



# Council of State Court Judges

Impartial Courts • Judicial Excellence • Accessible and Efficient Justice

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President (Fulton)

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President-Elect (Fulton)

Executive Director  
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## 2026 Fact Sheet



**72 STATE COURTS ARE THE LITTLE GIANT of the State Trial Court System**

CASES FILED	CY 2025	CY 2024	CY 2023	CY 2013
Number of Misdemeanors Filed	102,272	88,900	93,733	102,149
Number of DUI & Serious Traffic Filed	31,121	28,616	28,499	28,200
Number of Other Traffic Offenses Filed	455,155	454,964	440,232	430,943
Probation Revocations Filed	22,152	24,666	24,020	36,608
Landlord Tenant Filed	9,656	14,212	10,414	897
Civil Cases Filed	126,197	102,679	79,884	77,975
<b>TOTAL CASES FILED</b>	<b>746,553</b>	<b>714,037</b>	<b>676,782</b>	<b>676,772</b>

TOTAL CASES FILED COMPARED WITH OTHER COURTS				
	CY 2025	CY 2024	CY 2023	CY 2013
<b>STATE COURTS</b>	<b>746,553</b>	<b>714,037</b>	<b>676,782</b>	<b>676,772</b>
Superior Courts	344,381	333,334	382,407	388,943
Juvenile Courts	49,381	50,547	54,585	97,899
Probate Courts	326,784	313,510	201,771	207,961
Magistrate Courts (excludes Warrants)*	772,493	687,650	477,202	371,231

TOTAL REVENUES COLLECTED <sup>S</sup>				
	FY 2025	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2015
<b>STATE COURTS</b>	<b>\$ 150,521,832</b>	<b>\$ 144,785,537</b>	<b>\$ 132,702,001</b>	<b>\$ 122,391,992</b>
Superior Courts	\$ 89,849,443	\$ 88,254,582	\$ 86,479,383	\$ 87,740,761
Juvenile Courts	\$ 1,003,785	\$ 1,239,767	\$ 1,279,901	\$ 1,639,689
Probate Courts	\$ 80,454,215	\$ 78,583,705	\$ 76,618,352	\$ 64,386,150
Magistrate Courts	\$ 57,802,992	\$ 53,313,984	\$ 48,374,422	\$ 49,570,932
<b>TOTAL FOR STATE SYSTEM</b>	<b>\$ 379,632,267</b>	<b>\$ 366,177,575</b>	<b>\$ 345,454,059</b>	<b>\$ 325,729,524</b>

REVENUES COLLECTED FOR STATE				
	FY 2025	% of Total	FY 2024	% of Total
<b>State Courts</b>	<b>\$ 26,627,049</b>	<b>41.7%</b>	<b>\$ 25,930,457</b>	<b>39.6%</b>
Superior Courts	\$ 21,598,194	33.8%	\$ 20,970,863	32.0%
Juvenile, Probate and Magistrate	\$ 15,580,766	24.5%	\$ 18,577,707	28.4%
<b>TOTAL REMITTED TO STATE</b>	<b>\$ 63,806,009</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 65,479,027</b>	<b>100%</b>

TRIAL COURTS / JUDGES		
Superior Courts	159 Courts	230 Judges
<b>State Courts (Fewest Courts)</b>	<b>72 Courts</b>	<b>141 Judges</b>
Juvenile Courts	159 Courts	152 Judges
Probate Courts	159 Courts	206 Judges
Magistrate Courts	159 Courts	528 Judges
<b>Total</b>	<b>708 Courts</b>	<b>1,257 Judges</b>



## HISTORY OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE COURT JUDGES

In 1967 a group of state court judges and prosecutors created the *Trial Judges and Solicitors Association of Georgia* to promote the effective and efficient administration of justice brought before their courts. In 1980, the judges and solicitors acknowledged that their roles in the judicial system were ethically and constitutionally separate and distinct and the *State Court Judges of Georgia* was organized. In 1988 the General Assembly enacted O.C.G.A. § 15-7-26 creating *The Council of State Court Judges of Georgia* "...to effectuate the constitutional and statutory responsibilities conferred upon it by law and to further the improvement of the state courts, the quality and expertise of the judges thereof, and the administration of justice."

Council policies are set by the Executive Committee and utilize committees for specific issues concerning strategic planning, educational training, new judge mentoring, specialized support surrounding DUI, Mental Health, Domestic Violence and other accountability courts, information technology, uniform rules, performance and feasibility studies among others. Designated State Court Judges serve on judicial branch agencies such as the Judicial Council, Institute for Continuing Judicial Education, the Board of Court Reporting, Georgia Commission on Interpreters, Accountability Courts Council, Judicial Council Domestic Violence Task Force, Chief Justices Commission on Professionalism and Assistance for Pro Se Litigants among others.

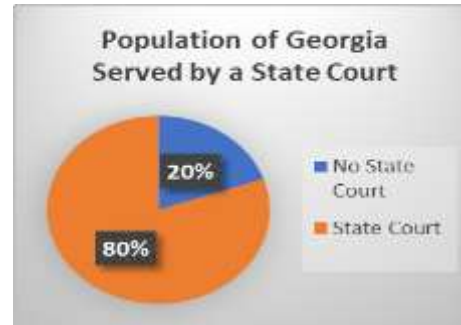
Currently there are 72 State Courts with 141 judges serving the State of Georgia. There are 35 full-time state courts and 37 part-time state courts. A State Court is established by local legislation introduced in the General Assembly. State Court judges are elected to four-year terms in county-wide non-partisan elections. The Governor has the ability to appoint state court judges to fill vacancies.

### JURISDICTION

- Criminal and Traffic Misdemeanor cases (including DUI, misdemeanor drug, and serious misdemeanor cases.)
- Civil cases except those in which exclusive jurisdiction is vested in the Superior Courts (i.e. domestic relations, real estate and injunctive relief.)
- Arrest and Search Warrant hearings
- Punishments of contempt by fine not exceeding \$1,000 or 20 days imprisonment, or both
- Appeals from Magistrate Court
- Issuance of Bench Warrants, Bonds, Committal Hearings; Revocation of Probation proceedings
- Assignment of civil cases to arbitration and alternative dispute resolution
- Granting of New Trials
- Direct appeals to the Georgia Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court of Georgia
- Court of Record adhering to the Rules of Evidence, the Civil Practice Act and the Criminal Procedures Act

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Council of State Court Judges is to advance and support the State Court and the quality and expertise of its judges; maintain the impartiality of the judiciary; ensure the fair, efficient, and uniform administration of justice; and enhance public confidence in the judicial system.



**State Courts represent only 11% of the State's total Judges, but bring in 41.7% of the Total Revenues!**

Revenues For Last 3 Years  
**State Courts: \$428,009,370**

Cases Filed Last 3 Years  
**State Courts: 2,137,372**

### QUALIFICATIONS FOR JUDGES

Court	Resident of GA	Age	Licensed Atty.	Practiced Law	Gov. Appoints	Appellate Juris.
Supreme	Yes		Yes	7 years	Yes	Yes
Ct. of Appeals	Yes		Yes	7 years	Yes	Yes
Superior	At least 3 years	At least 30	Yes	7 years	Yes	Yes
State	At least 3 years	At least 25	Yes	7 years	Yes	Yes
Juvenile	At least 3 years	At least 30	Yes	5 years	No	No
Probate	At least 2 years	At least 25	No (H.S. Diploma)	No	No	No
Pop. 96,000+		At least 30	Yes	7 years		
Magistrate	At least 1 year	At least 25	No (H.S. Diploma)	No	No	No

State Courts are the **ONLY** County funded Court with the same Judicial Qualifications of the State Funded Courts.