

COURT TECH TALK

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION



CELEBRATING OUR **50th** ANNIVERSARY

A New Year brings new opportunities.

In 2022, we made it one of our missions to further educate the Judiciary by offering training classes on the applications we all use each day. Our Quarterly Newsletter will be informative and offer tips, tricks, training opportunities, and security updates. Knowledge is power and we want to empower you and help you succeed in your daily court endeavors as we strive toward an efficient and effective justice system. We want to help you make 2023 a year of new opportunities.

The Information Technology Division of the Judicial Council's Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is structured to provide services directly to the courts in Georgia as well as supporting the AOC Staff. Through development, infrastructure, configuration, security, and help desk services, products and solutions are offered which enable our staff to resolve technical issues and assist courts in performing their daily operations. Our division also supports legislative compliance, vendor and contract management, and provides an array of research, training, and consulting services.

It is our goal and pleasure to offer constructive solutions for judicial officers and staff while keeping up with industry changes.

The Court Tech Talk newsletter is brought to you by the **Court Technology & Support Services Team** of the JC/AOC IT Division led by **Ben Luke**, Chief Technology Officer

Michael Neuren, IT Programs Manager

Kriste Pope, Systems Analyst II
Amber Range, Systems Analyst

Please let us know how we can serve you better!

CONTACT US



follow us



[Visit our Website](#)



The Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts (JC/AOC) celebrates 50th Anniversary in 2023

Facts About the creation of the JC/AOC

- Then Governor Jimmy Carter swore in the first members of the Judicial Council on May 4, 1973, as part of the recommendations made by the 1973 Governor's Commission on Judicial Processes.
- The Commission also recommended the creation of an Administrative Office of the Courts to function as a service organization which became a reality with the passage of Act 178, 1973, Ga. Laws 266.
- Senate Resolution 12 also passed in 1973 proposing a constitutional amendment to unify the courts of the Georgia judicial system.



The first swearing-in of the Judicial Council of Georgia in 1973.

Left to Right: 1. Governor Jimmy Carter; 2. Gus Cleveland, President of State Bar of Georgia; 3. Sonny Seiler, President-Elect of State Bar of Georgia; 4. James O'Connor, (the one who immediately resigned in Judge Followill's story) Superior Court for the Oconee Circuit; 5. Ernest Tidwell, Superior Court of Fulton County (Atlanta Circuit); 6. Judge Kenneth B. Followill, City Court of Columbus; 7. J. Bowie Gray, Superior Court for the Tifton Circuit; 8. Walter McMillan, Superior Court for the Middle Circuit; 9. Robert Hull, Court of Appeals of Georgia (at the time, later Supreme Court of Georgia, and then a federal judge in N.D. Ga.); 10. William Kaye Stanley, Probate Court of Bibb County; 11. Hal Bell, Superior Court of the Macon Circuit Absent: William Gunter of Supreme Court of Georgia

[READ MORE](#)





Google Search Tips & Tricks

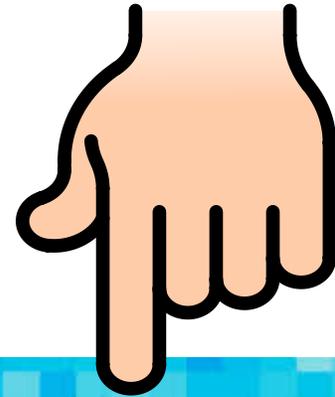
You may have a favorite search engine. But Google is a powerful one. Here are a few search tips and tricks:

No matter what you are looking for, start with a simple search like where's the closest airport? You can always add a few descriptive words if necessary.

If you're looking for a place or product in a specific location, add the location. For example: coffee shops Atlanta.

Exact match, indicated by [square brackets] around your keyword, indicates that you only want your keyword to match a search query when it matches exactly (as the name implies).

Click the video for more Google search tips



New Technology Tips

Are you thinking that this is the year to add new technology to your court? Before you do, here are some helpful tips!

Avoid Shiny Things

Avoid the urge to run out and buy the latest and greatest tool or what you think others are using. Instead, understand that technology is a tool that supports your strategic goals. Adopt technology because it will make your life easier, make you a better judge, or improve the operation of your court. The goal here is to improve your effectiveness, efficiency, and security.

So, ask yourself where your biggest pain points are and what problems you need to solve. With this understanding, look for a tech tool that can help you.

READ MORE



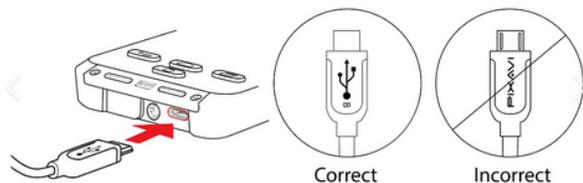
Technology...Did You Know?

You can plug your USB drive in the right way... the first time. Plugging in a USB cable the right way feels like a no-brainer. Then why do we get it wrong on the first try so often?

Here's the secret tip: Grab any USB cable. See that symbol on one side? That symbol will point up if you're plugging in horizontally and if you're plugging a cable vertically, the USB symbol will face you.

Viola! You are a genius, and you did it with confidence.

Please remember, USB drives can be malicious! DO NOT plug them in if you don't know where they came from.



It happens...you have a dozen tabs open in your browser and you accidentally closed the wrong one. There is a way to reopen that tab! Instead of opening your browser's history, you can do it with a couple of keystrokes. Hit Ctrl+Shift+T on your PC or Cmd+Shift+T on your Mac to automatically reopen the tab you just closed.

Security Awareness Corner

Passphrase is the new Password

If the eyes are the window to one's soul, then a password is the window to your identity

You may have a sticky note on your monitor or under your keyboard with your password written on it. Anyone strolling through your office need only consult your note to find your computer password! How many of you have as your password, the word "password," or think that your alternate password, "password1", is more secure? How about your dog's name, kid's birthday, or just the default password that was supplied with your wireless router or software?

Strong passwords are long, the more characters the stronger the password.

A minimum of 15 characters is recommended. Additionally, the use of **passphrases**, passwords made up of multiple words, is highly encouraged. Examples include "It's time for vaccination," "block-curious-sunny-leaves," or "correct battery horse staple." *Passphrases are both easy to remember and type yet meet the strength requirements.*



WATCH NOW

READ MORE



PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

Georgia's Juvenile Data Exchange Bringing Data to Justice

Georgia lacks a comprehensive mechanism for the collection of statewide juvenile justice data. As a result, judges and parties in juvenile delinquency matters cannot make informed decisions regarding the youth who appear in our juvenile courts, and youth may not receive a uniform experience of justice throughout the State.

The Juvenile Data Exchange Project (JDEX) brings together committed partners from the Governor's Office, the Council of Juvenile Court Judges, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Department of Juvenile Justice to create a statewide data repository of juvenile justice data. Our goal is to enable informed legal advocacy and judicial decision-making, and to ensure that youth receive substantial justice in every county of the State.



WELCOME TO JUVENILE DATA EXCHANGE (JDEX)



[LEARN MORE](#)



Court Observation Program for JC/AOC Employees

In 2022, the AOC embarked on the exciting new court observation program, known as the AOC Academy. This program was created for AOC staff members to observe the important work done in courts across Georgia. The Academy has been an eye-opening experience for our colleagues. We appreciate the Judges and staff who hosted us, helping us better understand the work and some of the factors they must consider daily. If you have ideas for training cohorts or are interested in hosting our team, please contact Amber Range.



Pictured (L to R) are Cassandra Niblack, Accounting Manager/AOC, and Afzal Masood, IT Support Specialist/AOC with Chief Judge Robert Leonard in Cobb County Superior Court



Pictured (L to R) are John Payne, Indigent Defense, Anthony Volkodav, Asst. DA, LaShawn Murphy, Trial Court Liaison, CMuCJ/AOC, Judge Warren Davis, Gwinnett County Superior Court, Shirley Roberts, Gov't Affairs Coordinator/AOC, & Gwinnett Deputy Maxwell Garcia.

TRAINING CORNER

Upcoming Training Opportunities



A Microsoft Word Beginner/Intermediate class will be offered via Zoom on January 31, 2023. Click the button or scan the QR Code to register.

CLICK HERE

SCAN ME



A Microsoft Excel Beginner/Intermediate class will be offered via Zoom on March 29, 2023. Click the button or scan the QR code to register.

CLICK HERE

SCAN ME



Kriste Pope taught an internal tools class via Zoom on December 1st, 2022

We will announce more training opportunities in the April Issue of the Court Tech Talk.

Do you have a suggestion for a training class? Are you interested in scheduling a one-on-one or group training on a specific topic? Our team can travel to you or schedule a remote session. Please contact us for consideration. Someone from our team will be in touch! We look forward to hearing from you.

See you in April!

Your Court Tech Talk Team,
Michael, Kriste & Amber



Amber Range led a Microsoft Word beginner/intermediate class on November 1st, 2022 via Zoom