



## Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice **Hugh P. Thompson**  
*Chair*

**Cynthia H. Clanton**  
*Interim Director*

### Judicial Council Appoints Five Members to the Board of Court Reporting

The Judicial Council Court Reporting Matters Committee (CRMC) represents the Council on all matters relating to court reporting, including recommending qualified individuals for membership to the Board of Court Reporting. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-14-24, the Judicial Council appoints the members of the Board for two-year terms.

After review of the candidates' qualifications and geographical region from the letters of interest and resumes submitted, the Court Reporting Matters Committee agreed to nominate the following individuals for appointment and reappointment to Board membership beginning July 1, 2015. A brief synopsis of each candidate's qualifications is listed below.

**Attorney James M. Anderson, III** (Incumbent), Sandy Springs (Atlanta Circuit). Mr. Anderson received his J.D. from University of Georgia School of Law. He is active member of the State Bar Association, Sandy Springs Bar Association, the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association (GTLA), Council of Municipal Court Judges, and Council of Magistrate Court Judges. Mr. Anderson is a graduate of Leadership Sandy Springs and appeared regularly on "The Law Show" broadcast by WGST radio. He lectures frequently for the GTLA Peoples Law School and the Institute for Continuing Judicial Education for Municipal and Magistrate Court Judges. Mr. Anderson served as president, vice-president, secretary, and past board director to the Sandy Springs Bar Association, and several civic and community organizations. He seeks reappointment as the State Bar attorney representative.

**Maxine Bursky**, a Freelance Reporter, Machine Shorthand (Flint Circuit). Ms. Bursky achieved the Registered Professional Reporter and Certified Realtime Reporter certifications from the National Court Reporters Association. She has authored books of practical tips and stories for court reporters, such as *Way off the Record*, *Talk to the Hands!*, and *The TERM-inator*. Ms. Bursky served on the Georgia Bar Pro Bono Court Reporting Project, Brown College of Court Reporting Advisory Council, and founder of the Hallyboy Foundation, an underwriter of student reporter scholarship. Ms. Bursky speaks to many court reporting schools around the country and facilitates webinars for Bridges Court Reporters online program. She resides in the Flint Circuit.

**Linda Drake**, (Incumbent), a Freelance Reporter, Voice Writer (Eastern Circuit). She became a Georgia court reporter in 1982 and subsequently achieved the Certified Verbatim Reporter certification from the National Verbatim Reporter Association in 1994. Ms. Drake became a member to its board of directors in 1999, and president from 2003 through 2005. Ms. Drake served as Vice-President to the Court Reporters' Training Council and led the re-design of its current Continuing Education Manual. She currently serves Vice-Chair to the Board of Court Reporting and Chair of the Certification Committee. Ms. Drake resides in the Eastern Circuit. She seeks reappointment.

**Judge John K. Edwards, Jr.**, State Court, Lowndes County (Southern Circuit). Judge Edwards has served in the Lowndes County State Court since 2006. He also served as municipal judge and solicitor for the city of Valdosta. Judge Edwards is a member of the State Court Judges Executive Council as the District Representative. He received a Bachelor's of Science from Wake Forest University and his Juris Doctorate from the Walter F. Mercer School of Law.

**Cheryl Gilliam**, an Official Reporter, Machine Shorthand (Griffin Circuit). She has over thirty years' experience reporting various court proceedings, to include death penalty, medical malpractice, product liability, and domestic relations cases. She provides realtime feed in all court proceedings and to the hearing impaired. Ms. Gilliam successfully achieved the Registered Professional Reporter and Registered Merit Reporter certifications from the National Court Reporters Association. Her service to the Georgia Shorthand Reporters Association includes President and former Board of Director. Ms. Gilliam resides in the Griffin Circuit.

The nine-member Board of Court Reporting is comprised of: five court reporters certified by method of machine shorthand and voice; two representatives from the State Bar of Georgia; and two members of the judiciary (one Superior Court judge and one State Court judge). The remaining four members' terms will expire June 30, 2016.