

**Judge C. LaTain Kell, Sr. (retired)**

“Tain”

**Renaissance Trial Solutions, LLC**

49 Atlanta Street  
Marietta, Georgia 30060  
(m)678-988-8171

**Professional History**

2022-Present	<b>Owner, Renaissance Trial Solutions, LLC</b> Mediator, Arbitrator, Special Master, Teacher
2022-Present	<b>Adjunct Professor, University of Georgia School of Law</b> Trial Practice, Georgia Practice and Procedure
2022-2024	<b>Hearing Officer, Georgia Lottery Corporation</b>
2024-Present	<b>Special Master</b> <i>Fazal v. Fazal</i> , Superior Court of Bibb County CAFN 2021-cv-074104
2017-2019	<b>Chief Judge, Superior Court of Cobb Judicial Circuit</b>
2007-2022	<b>Judge, Superior Court of Cobb Judicial Circuit</b> Appointed 2007; Elected 2008; Re-Elected 2012, 2016, 2020
2020-2022	<b>Judge, Cobb Superior Court Veterans' Accountability and Treatment Court</b>
2016-2022	<b>Judge, Cobb Superior Court Intermediate Drug Court</b>
2000-2007	<b>Partner, Brock, Clay, Calhoun &amp; Rogers, P.C.</b>
1997-2000	<b>Troutman Sanders, LLP</b>
1987-1997	<b>Office of the Attorney General</b>

**Educational History**

2024	<b>Master's in Judicial Studies, University of Nevada, Reno</b>
1987	<b><i>Juris Doctor</i>, University of Georgia</b>
1984	<b>A.B.J. (Journalism) <i>cum laude</i> and with honors University of Georgia</b>
2017	<b>National Judicial College</b>

**Professional Certificate in Judicial Development  
General Jurisdiction Trial Skills**

**Awards**

**President's Award, Council of Superior Court Judges- 2022**

**Jack P. Turner Award, Family Law Institute- 2022**

**"Spirit of Justice" Award, Georgia Bar Association- 2023**

**Special Recognition for Outstanding Work in Judicial Education,  
Council of Superior Court Judges- 2024**

**Special Appointments**

**Supreme Court of Georgia, Justice Designate, November 2011**

**Georgia Child Fatality Review Panel, Governor's Appointee 2008-2019**  
Chairman (Governor's Appointee) 2012-2019

**Georgia CAPTA (Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act) Panel 2008-2019**  
Chairman (Governor's Appointee) 2012-2019

**State Bar of Georgia, Commission on Criminal Justice Reform 2011-2014**

**The Federalist Society of Atlanta, Board of Advisors 2011-Present**

**Personal Initiatives**

**Council of Superior Court Judges**

New Judge Training (Annual) 2014-2024

- Drafted and implemented new statewide week-long training program for all new judges in Superior Courts, including all presentations and materials
- Trained over 180 new Superior Court judges to date

**"Good Judge-ment" Podcast**

Podcasting 2019-Present

- Recording podcasts on selected topics of interest to Superior Court judges, judges of other courts and attorneys
- goodjudgepod.com
- Available on Spotify, Apple iTunes, Soundcloud, etc.

**ICJE Multi-Court Advanced Judicial Training**

2024 Pilot Program

Developed curriculum and taught advanced judicial skills for all classes of courts in Georgia

**“You Be the Judge”**

2012-2022

Created special day-long mock trial program targeting 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in Cobb County

-Drafted script, program and special activities, including interactive mock trial and educational program

-Over 10,000 Cobb students have participated

-Still active in Cobb Superior Court

**Cobb County Superior Court Intermediate Drug Court**

2016-2021

Initiated a charter program for intermediate risk/intermediate need drug offenders

**Special Project**

**Judicial Fellow, Administrative Office of the Courts**

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Recognition Program

**Special Skill**

Certified in civil mediation and arbitration

**Special Programs**

**Mentor, Transition into Law Practice Program**

State Bar of Georgia, Appointed by Georgia Supreme Court

**Superior Court Mentorship Program**

Mentor 2017-2022

**Wheeler High School Internship Mentor**

2014, 2015, 2021

**Law School Summer Clerk Supervisor**

2008-2022

**Personal**

Wife, Sheri M. Kell; Son, Carlton Kell, Jr.

Hobbies: Family Activities, Photography, Hiking/Camping, Painting, Travel

## **Special Appointments and Professional Activities**

**Supreme Court of Georgia**, Justice Designate November 2011

**The Federalist Society, Board of Advisors** 2011-Present

**National Judicial College**, Professional Certificate in Judicial Development  
General Jurisdiction Trial Skills 2017

**Georgia Child Fatality Review Panel**, Governor's Appointee 2008-2019  
Chairman 2012-2019  
Maltreatment Committee 2014-2019  
Legislative Committee 2015-2016

**Georgia CAPTA (Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act) Panel** 2008-2019  
Chairman 2012-2019  
Children's Justice Act Task Force 2019-2022

**State Bar of Georgia, Commission on Criminal Justice Reform** 2011-2014

**Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform** Georgia Sentencing Subcommittee 2016

**Council of Superior Court Judges**  
New Judge Training Leader 2014-Present  
Legislative Committee 2009- 2022  
Legislative Action Team 2019-2022  
Accountability Courts Committee 2012-2022  
Judicial Education Committee 2014-2022

**Cobb County Veterans' Accountability and Treatment Court, Judge** 2020-2022

**Cobb County Drug Court**, Assisting Judge 2012-2020

**Cobb Superior Court Intermediate Drug Court, Judge** 2016-2021

**Cobb Superior Court COVID-19 Emergency Committee** March 2020-2022

**Davis Direction Foundation Recovery Roundtable**  
2019-2022

**National Judicial College-** Group Discussion Leader  
Advanced Evidence 2016

**Charles Weltner Inn of Court** 2011-2022

## **Community Activities**

### **Cobb Chamber of Commerce**

Board of Directors 2002-2009, 2014-2019  
Marietta Area Council 2002-2005  
Chairman 2003  
Chairman's Award 2009

### **Leadership Cobb, Class of 2001**

Politics Day Committee 2006-2010, 2012, 2015-2019  
Co-Chair 2009, 2012, 2019  
Speaker, Public Safety Day 2018, 2019

### **Johnson Ferry Baptist Church**

Deacon 2008-Present  
Peru Mission Trip Group Leader 2020  
Dominican Republic Mission Trip Group Leader 2019  
Hospitality Committee 2005-Present  
Budget Committee 2008-2010; Chairman 2010  
Deacon Officer Nominating Committee 2014  
Prayer Group Leader 2014, 2018  
Men's Mexico Mission 2004  
Christian Leadership Concepts 2012-2014  
Next Steps 2016-Present  
Upward Flag Football, Coach 2012, 2013  
Arts Ministry, Core Artist 2015-Present

### **Johnson Ferry Christian Academy Board of Directors**

2023-Present  
Vice Chair 2024-Present  
Governance Committee 2023-Present

### **MUST Ministries Board of Directors 2008-2015**

Governance Committee Chair 2012-2015

### **Cobb County School District**

Superintendent's Business and Community Advisory Committee Member  
2012-2014, 2016-2022

### **East Cobb YMCA**

Advisory Board 2000-2005, Chairman 2004

### **Center for Family Resources**

Gala Committee 2004, 2005

### **Timber Ridge Elementary School**

Foundation Board 2006-2010  
Advisory Board 2011-2013

## **Community Activities (continued)**

**Marietta Kiwanis**, Member 2002-2017

**Winner, Justice Jam 2014** with the band “Specific Deviations

**Featured Performer:**

Family Law Institute 2010-2018, 2024 “Specific Deviations”  
“O Brother Where Art Thou”, Strand Theater, September 2016  
“Strand Ole Opry”, Strand Theater 2016-2018 (6 performances)  
Justice Jam 2014-2018  
“Star Spangled Banner”- singer, Cobb County Law Day 2019

**Photography:**

Marietta Cobb Museum of Art Photography Exhibit 2024  
Metro Montage, Marietta Cobb Museum of Art 2011-2018, 2023  
Cobb Show House 2012, 2013  
Glimpses of His Glory Gallery, Johnson Ferry Church, various shows 2011-2017  
High Country Photography Gallery (featured artist) 2014-2016  
DK Gallery, “Photo Abstraction” featured photographer November 2016  
New Creations Gallery 2017

## **Speaking Engagements/Presentations**

### **Teaching:**

Emory University School of Law, Guest Lecturer 2019-2025  
Family Law I and II

### **Continuing Legal Education Course Presentations:**

Troutman Sanders Law Firm “Nichomachean Ethics” 2008  
State Bar Headquarters “Ethical Considerations” 2009  
Atlanta Bar Association Family Law Section “First Year on the Bench: Lessons Learned” 2009  
American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers “Ethics in the Courtroom for the Family Law Practitioner” 2009  
Atlanta Bar Association, Family Law Section “Sun Tsu and the Art of War: Domestic Relations” (Presentation and Panel Discussion) 2010  
Nuts & Bolts of Local Government Law “Conflicts of Interest and Other Ethical Issues in Local Government Matters” (Panelist) 2010  
State Bar of Georgia, “RICO and Ethics” 2011  
Panel: “Domestic Violence and the Courts- A Judge’s Perspective” 2011  
American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, Panel: “Child Support Deviations” 2011  
Cobb County Bar Association, Domestic Relations Section 2011  
Society of Real Estate Attorneys- Professionalism and Ethics 2013  
Professionalism, Ethics and Malpractice- Kennesaw State University 2013  
Georgia Psychology Association- Judicial Perspective on Divorce 2013  
Panel Discussion: “Current Financial Topics in Family Law” 2014  
Atlanta Bar Association Panel Discussion: “A View from the Bench” 2014  
Family Law Institute, Panel Discussion “Financial Statements in the Courtroom” 2016  
Georgia Defense Lawyers Association “Professionalism: 12 Steps to Better Lawyering” 2016  
Atlanta Bar Association Family Law Section Breakfast: “Topics of Interest to the Family Lawyer” 2017  
Family Law Institute, Panel Discussion “Financial Decisions” 2017  
Cobb County Family Law CLE “Case Law Update” 2020  
Cobb County Family Law Section, Panel Discussion “COVID 19: Lessons Learned” 2020  
Cobb County Family Law Section, Panel Discussion 2021  
Family Law Institute, “Courtroom Evidence” 2020 (Invited)  
Constitutional Officers Association of Georgia, “Politics and Social Media” 2020 (Invited)  
Georgia Family Law Institute (various topics) 2009-2018, 2020

### **Continuing Judicial Education Courses:**

Council of Superior Court Judges, ICJE Training  
Speaker, Winter Conference 2016  
“Nuts & Bolts of Criminal Law for Judges”  
Speaker, Winter Conference 2018  
“Awarding Attorney’s Fees”  
Speaker, Winter Conference 2020  
“Human Trafficking”  
Speaker, Summer Conference 2020 (invited)  
“Case Law Update”  
Speaker, Virtual Winter Conference 2021  
“Discovery Disputes and Motions to Compel”  
Speaker, Summer Conference 2021  
“Jury Trials During COVID”  
Speaker, Summer Conference 2022  
“Judicial Writing”  
Speaker, Winter Conference 2023  
“Awarding Attorney’s Fees”

Constitutional Officers Association of Georgia  
“The Media and Social Media” 2019  
“Public Behavior and Campaign Season” 2020 (invited)

Magistrate Court Judges Training 2019 “Appeals from Magistrate Court”

Georgia Probate Judges Annual Conference 2023 “Ethics”

Probate Judges Spring Conference 2021 “Ethics and Professionalism- Oh the Places You’ll (Hopefully Never) Go”

Multi-Class of Court Online Legal Writing: “Striving for Clarity” 2023

#### **Other Legal Education Courses:**

Atlanta Bar Association, Domestic Relations Section 2008, 2014, 2017

Georgia Legislative Policy Briefing, “Conservative Criminal Justice Reform”, Conservative Policy Leadership Institute/Georgia Public Policy Foundation 2011

State Guardian Ad Litem Training 2023

Kennesaw State University Paralegal Training Course, Speaker, 2015, 2016, 2017

Cobb County Legal Secretaries Association “What It Means to Be a Superior Court Judge” 2009

American Probation and Parole Association 2016 Winter Training Institute, Judges’ Roundtable: “Justice Reinvestment Initiative, Risk/Needs Assessment and the Procedural Fairness Movement”



## **Speaking Engagements/Presentations (continued)**

### **Other Speaking/Training:**

Voices for Georgia's Children,  
Legislative Appreciation Event, Panel Speaker 2015  
GBI Appreciation Event Speaker 2016  
Teen Suicide Prevention Event 2018

American Heritage Academy, Graduation Speaker 2008

Kell High School Baccalaureate Speaker 2012, 2013

Wheeler High School Class of 1974 Re-Graduation Speaker 2012

Brumby Elementary School Graduation Speaker 2016

Symposium on Solutions to Substance Use Disorder: A County-Wide Approach  
-2019  
-Presented by RRLC

### **Schools:**

Timber Ridge Elementary School  
Powers Ferry Elementary School  
Bells Ferry Elementary School  
Brumby Elementary School  
Hollydale Elementary School  
LaBelle Elementary School  
Mt. Bethel Elementary School  
International Academy of Smyrna  
Campbell Middle School  
Kell High School  
Harrison High School  
Wheeler High School  
South Cobb High School  
Sequoia High School

### **Special Mock Trials:**

Timber Ridge Elementary (4<sup>th</sup> grade) 2012, 2013, 2014  
Brumby Elementary (5<sup>th</sup> grade) 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018  
LaBelle Elementary (5<sup>th</sup> grade) 2013  
Bells Ferry Elementary (5<sup>th</sup> grade) 2014, 2015, 2017  
Powers Ferry Elementary (5<sup>th</sup> grade) 2014, 2016  
Mt. Bethel Elementary (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) 2014, 2015

## **Professional Training**

### **National Judicial College:**

General Jurisdiction- 2009  
Handling Capital Cases- 2011

Financial Statements in the Courtroom- 2011  
Human Trafficking- 2011  
Judicial Philosophy and American Law- 2014  
Advanced Evidence- 2016  
Domestic Violence- 2016  
Judicial Writing- 2017  
Effective Caseflow Management- 2017  
Faculty Development: Presenting Courses Effectively- 2019  
History and Philosophy of Jurisprudence- 2019  
Gaming and the Law- 2019  
History and Philosophy of Jurisprudence II- 2020  
Scientific Research for Judges- 2020  
Language and the Judicial Process- 2020  
Thesis: "Saving the Ones Drowning in the Shallow End of the Pool"- 2024

**George Mason University, Law and Economics Center**

Selected Topics- 2012  
Week One Training for Judges- 2014  
Selected Topics- 2015