

"DAY ON THE BENCH"



COBB STATE COURT

NOVEMBER 11, 2009

SEN. DOUG STONER



DAY ON THE BENCH

November 11, 2009
8:30 AM to 1:30 PM
STATE COURT OF COBB COUNTY

Agenda topics

8:30	Legislator Parking- Jury Lot A	Sheriff's Office
8:45 – 9:00	Welcome Breakfast in Conference Room	Judges/State Court Clerk
9:00 – 9:20	Judge Producers(4-C) Criminal Motions/Pleas	Judge Darden
9:30 – 9:50	Judge Darden (4-A) Revocations	Judge Darden
10:00 – 10:20	Judge Golick (2-A) Pleas	Judge Darden/F. Baker
10:30 – 11:00	Judge Tanksley (3-A) Civil Jury Trial	Judge Darden
11:10 – 11:35	Judge Glover (4-B) Civil Motions/Trial	Judge Darden
11:45 – 12:15	Lunch in Conference Room	Judge Darden
12:15 – 12:35	Travel to CCADC	Judge Darden
12:35 – 1:00	Observe Jail Calendar	Sheriff's Office
1:00 – 1:30	Return to Courthouse	Judges Darden/Bowers Sheriff's Office

WELCOME TO THE STATE COURT OF COBB COUNTY

AND

DAY ON THE BENCH

Welcome to Day on the Bench. It is our hope that you will enjoy this opportunity to observe how the court works. We want you to get a feel for the challenges we face and the opportunities we have to impact our community. Please ask questions! It is our privilege to have you as our guests "on the Bench."

In 1970 the Georgia General Assembly created the State Court of Cobb County by designating the Cobb County Civil and Criminal Courts as a State Court as outlined in OCGA 15-7-2. The jurisdiction of State Courts is set by the Georgia Constitution. State Courts may exercise jurisdiction over all misdemeanor violations, including traffic cases. State Courts may also hear all civil actions, except cases involving family law, title to land, or equitable remedies, as the superior court has exclusive jurisdiction over such cases. The Georgia Constitution also grants State Courts the authority to review lower courts' decisions.

The General Assembly creates State Courts by local legislation. The legislature also establishes the number of judges and whether the judges are to be full or part time. State Court judges are elected to four-year terms in nonpartisan, countywide elections.

The State Court of Cobb County has twelve judges serving in two divisions. The seven Division I judges handle both civil and criminal cases, either jury or non-jury. The five Division II judges handle non-jury misdemeanor and traffic cases. The Court employs over thirty full time support staff employees, thirty-six part time employees and twenty-one full time employees in a Sentence Enforcement Unit (SEU). The Court is one of the few in the state to have its own probation department.

The State Court of Cobb has the largest caseload of any State Court in Georgia. In calendar year 2008, the Court had 164,916 case filings and 166,415 case dispositions.

Several times each year the State Court sponsors an Alcohol and Drug Awareness Day (ADAD) at a local school. State Court employees organize and staff the entire program. Students are encouraged by nationally recognized speakers to make wise choices regarding drug and alcohol use. Judges are active participants in the programs, serving on informational panels and speaking with students directly. TV 23 regularly broadcasts the ADAD programs.

This is the only such program in the State of Georgia and we hope you will join us in encouraging our fellow judges and legislators to join us in building better relationships between the legislative and judicial branches.

Judge Carl Bowers
Judge Bridgette Campbell
Judge Nancy Campbell
Judge Rusty Carlisle
Judge Roland R. Castellanos
Judge Melodie H. Clayton

Judge Beverly Collins
Judge David P. Darden
Judge Irma Glover
Judge Maria Golick
Chief Judge Toby Prodgers
Judge Kathryn J. Tanksley

Cobb County State Court Judges Division I



**Judge Melodie Clayton
Post 1**



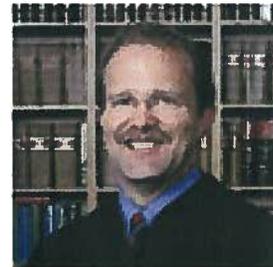
**Judge Rusty Carlisle
Post 2**



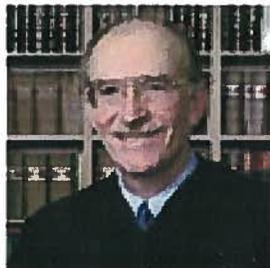
**Judge Irma Glover
Post 3**



**Judge Kathryn Tanksley
Post 4**



**Judge David Darden
Post 5**



**Chief Judge Toby Producers
Post 6**



**Judge Beverly Collins
Post 7**

Cobb County State Court Judges Division I

WHO ARE THEY?

Judge Melodie Clayton

Judge Melodie Clayton—was elected to the State Court in 1992. She previously served as a Chief Assistant Solicitor for Cobb County before opening a private law practice.

Judge Rusty Carlisle

Judge Rusty Carlisle—was elected to State Court in 1986. He was in general practice for ten years after serving Cobb County as an assistant solicitor.

Judge Irma Glover

Judge Irma Glover—has been a State Court judge since 1995. She practiced law for twenty years, eight years of which she served as a County Attorney. She also has served five years as a full-time judge in Cobb County Juvenile Court.

Judge Kathryn Tanksley

Judge Kathryn Tanksley—was appointed to the State Court bench in 2003. She received her law degree from the University of Georgia in 1983. She has practiced law in the private sector for the last twenty years.

Judge David Darden

Judge David Darden—was elected to the State Court in 2002. Prior to that, he practiced law in the private sector for over twenty years. During that time, he also served as a City Attorney for the City of Austell and Counsel for the Cobb County Board of Ethics.

Chief Judge Toby Prodgers

Chief Judge Toby Prodgers—assumed office in 1995, after twenty years in the private practice. Prior to that, he served as a law clerk in the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Judge Beverly Collins

Judge Beverly Collins—has been on the State Court bench since 1992. Judge Collins is a former Chief Solicitor for Cobb County and practiced law in the private sector.

Cobb County State Court Judges Division II



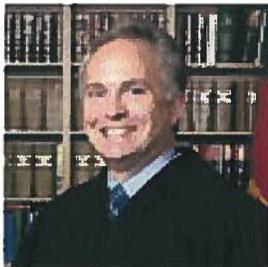
Judge Carl Bowers



Judge Bridgette Campbell



Judge Nancy Campbell



Judge Roland Castellanos



Judge Maria Golick

Cobb County State Court Judges Division II

WHO ARE THEY?

Judge Carl Bowers

Judge Carl Bowers –was appointed to the State Court bench in 2005. Judge Bowers previously served as a full-time Magistrate Judge and Assistant Solicitor General in Cobb State Court and as a law clerk in Cobb Superior Court. Judge Bowers also spent five years in the private practice of law.

Judge Bridgette Campbell

Judge Bridgette Campbell—was appointed to the State Court bench in 1999. Prior to her appointment, she served as an Assistant Solicitor for Cobb County and practiced law in the private sector.

Judge Nancy Campbell

Judge Nancy Campbell—was elected to the State Court in 1986. She served as an Assistant Solicitor and as Clerk and acting Judge in Probate Court.

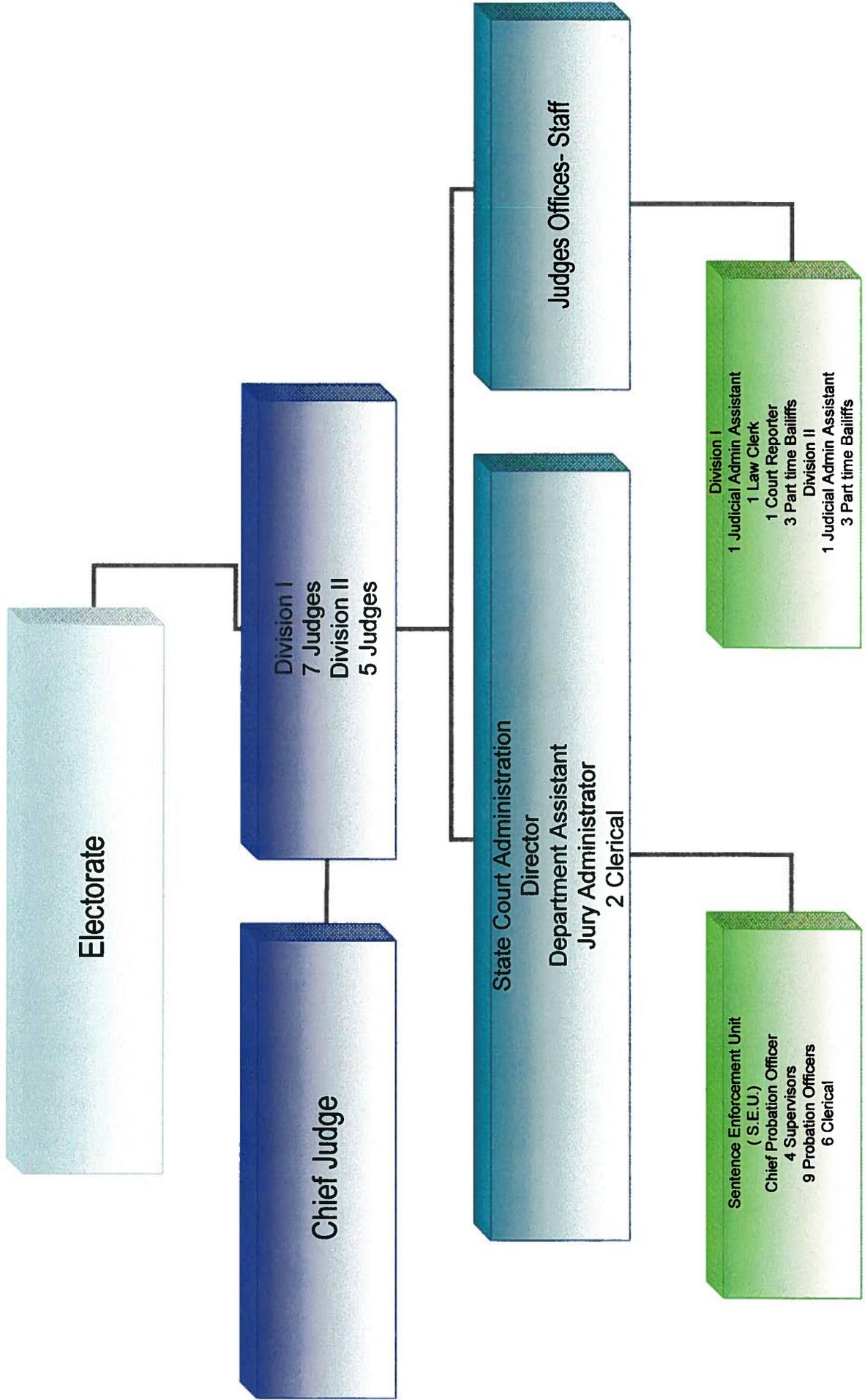
Judge Roland Castellanos

Judge Roland Castellanos—was appointed to the State Court bench in 1999. Prior to becoming a State Court Judge, Judge Castellanos was in private practice for over twenty years.

Judge Maria Golick

Judge Maria Golick—was appointed to the State Court bench in 2004. Prior to her appointment, she served as an Assistant Solicitor and Assistant District Attorney before practicing law in the private sector.

COBB STATE COURT Organizational Chart





COBB COUNTY- STATE COURT JURY SERVICES

Jury Service

Juror Inquiry (770) 528-2628

Juror Recording (770) 528-2626

Juror Fax (770) 528-2627

The State Court of Cobb County conducts jury trials on misdemeanor and civil cases where a party requests a trial by jury. All criminal jury trials in this court are tried before a six-person jury. Civil cases, wherein the amount of the claim exceeds \$25,000.00, can request a twelve-person jury. All other civil cases are tried by a six-person jury.

In 2007, the State Court had 3,429 persons report for jury service. Of those reporting, over 1,130 were selected to serve on a jury trial and served an average of 2.8 days.

General Information

Length of Service

One Week, or until trial is complete. Many jurors serve less than a full week.

Reporting Date & Time

Monday each week at 8:00 A.M. except as otherwise instructed. All Jurors after Monday each week will report at the time given by the Judges or court services personnel.

Reporting Locations

On Monday at 8:00 A.M., all jurors should report to the jury assembly on the fourth floor of the State Court Building located at 12 East Park Square, Marietta, Georgia. The remainder of the week, each juror should report or call in as instructed daily.

Parking

Free parking is provided to those summoned for jury duty and special parking locations are available to handicap jurors. Please bring your portion of your juror summons to use each day as a parking pass into these lots.

Juror Service Fees

Jurors will be paid \$25.00 for each day they report to the courthouse for service. Checks will be mailed out at the end of each week's service.

On Call System

After Monday each week, jurors not selected to serve on trials may be asked to report the following day. If the trial starting times for the remaining trials on the weekly trial calendar are not certain, some jurors may be placed on call and instructed to call in to find out what day and time they should again report to the courthouse. Jurors will receive the \$25.00 per day fee only for the days they actually report in person at the courthouse.

Deferment Requests

The court will consider deferring your week of jury service to a future date. Requests may be sent either by e-mail to statectjurors@cobbcounty.org, fax or mail service and must be from the person summoned for service. Employers cannot request deferment for a summoned employee, but can write in support of the employee's request for deferment. Deferments will be considered based on the trial demands during the week you are to serve and the number of previous deferments. All deferment requests will be answered in writing within five days of receipt.

Excusable Request

All persons over the age of 70 or permanently disabled persons will be excused upon receipt of proper documentation. Appropriate affidavits are included in the jury summons package. Sole caretakers of infirm persons, full time students, and parents with children under the age of six years, deferred upon request with proper documentation.

Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather, jurors should tune to Channel 2,5, 11 and Cobb TV23 or your radio for reporting times and possible court closings.

Security Check

Guns, knives, mace, scissors and similar type weapons are not permitted in the State Court Building. Your clearance through our security screening will be expedited by not having these items in your possession.





***COBB COUNTY- STATE COURT
PROBATION SERVICES***

On July 23, 1992, the Chief Judge of Cobb State Court, with the approval of the Council of State Court Judges of the Cobb Judicial Circuit and the approval of the governing authority of Cobb County, established a county probation system. This system was established pursuant to the O.C.G.A. 42-8-100. The probation entity created was designated as the Sentence Enforcement Unit (S.E.U.) of Cobb State Court. The following represents the Governmental Probation Service Plan for the Cobb County Probation System.

Services to be Rendered by the S.E.U.

S.E.U. was established to provide “general supervision and collection services for all money to be paid by a defendant according to the terms of the sentence imposed on the defendant, as well as, any monies which by operation of law are to be paid by the defendant in consequence of the conviction, counseling and other probation services for persons convicted of a misdemeanor in the county and placed on probation in the county.” Additionally, S.E.U. was given “probation and supervisory jurisdiction of all misdemeanors offenses”, including “any suspended sentence related to the offense of abandonment.”

Cobb County State Court Clerk



Diane Webb, State Court Clerk

Diane Webb was sworn in as Clerk of the Cobb County State Court in 1999 after having served as the Chief Deputy Clerk for over five years.



Angie Davis, Chief Deputy Clerk

Angie Davis was sworn in as Chief Deputy Clerk of the State Court of Cobb County on December 29, 1999, after serving as Clerk and Court Administrator of the Cobb County Magistrate Court.

The Clerk of State Court maintains all of the Court's records, collects all court costs, fees and fines and attends court sessions. Cases begin and end with the Clerk. Cases are officially filed, processed and scheduled for trial. Following disposition by the Court, the Clerk records the disposition and processes any necessary follow-up to each case. The records are open to the public for inspection during normal working hours. The Clerk's Office may assist the public on an individual case basis by phone when possible, however, we do not do record searches.

State Court Clerk's Office

