

SCHOOL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT— SPEAKERS and PANELISTS

Commissioner Avery Niles, Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice



After his appointment by Governor in November 2012, Department of Juvenile Justice Commissioner Avery Niles was sworn into office by Governor Nathan Deal, followed by a unanimous vote of the DJJ Board. Commissioner Niles leads a workforce of more than 4,000 state juvenile corrections employees working in 28 facilities and 92 court services offices, engaged in the restorative justice of more than 22-thousand Georgia youth.

With more than 29 years of distinguished law enforcement and criminal justice experience, Commissioner Niles built his corrections career as Warden of the Hall County Correctional Institute. In addition, Niles spent more than twenty years in the Hall County Sheriff's Office rising through the ranks from Patrolman to Sergeant in Juvenile Investigations, First Lieutenant (Assistant Commander) in the Patrol Division, and Lieutenant in the Work Release/House Arrest Division, before reaching the level of Commander of the Hall County Detention Center.

A graduate of the Georgia Law Enforcement Command College (Class 52) of Columbus State University, Commissioner Niles is a strong proponent of continuing law enforcement education. He is a graduate of the Georgia Police Academy, FBI National Academy, National Association of Child Abuse Investigation, Internal Affairs Investigator Association, Georgia Police Chief Executive Training, Georgia State Board of Funeral Services, and Leadership Hall County. Commissioner Niles received a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from the Georgia Law Enforcement Command College in Columbus.

In 2014, Niles was elected to the American Correctional Association's (ACA) Board of Governors serving in the "Institutions" area.

Presiding Judge Leroy Burke III, Chatham County Juvenile Court



LeRoy Burke III is a presiding judge in the Juvenile Court of Chatham County. Burke began his legal career as a general practice attorney in Atlanta and Savannah. He later became an advisor with the Office of Hearings and Appeals in the Social Security Administration. He then served more than 10 years as a judge in the Chatham County Recorder's Court. Burke is a member of the Council of Juvenile Court Judges, the American Bar Association, the Port City Bar Association, and the State Bar of Georgia. He is on the board of directors for Savannah's Martin Luther King Jr. Observance Day Association and chairs the Chatham County Truancy Protocol Committee.

Burke grew up in Virginia and attended Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia. He earned his J.D. at Woodrow Wilson College of Law in Atlanta.

SCHOOL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT — SPEAKERS

Judge Michael Boggs, Court of Appeals of Georgia



Judge Michael P. Boggs was appointed to the Court of Appeals of Georgia on January 6, 2012 by Governor Nathan Deal. Prior to his appointment, Judge Boggs served as a Superior Court Judge for the six– county Waycross Judicial Circuit. Judge Boggs was elected by his fellow Superior Court Judges to serve as Secretary-Treasurer of the Council of Superior Court Judges, and also served as Vice-Chair of the Council’s Legislation Committee. An ardent supporter of accountability courts, Judge Boggs founded the Waycross Judicial Circuit Drug Court Program, served as its Presiding Judge, and served as a member of the Judicial Council of Georgia’s Standing Committee on Accountability Courts. Judge Boggs obtained his undergraduate in Political Science and Psychology in 1985 from Georgia Southern College. He received a Juris Doctorate in 1990 from the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University.

Prior to his judicial service, Judge Boggs served as a State Representative to the Georgia General Assembly from 2001 to 2004. While in the Legislature, Judge Boggs served on the Judiciary, Public Safety and Government Affairs Committee and authored the “Child Protection Act”, a bill aimed at protecting children from sexual predators. In 2002, Judge Boggs was selected as the Outstanding Freshman Member of the General Assembly by the Legislative Alumni Association and was also recognized by the Editors of Georgia Trend Magazine as one of the “40 under 40” rising stars of Georgia.

Judge Boggs served as a member of Georgia’s Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform in 2011, and was appointed by Governor Deal to serve as Co-Chair of the Criminal Justice Reform Council in 2012, 2013 and 2014. Judge Boggs also served as a member of the Governor’s Judicial Nominating Commission in 2011 and is a graduate of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce “Leadership Georgia” Program. Judge Boggs is a member of the Board of Directors of the Council of State Governments Justice Center and a member of the Lawyers Clubs of Atlanta and the Atlanta Bar Association. Judge Boggs and his wife Heather reside in Pierce County.

SCHOOL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT — SPEAKERS

**Dr. Garry McGiboney,
Deputy Superintendent
of Policy, Department of
Education**



Dr. McGiboney currently serves as the Deputy State Superintendent for External Affairs and Policy at the Georgia Department of Education. He has over 30 years of experience in public education, having served in several local school level, district level, and state level positions.

Dr. McGiboney has a Ph.D. in both school psychology and administration from Georgia State University and is a state certified psychologist and a state certified mediator. He is a member of several professional organizations and has served on several boards, such as the Department of Family and Children Services, Georgia Family Connections Partnership, Mental Health of America, Community Service Board and others. Dr. McGiboney was recently appointed by the Governor of Georgia to serve on the Joint Study on Mental Health Access and was appointed by the Georgia Supreme Court to serve on its Committee on Justice for Children.

Dr. McGiboney has over 30 professional publications on topics including adolescent behavior, bullying prevention and intervention, school climate, emergency and crisis planning, school law, policy development, parenting, incarcerated youth, and mental health. He is the author of three books, *The Private Side of a Public Education*, *Student Relations and Discipline*, and the recently published *Lessons for Leaders and Governing Boards*. He has written guest columns for magazines and newspapers, and he has been interviewed by CNN, NBC, CBS, ABC, and many regional and local television and radio affiliates. Also, he was featured in a bullying awareness program for children on the Nickelodeon Network and on an A&E television special on school violence. Additionally, Dr. McGiboney appeared in a United States Department of Education video production of *Emergency Preparedness for Families* that was broadcast on PBS, the Discovery Channel, and The Learning Channel, as well as on local public school system access channels.

Dr. McGiboney has been quoted in *Time Magazine*, *USA Today*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Atlanta Journal and Constitution* and other publications on many topics. Also, he has been quoted in the international press, including *Le Devoir*, *Listin Diario*, *El Diaro*, *Japan Press*, and *Mato Grosso*. He has made numerous state and national presentations, including the annual conferences of the American Bar Association, National Association of School Psychologists, American Research Council, International Association of School Safety Professionals, American School Boards Association, National Association of State Boards of Education, and many others. Dr. McGiboney was recently invited by both the United States Department of Education and Department of Justice to make a presentation to teams from 31 states. Dr. McGiboney is recipient of several awards, including NAACP Educator of the Year; the National Association of School Psychologists National Friend of Children Award; Georgia School Psychologists Friend of Children Award; Georgia School Counselors Advocate of the Year Award; Georgia Association of School Nurses Hero Award; School Social Workers Association of Georgia Friend of Children Award, Mental Health America Board Member of the Year, and others. Recently, he was inducted into the Georgia Board of Regents Alumni Hall of Fame for his career-long efforts on behalf of children.

SCHOOL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT— PANELISTS

Dr. Thomas B. Lockamy, Jr., Superintendent, Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools



Dr. Thomas B. Lockamy, Jr. has served as the Superintendent of Schools for the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System since July of 2005.

During his tenure with the district, Dr. Lockamy has created an inclusive model of school-community interaction. His vision for a world class school system is supported by a plan he initiated to increase the academic outcome for all students while providing a wide range of educational options for families. The Passport to Excellence has brought about new schools, increased program opportunities, and increased community involvement. As a result, the district has seen a steady rise in the graduation rate and a steep decline in the dropout rate. The 2011 graduation rate represents the highest percentage of students graduating from Savannah-Chatham schools in over a decade. Dr. Lockamy has brought about innovative initiatives that support the betterment of public education. His belief that all students can achieve at high levels is the driving force that has led to increased parental involvement and effective classroom techniques that generate academic results. Initiatives such as the Community Engagement Task Force, the Guiding Coalition, the Professional Senate (teachers), Student Senate, and the Instructional Support Senate have all played a key role in the delivery of tangible results. Dr. Lockamy holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, a Master of Arts in Education Administration, and an Advanced Masters in Educational Specialist – all from East Carolina University, and a Doctor of Education in Education Leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

SCHOOL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT— PANELISTS

Dr. Quentina Miller-Fields , Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools



Dr. Miller-Fields currently serves as the Director of Student Affairs, which serves over 36,000 students.

Upon graduating from Savannah State College with her Bachelor's of Science degree in Social Work, Miller-Fields was hired to serve as the first Social Worker at the Teen Age Parenthood Program (TAPP). Soon after, Quentina Miller-Fields received her M.S.W. in Social Work from the University of Georgia. She later matriculated at Georgia Southern University and received her leadership endorsement. During her time as a school social worker, Quentina served as President of the First District of School Social Workers of Georgia. Miller-Fields soon transitioned to a new position serving as Job Placement Specialist and Assistant Site Administrator for the Riley Learning Center, which was a school designated for students charged with or adjudicated of designated felony offenses. During this time, Miller-Fields earned her Ed.D in Educational Administration from Nova Southeastern University.

In 2008, Dr. Miller-Fields received the Gwendolyn Goodman "Champion for Children" award for untiring service to Savannah's youth. In March 2012, Miller-Fields was a featured presenter at The National Youth At-Risk Conference. While working in the school system, Quentina Miller-Fields simultaneously served her country in The United States Army National Guard for twelve years before being honorably discharged at the rank of Captain.

Dr. Miller-Fields is also active in social and community affairs. She sits on the Board of Directors for the American Red Cross, Youth Futures Authority, Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS), and the Childhood Fatality Review Committee. She attends Mt. Hermon Baptist Church where she teaches Sunday school, sings in the choir, serves on The Deaconess Board, and is the Chairman of The Trustee Board. She is a member of the Christian fellowship Union where she works with the youth department and is on the finance committee. Dr. Quentina Miller-Fields, a renowned educator, social advocate, and change agent, is a native of Savannah, GA. Dr. Fields' life serves as a testament to hard work, fortitude, tenacity and is a monument to beating the odds. Dr. Miller-Fields is married and is the mother of two sons.

SCHOOL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT— PANELISTS

**Sharon Hill,
Georgia Appleseed**



Sharon Nelson Hill is the founding executive director of Georgia Appleseed Center for Law and Justice. Before joining Georgia Appleseed in 2005, Hill served on the bench of the Fulton County Juvenile Court as an Associate Judge for more than eight years. Hill joined the Fulton County Juvenile Court in 1997. While on the bench, Hill took an active part in the Georgia Council of Juvenile Court Judges. Hill served as a member of the Council's Permanency Planning Committee (focusing on ways the court could help children in foster care return to their own families or find new adoptive families as soon as possible to end "foster care drift") and the Model [Deprivation] Courts Advisory Committee (to improve the way child abuse and neglect cases are handled by the court).

At the Fulton County Juvenile Court, Hill heard all truancy cases for more than five years, founded the Education Advocacy Program Advisory Committee, piloted the implementation of Model Court initiatives in the area of deprivation, and was the Judge for the first Family Drug Court in Georgia.

After graduating with a B.A. in History from Williams College, Hill entered Emory University's School of Law and School of Business Administration. She graduated with the joint JD/MBA degree, with distinction, at which time she was inducted into the legal honorary society, Order of the Coif, and into the business honorary society, Beta Gamma Sigma. Hill served on the Emory Law Review and was also awarded the Georgia Association of Women Lawyers' Award for Most Outstanding Female Graduate.

SCHOOL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT— PANELISTS

Judge Vincent Crawford, DeKalb County Juvenile Court



Judge Vincent C. Crawford, a Savannah native, graduated with honors from Florida A&M University in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science. He received his law degree from Mercer University in 1990 and graduated from law school with honors in the area of trial advocacy.

Judge Crawford began his legal career with Georgia Legal Services in the fall of 1990 and with a primary practice of representing battered women in divorce proceedings. In 1993, he began his career as a prosecutor with the Richmond County District Attorney's Office and as a Deputy Chief of the violent crimes division. He joined the DeKalb County District Attorney's office in April of 1995 and served on the DeKalb County District Attorney's office trial team for 2 years.

In April, 1997, Judge Crawford began his solo practitioner career in the areas of domestic, juvenile, and criminal law. On February 27, 2005, he was appointed to the position of Associate Magistrate Judge for DeKalb County. Judge Crawford was sworn in as an Associate Juvenile Court Judge for the DeKalb Juvenile Court on March 24, 2006. Judge Crawford is a member of the Georgia Council of Juvenile Court Judges and the National Council of Family and Juvenile Court Judges.

In 2009, Judge Crawford received the Georgia Department of Human Resources & Youth Empowerment Award in addition to his receiving the Romae T. Powell Award from the Juvenile Court Association of Georgia for his outstanding contribution and dedicated services to the field of Juvenile Justice. On March 31, 2012, Judge Crawford received the Recognition of Outstanding Leadership Award from Jack and Jill of America, Inc. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

In 2011, he was appointed Chairman by the Supreme Court of Georgia for the Juvenile Court Improvement Initiative.