

# 2023 Budget Request

Juvenile Court

Gwinnett County

Judge Robert Waller, Presiding  
Judge Rodney Harris  
Judge Nhan-Ai Simms



Gwinnett



# Vision

Juvenile Court's vision is to provide services to ensure the positive development of children, safety to the community, and preservation of the family unit.

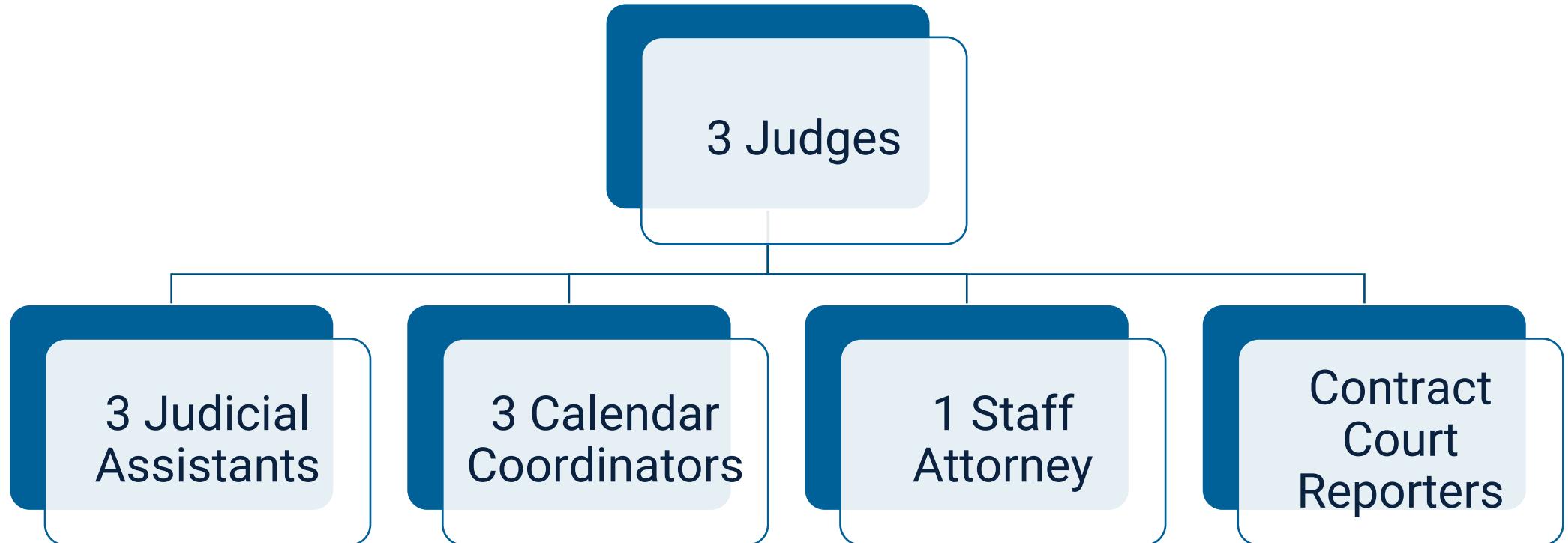




# Juvenile Court

- Juvenile Court exercises jurisdiction in cases involving delinquent, unruly, dependent, and runaway offenses under the age of 18.
- Juvenile Court has concurrent jurisdiction with Superior Court involving capital offenses, custody, child support cases, and termination of parental rights.

# Juvenile Court



# Administrative Office of the Courts



# Internal Strategic Decisions

- Continue to update technology in the courtroom to improve the quality of virtual participation in hearings
- Move to online portal for traffic cases
- Increase participation in evidence-based programs to ensure positive outcomes for delinquency treatment and rehabilitation
- Work with state and national nonprofits to receive recommendations on necessary resources to ensure best practices for child welfare cases

# County Initiatives

- **Safe, Livable, and Healthy Community**

Ensure a safe community by providing superior and comprehensive services and engaging partners to create a healthy Gwinnett.

- **Sustainability and Stewardship**

Maintain a smart and sustainable government by consistently operating based on sound reasoning and best practices with a long-term focus.

- **Organizational Excellence and Accountability**

Maintain the Gwinnett Standard, attract and retain a quality workforce, and continue the practice of transparency while providing services to the residents of Gwinnett.

# Decision Package

## 2023\_JCT\_001

- Requesting funding for two full time Judicial Staff Attorney positions
  - One Staff Attorney shared by three judges
  - Volume of judicial orders to be drafted by the Staff Attorney has steadily increased and necessitates additional staff
  - The judges have a need for the Staff Attorney to be present in the courtroom for contested proceedings, often resulting in scheduling conflicts for the other judges

# Decision Package

## 2023\_JCT\_002

- Requesting funding for an in-house contract Psychologist
  - Ongoing and increasing delays in conducting evaluations for children in detention or families in the foster care system
    - Approximately 3-month turnaround for State's Psychologist
    - Approximately 6-week turnaround for contracted vendors
  - The Court is often unable to make a decision on a case until an evaluation has been completed, causing the child to go without needed services and extending detention time

# Decision Package

## 2023\_JCT\_003

- Requesting funding for a fleet vehicle for the Accountability Court Programs
  - Prior to the reorganization, the Accountability Court staff utilized a fleet vehicle assigned to Juvenile Court Probation
  - Access to a fleet vehicle will allow the Accountability Court Case Coordinators to continue to visit their program participants as required by their program policies and procedures

# Total Budget

<b>2023 Requested Budget</b>	<b>\$6,123,349</b>
Decision Packages	\$408,678



# Questions



Gwinnett