

2020 CJA Task Force Membership

Section 107 of CAPTA, legislates that a CJA task force must be composed of professionals with knowledge and experience relating to the criminal justice system and issues of child abuse and neglect, child sexual abuse and exploitation, and child maltreatment-related fatalities. In addition, the task force must include representatives of parents' groups, adult former victims of child abuse and neglect, and individuals experienced in working with children with disabilities and homeless children and youth. 2019 Task Force members and their associated representation, include:

Sandra Barrett, Volunteer, Carroll County CASA, *Court Appointed Special Advocate*

Cheryl Benefield, Program Manager, Safe & Drug-Free Schools, GA Department of Education, *Education*

Lalaine A. Briones, JD, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault & Crimes Against Children, Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia, *Prosecuting Attorney*

Kyle Browne, Child Advocate Attorney, Dekalb Child Advocacy Center, *Child Attorney*

Rachelle Carnesale, Superior Court Judge, Fulton County, *Disabilities*

Melissa D. Carter, JD, Executive Director, Barton Child Law and Policy Center, Emory University School of Law, *Child Law Advocate*

Nancy Chandler – Retired, Georgia Center for Child Advocacy, *Advocate*

Dena Crim, Special Assistant Attorney General, Georgia Department of Law, Cobb County

Latera Davis, Director of Victim and Volunteer Services, Department of Juvenile Justice

Nicholas Forge, PhD, MA, LMSW, Georgia State University Clinical Assistant Professor, *Homeless Youth Advocate*

Darice Good, JD, CWLS, Good Legal Firm, LLC, *Parent Attorney*

Jordan Greenbaum, MD, Medical Director, Global Child Health & Well Being Initiative, International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children, *Health Professional*

C. LaTain (Tain) Kell, Sr ., Cobb County Superior Court, *Superior Court Judge*

Beoncia Loveless, Child Death Investigation Specialist, *Adoptive Parent (Former Relative Foster Parent)*

Stephen Messner, MD, Medical Director, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Stephanie Blank Child Protection Center, *Health Professional*

J. David Miller, Sr. Assistant District Attorney, Southern Judicial Circuit, *Prosecuting Attorney*

Julia Neighbors, Executive Director, Prevent Child Abuse Georgia, *Prevention Specialist*

Amber Patterson, Cobb County Juvenile Court, *Juvenile Court Judge*

Stephanie L. Pearson, Ph.D., Director, Child and Adolescent Services Programs, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, *Mental Health Professional*

Mitzie Smith, Unit Director, Georgia Division of Family and Children Services, Knowledge Management Section, Policy and Regulations Unit, *Child Protective Services*

Angela Tanzella-Tyner, JD, Director of Advocacy & Program Development, Georgia CASA, *Court Appointed Special Advocate*

Kelly Tonelli, Sergeant, Special Victims Unit, Gwinnett County Police Department, *Law Enforcement*

Ashley Willcott, Dekalb Juvenile Court, *Judge Pro Tem*

Deb Farrell, Care Solutions, Inc., *Task Force Coordinator*

Description in italics identifies mandated representation on CJA Task Force.

Georgia's Task Force has maintained a stable and committed core membership for many years and is currently chaired by Melissa Carter, Emory University School of Law, and Amber Patterson, Juvenile Court Judge for Cobb County.