, patience, and wisdom served as an inspiration not only to all lawyers and judges but to the community at large.

The purpose of the Gadsden Scholarship is to assist a graduating senior from a high school in Savannah in attending an accredited college or university. Applicants must meet entrance requirements of the institution and maintain grades in keeping with the standards of the Hope Scholarship. The scholarship award is given to one student based on merit. The amount of the award is an annual award of \$1,000 for four years. The award granted may be used for tuition and fees, books, and other academic expenses. The 2022 recipient of the Gadsden Scholarship was John Neely, a graduate of Savannah Country Day School who will attend the University of Georgia.

The purpose of the Kravitch Scholarship is to assist a rising second- or third-year law school student from Chatham County in continuing their education at an accredited school of law. The scholarship award of \$2,500 is given to one student based on merit for the second or third year of study in law school. A second-year law student who



receives an award may apply for an additional award for their third year. The award granted may be used for tuition and fees, books, and other academic expenses. The 2022 recipient of the Kravitch Scholarship was M. Klyne Weaver, who attends the University of Georgia School of Law.

Finally, the Judge Frank S. Cheatham, Jr. Professionalism Award was presented. This award is presented annually to the attorney within our legal community who best exemplifies professionalism in engaging clients and other members of the profession and the community as a whole. The 2022 recipient of the Cheatham Award was Wendy Williamson. After earning her B.A. from the University of Georgia in 1982 and her J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law, Wendy was admitted to the bar in 1985. Since then, her many roles have included litigator at Oliver Maner & Gray, Executive Director of the Mediation Center of the Coastal Empire, mediator at Miles Mediation, 2013 President of the Savannah Bar Association, member of the Georgia Commission on Child Support, and Chief Clerk of the Probate Court of Chatham County. The SBA thanks Wendy for her years of service to the community.

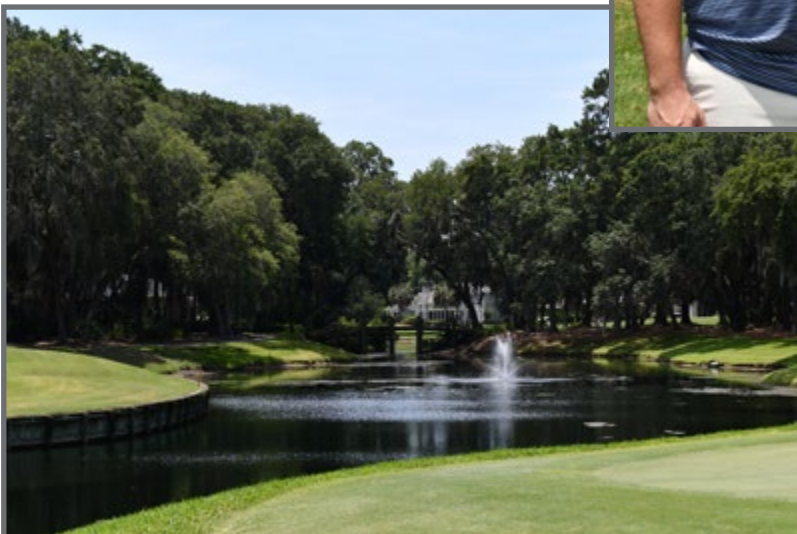
Thanks to all SBA members for a successful 2021-2022 year!





## Young Lawyers Division Hosts Sixteenth Annual Savannah Guardian Ad Litem Charity Golf Tournament

On June 17, 2022, the Young Lawyers Division of the Savannah Bar Association held its sixteenth annual Savannah Guardian Ad Litem Charity Golf Tournament at The Landings Club's Palmetto Course. Each year, the YLD holds the tournament to raise funds for the Guardian Ad Litem Program of The Mediation Center of the Coastal Empire. Thanks to all participants and sponsors for making the tournament a success, and special thanks to YLD Philanthropy Chair Dustin W. Hamilton for organizing the event.





## Oliver Maner Donates \$12,500 to Scholarship Fund

Oliver Maner, one of Savannah's oldest and most prominent law firms, presented \$12,500 to the Savannah Bar Association to be allocated toward the Judge Eugene H. Gadsden Scholarship fund.

The Judge Eugene H. Gadsden Memorial Scholarship was established by the Savannah Bar Association to honor the memory and legacy of Judge Gadsden, the first African-American judge in Savannah. Judge Gadsden was well known for his character, integrity and compassion.

This year marks Oliver Maner's 125th anniversary and the donation to the Gadsden Scholarship Fund is intended to celebrate the occasion by investing in the education of law students in the local community.

"Judge Gadsden was and still is an inspiration to the legal community in Savannah and as we celebrate the past 125 years of providing legal services in Savannah and around the Southeast, Oliver Maner is proud to support future leaders in the legal profession as they work toward achieving their educational goals," said Patrick T. O'Connor, Managing Partner of Oliver Maner. "We hope to continue this legacy onward."

The scholarship provides funds to a graduating senior from a high school in Savannah to attend an accredited college or university. The award may be used for tuition and fees, books, and other academic expenses. This year's recipient is John Neely.

Oliver Maner was organized as a firm in 1897 when seasoned military and legal veteran Judge Hansford Dade Duncan Twiggs joined in partnership with recent Vanderbilt University graduate Francis McDonald Oliver in Savannah for the general practice of law. Through the years, various partners have joined the firm, with the current iteration of "Oliver Maner LLP" being established in 2009.

In the past decade, the firm's partners have tackled some of the most significant cases in the State of Georgia and the Southeast, ranging from one of the only death penalty defense cases the federal courts in Savannah have seen in the past 30 years to defending and prosecuting civil cases involving precedent-setting legal issues and tens of millions of dollars. The firm prides itself on its ongoing involvement in the community, supporting a wide array of nonprofit organizations through sponsorships, donations and service on boards.



From left, Oliver Maner attorneys Victoria Nease, William Drought, III, Joy Bonner, Paul H. Threlkeld, Amelia C. Stevens, Andrew M. Wilkes, Patrick T. O'Connor and William P. Franklin, Jr., present the check to Savannah Bar Association representatives Paul Johnson and Matthew E. Mills.



This year's winner of the scholarship is Savannah Country Day School graduate John Neely. From left, Oliver Maner Associate Victoria Nease, Of Counsel Wiliam P. Franklin, Jr., Associate Amelia C. Stevens, Partner Paul H. Threlkeld, scholarship recipient John Neely, Partner Andrew M. Wilkes, Savannah Bar Association Scholarship Committee Chair Matthew E. Mills, Associate Joy Nelson, and Managing Partner Patrick T. O'Connor.

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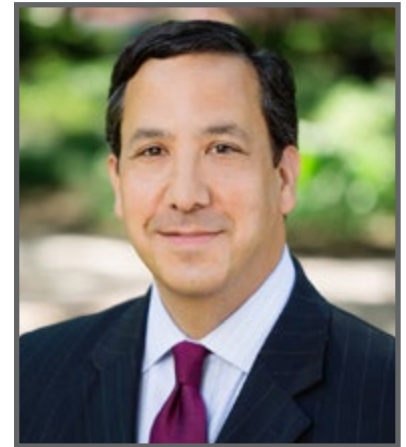
## HunterMaclean Listed in Prestigious *Chambers USA 2022* Guide

HunterMaclean, a leading business law firm with offices in Savannah and St. Simons Island, was recently ranked in the exclusive Chambers USA 2022. Chambers USA is compiled through a research-based review that evaluates the multiple practice areas of hundreds of law firms through investigative research and interviews with attorneys and their clients.

HunterMaclean received rankings in Labor and Employment and Litigation: General Commercial. Attorneys highlighted for their work include Shawn Kachmar and Sarah Lamar. HunterMaclean is the only law firm in Savannah with practice areas and attorneys ranked by Chambers USA.

“Our continuous inclusion in this prestigious publication is an honor to the firm,” said HunterMaclean Managing Partner Brad Harmon. “This recognition further reiterates our attorneys’ commitment to their practice areas, our clients, and our community.”

Considered the most trusted law resource guide worldwide, Chambers is the result of thousands of in-depth interviews by the largest research team of its kind that is trusted across the globe to objectively rank the world’s best lawyers and law firms.



Shawn Kachmar



Sarah Lamar



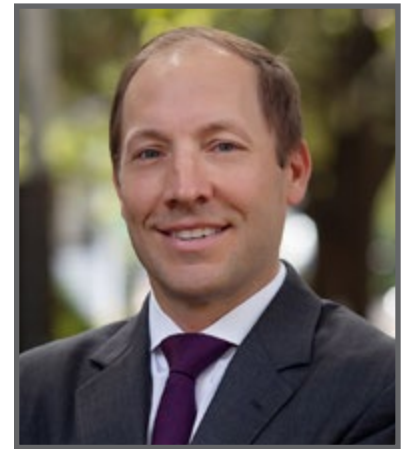
## Attorney Matthew J. Repella Joins HunterMaclean

HunterMaclean, a leading business law firm with offices in Savannah and St. Simons Island, recently welcomed Matthew J. Repella as an associate in the firm's Corporate Practice Group.

Matthew's practice focuses on all aspects of general corporate representation, including the formation and organization of business entities, capitalization of such entities through debt or equity offerings, securities issues, commercial transactions, commercial loans, mergers, acquisitions, recapitalizations, restructurings and other reorganizations, shareholder rights issues, and contract drafting and negotiation.

Matthew received his bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Leadership Studies from the University of Richmond. He spent ten years in the Investment Banking Division at Morgan Stanley in New York and Chicago prior to returning to Savannah. Following his return, he held leadership positions at TMX Finance, the parent company of TitleMax, and THA Group, a home health care provider in Georgia and South Carolina. While working at THA Group, he earned his M.B.A. from Georgia Southern University. He later attended Atlanta's John Marshall Law School on a John E. Ryan merit scholarship while serving as the chief operating officer of a local law firm. In 2021, he received his J.D., summa cum laude, and was recognized with the Outstanding Graduate Award.

Matthew is a native of Savannah and enjoys playing golf, hunting, fishing, and spending time with his wife, Amy, and their three children out on the water exploring the low country.



Matthew J. Repella

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## Attorney Samuel J. Seaman Joins HunterMaclean

HunterMaclean, a leading business law firm with offices in Savannah and St. Simons Island, recently welcomed Samuel J. Seaman as an associate in the firm's Corporate Practice Group.

Sam's practice focuses on all aspects of general corporate representation, primarily involving the drafting and negotiation transactions in various types of agreements. Sam has worked with multiple growth-stage to medium-sized businesses in the health care and technology industries where he has negotiated for clients against major health care insurance companies and some of the largest hospital systems in the country.

Sam graduated from the University of Kansas with a B.A. in Global and International Studies and received his M.B.A. from the University of Saint Mary. He earned his J.D., cum laude, from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.



Samuel J. Seaman



Sam recently moved from Tampa, Fl. where he was involved in a variety of organizations including the Sports Lawyers Association, Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division, and serving as a section representative for the International Law Society. During this time, he also served as a disaster and humanitarian relief organizer for the Bonner Springs Church of Nazarene.

Sam and his wife, Lauren, have two young daughters.

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## Daniel Dorough Joins McCallar Law Firm

On June 24, 2022, the McCallar Law Firm introduced its newest attorney, Daniel Dorough, at The Chatham Club in the DeSoto Hotel. Born in Albany, Georgia, Daniel received a bachelor's degree in history in a joint program between the University of St. Andrews and the College of William & Mary and a master's in history at the College of Charleston. He then received his law degree from the University of Wyoming's College of Law, with a focus on environmental law. He will practice bankruptcy, among other areas of law, alongside C. James McCallar, Jr. On June 27, 2022, Daniel was sworn into the State Bar of Georgia by The Honorable Benjamin W. Karpf of the Superior Court of Chatham County.



Daniel Dorough and Jim McCallar



Daniel Dorough and Judge Karpf



## Intern Sees GLSP's Impact on Day One



Mia McKnight

I will always remember my first day in court. It was the Monday of spring break and my first day volunteering at the Georgia Legal Services Program in Savannah. Upon arriving at the office, I learned I would be attending court with my supervising attorney, Harris R. Mason. The hearing was for retroactive first-offender status, which I had never heard of before. When I met the client, I discovered a misdemeanor charge from almost two decades ago was preventing her from attaining jobs she was qualified for and needed to support her children. I saw tears in her eyes as she explained to the judge how her record has limited her employment opportunities and her family's standard of living.

She pursued higher education to improve her life, but her criminal record was holding her back. I thought about the thousands of other Georgians in similar situations, which emphasized the importance of legal aid work in record restrictions and other areas I had not yet explored. As I continued volunteering that week, I learned that criminal records could adversely affect housing, welfare, adoptions, immigration, professional licensure, property rights, and mobility. The collateral consequences of having a criminal record are not stated at one's sentencing, but they are real, even decades after people have completed their sentences.

My time at the Georgia Legal Services Program convinced me to return in the summer as a General Practice Intern and continue to engage in record restriction work at the Georgia Justice Project in Atlanta this fall. As a rising second-year student at the University of Georgia School of Law, I am appreciative of being able to interact with clients, attend court, and work on projects in a variety of civil practice areas I know will leave a positive impact on peoples' lives.

The experienced and zealous advocates at the Georgia Legal Services Program inspire me. Despite limited time and resources, they give it their all every day to help as many people as possible. The clients who contact Georgia Legal Services have nowhere else to turn because they cannot afford to hire an attorney. While I applied to law school knowing that public service would be a part of my career, my time at Georgia Legal Services has solidified that desire because I witness peoples' great need for legal help with problems like keeping Social Security benefits, eviction defense, and protecting themselves from abusers. While I will celebrate when anytime a GLSP attorney helps a client achieve a positive result, the sobering fact that so many other people without the means to hire an attorney need legal support remains. A lack of financial resources should not exclude people from quality legal service. They need it most.



Georgia Legal Services Program is a 501(c)3 nonprofit law firm.  
We provide free, civil legal services to low-income or senior-aged Georgians outside of Atlanta.  
To volunteer, contact Sarah J. Anderson at [sjanderson@glsp.org](mailto:sjanderson@glsp.org)  
or sign up online at <https://www.glsp.org/volunteer-2/>





## Attorneys Needed to Assist Afghan Refugees

Local attorney Joseph J. Berrigan is assisting with the immigration petitions of Afghan refugees who left that country after the United States pulled out in 2021. There are 110 Afghans here in the Savannah area at last count. They were paroled into the US in late 2021 and need to change their status to Special Immigrant Visa (SIV), and from there to permanent resident, within a limited period of time.

Mr. Berrigan is coordinating legal assistance for these Afghans if any Savannah attorneys are willing to assist, preferably on a pro bono basis. He will be happy to run a workshop letting the attorneys know what is necessary. The process is simple, filing one form online with supporting documents, much like a 1040 EZ form with the IRS. Mr. Berrigan may be reached by phone at 912-236-9818 or by email at [jjamberr@yahoo.com](mailto:jjamberr@yahoo.com).

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## J.L. Williamson Opens New Savannah Office

J.L. Williamson Law Group is proud to announce the opening of its new Savannah office, located at 1980 Chatham Parkway in Suite 403. The firm focuses on elder law, asset protection, and taxation. J.L. Williamson Law Group's founder, Jeffery L. Williamson, is a member of the taxation sections of the ABA and State Bar of Georgia, as well as the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys.



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## Judge Lisa Goldwire Colbert Seeking Staff Attorney

Judge Lisa Goldwire Colbert has a staff attorney position available. The pay range is \$40,021 to \$108,413, depending upon experience. Resumes should be submitted to Judge Colbert's attention via email to Monique Baker at [mtjohnson@chathamcounty.org](mailto:mtjohnson@chathamcounty.org). Ms. Johnson's telephone number is 912-652-7154.



Chatham County Courthouse  
133 Montgomery Street  
Post Office Box 2309  
Suite 600  
Savannah, Georgia 31402



Telephone (912) 652-7308  
Fax (912) 652-7328  
www.chathamcountyda.com

**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
EASTERN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF GEORGIA  
SHALENA COOK JONES**

**POSITION:** Assistant District Attorney  
**DEPARTMENT:** Child Support  
**SALARY:** \$57,120 - \$85,982  
**APPLY BY:** Open Until Filled

Salary commensurate with Qualifications and Experience Level.

The District Attorney’s Office of the Eastern Judicial Circuit has openings for Assistant District Attorney to work in the Division of Child Support Services.

Job Summary: Under the direction of the District Attorney, you will perform professional legal work relating to the establishment and enforcement of child support orders; including research and writing, drafting pleadings and orders, presenting cases in court, providing advice to non-lawyers in the Child Support Office, negotiating child support cases with private attorneys, and filing motions and appearing in Bankruptcy Court on child support matters. Other duties may be assigned.

Minimum Qualifications: Juris Doctorate Degree from an accredited law school. License to practice law in the State of Georgia. Must be a member in good standing of the State Bar of Georgia and be admitted to practice before the Georgia Supreme Court and Georgia Court of Appeals.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities: Possess thorough knowledge of laws and court procedures of State and Federal legislation and case law regarding child support. Possess thorough knowledge of Georgia rules of Evidence, State and Federal case precedents, ethical considerations and disciplinary rules. Possess thorough knowledge of the principles, materials, methods, and practices of legal research. Possess ability to analyze and present in an orderly fashion complex legal issues, facts, evidence and precedence. Possess excellent oral and written communication skills. Ability to work independently and in a team setting when needed.

Please submit cover letter and resume to:

<https://employee.chathamcounty.org/ess/employmentopportunities/default.aspx>

Contact: Tracey Erwin, Director of Child Support Services  
[Terwin@chathamcounty.org](mailto:Terwin@chathamcounty.org)  
(912) 652-7438

Secondary Contact: Nathanael E. Wright, Deputy Chief Assistant, Communications, Diversity, and Inclusion  
[Nwright@chathamcounty.org](mailto:Nwright@chathamcounty.org)  
912-652-7308 (Office)



## Savannah Technical College Seeks Adjunct Faculty

Please consider applying to teach Paralegal classes at Savannah Technical College this upcoming fall, which begins on August 22nd and ends December 12th. We are looking to hire attorneys who can teach online, evenings and weekend classes. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact:

Shaquan Gaither, Paralegal Studies Dept. Head

[sgaither@savannahtech.edu](mailto:sgaither@savannahtech.edu)

912-443-5715



Savannah Technical College is continuously seeking qualified candidates for part time/adjunct faculty teaching positions. Adjunct faculty positions are temporary, part-time positions of employment appointed on a per academic term basis. Day and evening hours available; duties may involve split teaching shifts or routine travel between campus locations.

### Qualifications:

Qualifications for instructional positions include a minimum of three years' full-time work experience in the discipline taught and educational background specific to the courses/programs. Formal teaching certification is not required. Teaching positions in most Associate Degree programs require a Master's Degree in the field (or) a Master's Degree in a related field with at least 18 semester hours in the subject to be taught.

All academic credentials must be granted by an accredited college or university. Compensation is commensurate with academic preparation and experience.

Most program areas experience occasional rotation of adjunct instructors. Savannah Technical College recruits continuously for Adjunct Faculty in the following disciplines:

- Accounting
- Business Management
- Business Technology
- Cyber Technology and related
- Hotel, Restaurant, Tourism Management
- Logistics Management
- Marketing Management
- Paralegal Studies



### Application Deadline

Applications will be accepted on an on-going basis to establish an applicant pool. Adjunct applications are retained for one year. Candidates must pass a criminal background check. Applicants must submit an electronic application thru [Team Georgia Careers](#), and attach cover letter and resume. **Please include your annual salary for each position held.**

POSITION CONTINGENT UPON FUNDING AND ALLOCATION OF POSITION.

**Note: No phone inquiries please. Due to the volume of applications received, we are unable to personally contact each applicant. If we are interested in scheduling an interview, a representative from our college will contact you.**

All male applicants between the ages of 18 and 26 years of age must present proof of Selective Service Registration. Savannah Technical College is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, gender, religion, disability, age, political affiliation or belief, genetic information, disabled veteran, veteran of the Vietnam Era, or citizenship status (except those special circumstances permitted or mandated by law). [Invitation to Self-Identify](#) For compliance activities, contact Melissa Banks, Title IX and Equity Coordinator, Room A110 or (912) 443-3388, [mbanks@savannahtech.edu](mailto:mbanks@savannahtech.edu).

Send written correspondence to Savannah Technical College, Attn: Melissa Banks, 5717 White Bluff Road, Savannah, GA 31405. STC is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the associate degree. Candidates may be required to submit a valid Driver's License, proof of insurability, and/or a driver's history report for positions involving state travel.

Minimum qualifications for this position will be determined by the teaching discipline and compliance with appropriate accrediting bodies. Faculty must be credentialed to satisfy all appropriate accrediting bodies for the course assigned.



## Savannah Technical College Has Paralegals

Attention All Attorneys: Are you looking to hire legal support staff? Do you have a job description/job listing for the position to share? Well, the Paralegal students at Savannah Technical College are eagerly awaiting an opportunity to learn, grow and advance in the legal services industry. No need to pay to post ads. You can simply submit your job notices on Savannah Technical College's online portal, Career Connections, which will allow you to easily reach our students and graduates. This user-friendly system allows you to provide an overview of your company, post ads, manage the dates the ads will run as well as view resumes and directly contact job seekers.

We invite you to use this link to post any openings you may currently have: <https://savannahtech-csm.symplicity.com/employers/>

Periodically, Savannah Technical College, hosts events throughout the year that will also give you an opportunity to directly connect with its students. By enrolling in Career Connections, you will be added to the distribution list for those events. Thank you for your consideration of our students and programs!

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## Juvenile Court Panel Introduction

The Chatham County Juvenile Court has created a new, separate, indigent attorney panel. The attorneys on this panel will be paid an enhanced rate of \$120/hour for in-court representation and \$90/hour for out-of-court work. The Court seeks to engage attorneys who have experience with, or are interested in, the practice of child welfare law. This specialization comes with it enhanced education opportunities and a higher rate of compensation.

Following are the Court's Standing Order and Protocol outlining this program. Attorneys interested in being considered for this panel should forward the Signed Protocol acknowledgment to the Court Administrator:

Patricia Merritt, Chatham County Juvenile Court, 197 Carl Griffin Drive, Savannah, GA 31405  
(912)652-6721  
[PMerritt@ChathamCounty.org](mailto:PMerritt@ChathamCounty.org)



FILED IN JUVENILE COURT  
CHATHAM COUNTY, GA  
*Theresa A. Brown* Clerk  
2022 MAY 27 P 4:35

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA**

**IN RE: REASONABLE COMPENSATION FOR COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEYS**

**STANDING ORDER 2022-4**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Constitution, the Georgia Constitution, and the Official Code of Georgia provide parties with a right to legal representation in matters before the Juvenile Court. The Georgia Code provides that reasonable compensation for services and related expenses of attorneys and guardians ad litem shall be charges upon the funds of the county. The Georgia Code specifically designates and authorizes the Juvenile Court Judges to make the determination of the reasonableness of compensation for services and related expenses.

WHEREAS, due to unreasonably low compensation, the Chatham County Juvenile Court is unable to ensure appointed representation for all parties, due to a critical shortage of effective attorneys, which at times results in delays in hearings, as well as harm to the affected children and parents;

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Juvenile Court Judges reviewed the rates paid to court appointed attorneys in neighboring Georgia counties, and in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia, noting that attorneys practicing in this court also practice in those courts,

WHEREAS, this Court, the Chatham County Commissioners, and the Georgia Office of the Child Advocate entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance the quality and effectiveness of legal representation in this Court, as well as provide for ongoing reimbursement to Chatham County of a portion of attorneys' fees and expenses through Title IV-E,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Chatham County Juvenile Court authorizes payment to those attorneys designated by the Court as members of the Title IV-E Panel, at rates as follows, provided that in order to be eligible for the enhanced rate, the attorney must comply with the following

- 1) Comply with the terms of the Chatham County Juvenile Court Panel Attorney Program Protocol, including the enhanced continuing education requirements;
- 2) Submit all invoices within thirty (30) days of the end of the month in which the work was performed and the expenses were incurred;
- 3) Submit all invoices in a format approved by the Misdemeanor Office of Indigent Defense that comply with Title IV-E reimbursement requirements.
  - \$120/hour for in-court time expended if the attorney continues to meet the conditions outlined above
  - \$90/hour for out-of-court time expended if the attorney continues to meet the conditions outlined above



Should an attorney not meet the above requirements, they shall be paid at the rate set by the County for Indigent Defense, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

This standing order does not limit the Court's authority to determine the reasonableness of compensation and reimbursements for expenses sought by counsel in any individual case.

This Order shall be effective for those attorneys designated as members of the Title IV-E Panel for work performed beginning June 1, 2022 in all cases and shall remain in effect until further order of the court.

SO ORDERED this 27 day of May, 2022.

Hon. Thomas L. Cole  
Presiding Judge

Hon. Roxanne E. Formey  
Juvenile Court Judge

Hon. Lindretta Grindle Kramer  
Juvenile Court Judge



## Chatham County Juvenile Court Title IV-E Pilot Program Panel Attorney Protocol

Chatham County Juvenile Court Standing Order 2022-4 was entered on May 27, 2022. Said order authorized an enhanced rate for attorney compensation for attorneys on the Juvenile Court’s Title IV-E Pilot Program Panel (hereinafter, “Pilot Panel”) of \$120 per hour for in court time and \$90 per hour for out of court time, provided that attorneys continue to meet certain conditions as outlined below:

1. Professionalism. Attorneys are required to comply with their ethical and professional responsibilities as outlined in the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct, as well as be familiar with and comply with the Uniform Rules of Juvenile Court and Superior Court, as may be applicable.<sup>[1]</sup> Attorneys are further required to be familiar with the Court’s programs and services, and to follow the ABA standards of practice for lawyers who represent parents and children in abuse and neglect cases.<sup>[2]</sup> Failure to represent clients in a professional manner may result in an attorney being removed from the Pilot Panel, as well as the general indigent defense panel, by the Court.
  
2. Continuing Education and Training. Child welfare is a specialized area of law requiring attorneys to be well-versed in much more than just law and procedure. Attorneys who participate in the Pilot Panel must participate in quarterly CLE training totaling a minimum of 20 hours of continuing education or training in child welfare topics each year. Courses, conferences, and other trainings provided by the following entities are automatically approved for this requirement:
  - Chatham County Child Advocate Office
  - National Association of Counsel for Children ([www.naccchildlaw.org](http://www.naccchildlaw.org))
  - The Summit, Georgia’s Child Welfare Conference
  - Child Protection and Advocacy Section of the Georgia Bar (<https://gabarsections.org/site/child-protection-advocacy/>)
  - American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law ([https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public\\_interest/child\\_law/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_interest/child_law/))
  - Georgia Court Improvement Initiative sponsored conferences and trainings
  - The Mediation Center of Coastal Georgia’s Guardian Ad Litem trainings
  - Courses approved by the Chatham County Juvenile Court

Training provided by the Chatham County Child Advocate Office is currently provided free of charge to the attorneys who practice in Chatham County Juvenile Court. Other entities may provide scholarships to interested attorneys for attendance at conferences or training.

Courses provided by other entities will need approval to qualify under the protocol. Attorneys are responsible for submitting proof of attendance at applicable courses, trainings, seminars and conferences and demonstrating continuing progress in meeting these requirements on a quarterly basis. Proof of attendance can include the attorney’s CLE attendance log from the Georgia State Bar or individual certificates of

<sup>1</sup> All Uniform Rules may be found at: <https://www.gasupreme.us/rules/>

<sup>2</sup> Parents: [https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/child\\_law/aba-parent\\_rep-stds.pdf](https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/child_law/aba-parent_rep-stds.pdf)  
Children: [https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/child\\_law/repstandwhole.pdf](https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/child_law/repstandwhole.pdf)





completion for each course.

- 3. Billing: Pilot Panel attorneys shall submit their invoices to Juvenile Court utilizing the form voucher provided, and as otherwise directed by the Office of Misdemeanor Indigent Defense. Attorney time will be compensated at the rate of \$90 for out of court time and \$120 for in court time. Attorneys will also be reimbursed for reasonable expenses related to representation including the reasonable cost of opening a file, postage, **copies and parking fees. The Court retains the authority to determine the reasonableness of compensation and reimbursements for expenses sought by attorneys in any individual case.**

Travel is compensated at the out of court rate. Travel does not include travel to and from the courthouse from an attorney’s office. Mediation is compensated at the out of court rate. Monthly invoices are to be submitted to [juvenilecourtouchers@chathamcounty.org](mailto:juvenilecourtouchers@chathamcounty.org) no later than the 30th day of the month following the month in which services were performed or expenses were incurred. If the 30th day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the invoice should be submitted no later than 11:59 pm of the following business day.

Should an attorney fail to submit an invoice within the 30 day time frame, or otherwise be notified that they are not eligible to participate in the Pilot Panel, they are responsible for submitting their invoice at the approved county rate for indigent defense (currently set at \$45/\$60).

- 4. General. Attorneys shall notify the court within 5 business days of any change in office address, phone number, or e-mail. Attorneys must maintain active licensure with the Georgia Bar during their participation on the panel. The Pilot Panel is a part of the Juvenile Court’s plan for enhancement of Quality Legal Representation (QLR) through the Title IV-E Pilot Project. That Project continues to assess and seek opportunities to enhance and improve legal representation before this Court, which may result in future modifications to the requirements for eligibility.

- 5. Selection of an Attorney as a Participant in Pilot Panel. Selection of an attorney as a member of the Pilot Panel, or their subsequent removal from the Pilot Panel, as well as participation in the general Indigent Defense Panel, are in the sole discretion of the Court. The assignment of cases, including the method for assigning cases, is in the sole discretion of the Court. Attorneys, likewise, are not required to accept any certain number of cases as part of their participation in the Pilot Panel.

The undersigned acknowledges the above requirements in order to be eligible for the Pilot Panel enhanced rate. This Protocol must be submitted to: [juvenilecourtouchers@chathamcounty.org](mailto:juvenilecourtouchers@chathamcounty.org) in order for the attorney to qualify for the enhanced rate.

This \_\_\_\_ day of June, 2022.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

Georgia Bar No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

Phone Number

Email Address



## Now Open for Submissions

The Savannah Bar Association is always seeking content for upcoming editions of The Citation. Members are encouraged to submit:

- Your professional and personal announcements
- Law-related advertisements,
- Articles or announcements regarding your preferred philanthropies
- Other written submissions.

Suggestions for improving The Citation are also always welcome.

Finally, we love to receive photographs and video to share with our readers!

Bear in mind that our readers include not only current SBA members, but also many judges and law school students.

Please contact us at [SBACitation@gmail.com](mailto:SBACitation@gmail.com) with submissions or inquiries.