

FILED IN OFFICE

2024 SEP 23 A 10:55

*Courtney M. ...*

DEP. CLK. SUPERIOR CT  
CHATHAM COUNTY, GA

FILED IN JUVENILE COURT  
CHATHAM COUNTY, GA

2024 SEP 15 A 9:08 *PF*

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTY  
EASTERN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
STATE OF GEORGIA

STANDING ORDER NO. 2024- _____	)	ESTABLISHING JUVENILE TREATMENT
	)	COURT DIVISION AND
	)	CREATION OF SPECIALIZED COURT
	)	TO ADDRESS CHILDREN IDENTIFIED
	)	AS HUMANS INVOLVED WITH THE
	)	COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
	)	OF CHILDREN (CSEC) AND LABOR
	)	TRAFFICKED YOUTH (LTY)

**Standing Order Establishing Juvenile Treatment Court Division and Creation of Specialized Court to Address Children Identified as Humans Involved with the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) and Labor Trafficked Youth**

This Standing Order hereby establishes a Juvenile Treatment Court Division in the Chatham County Juvenile Court and extends the established specialized Court to address children identified as humans involved with Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSEC) and Labor Trafficked Youth (LTY), which was established by the Chatham County Juvenile Court on August 2, 2020, and further designates it as a Juvenile Treatment Court pursuant to O.C.G.A. §15-11-71. This Court was/is named Healing Opportunities Through Positive Empowerment Court (H.O.P.E. Court).

This Court is a trauma informed treatment Court with a multi-disciplinary team of professionals to develop best practices, protocols in identifying CSEC and LTY youth, and the identification and development of appropriate services.

**STANDING ORDER ESTABLISHING A JUVENILE TREATMENT COURT DIVISION  
AND REAUTHORIZING SPECIALIZED COURT  
TO ADDRESS CHILDREN IDENTIFIED AS HUMANS INVOLVED  
WITH THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN  
(CSEC) AND LABOR TRAFFICKED YOUTH**

House Bill 873 amended Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated defining accountability courts in Georgia. The revision provides that “accountability court”<sup>1</sup> means a superior, state, or juvenile court that has a drug court division, mental health court division, veterans court division, juvenile treatment court division, or operating under the influence of court division, or a juvenile court that has a family treatment court division.” O.C.G.A. §15-1-18. It also authorized the Juvenile Court to establish a Juvenile Treatment Court division. O.C.G.A. §15-11-71. H.O.P.E. Court would be categorized as an accountability court under the Juvenile Treatment Court division. O.C.G.A. §15-1-18 and 71.

The Juvenile Court may establish a juvenile treatment court division to provide an alternative to the traditional judicial system for the disposition of juvenile delinquency and CHINS cases. O.C.G.A. §15-11-71(a)(3). This Court has already completed the planning and work plan requirements of O.C.G.A. §15-11-71(a)(5).

The juvenile court has exclusive jurisdiction concerning a child who is alleged to be a delinquent, a child in need of services, or a dependent child. O.C.G.A. §15-11-10. Over the years this Court has identified a growing and disturbing number of CSEC and LTY involved youth. Acts of delinquency or Child in Need of Services (CHINS) may be a result of victimization rather than status offenses or delinquent behavior.

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<sup>1</sup> Chatham County Accountability Courts include: Felony Drug Court, Felony Mental Health Court, Veteran's Treatment Court track, Driving Under the Influence Court, Family Treatment Court, Juvenile Mental Health Court, and Human/Labor Trafficking Treatment Court.

**STANDING ORDER ESTABLISHING A JUVENILE TREATMENT COURT DIVISION  
AND REAUTHORIZING SPECIALIZED COURT  
TO ADDRESS CHILDREN IDENTIFIED AS HUMANS INVOLVED  
WITH THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN  
(CSEC) AND LABOR TRAFFICKED YOUTH**


This Court requires the use of a trauma-informed court with a multi-disciplinary team of professionals to develop and implement best practices, protocols in identifying CSEC and LTY youth, and the identification and development of appropriate services.

Effective September 1, 2024, the Superior Court of Chatham County re-appointed the Honorable Roxanne E. Formey to a four-year appointment as a judge of the Juvenile Court of Chatham County. Judge Formey is committed to impartially, competently, and diligently presiding over a CSEC/LTY specialized court in matters that this court has exclusive or concurrent jurisdiction.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that a CSEC/LTY specialized court be reestablished as a juvenile treatment court pursuant to O.C.G.A. §15-11-71, under the direction of the Honorable Roxanne E. Formey or such other judge subsequently designated.

The Clerk of the Juvenile Court is directed to place this administrative order in the minutes of this Court.

SO ORDERED this 16<sup>th</sup> of September, 2024.

  
Thomas L. Cole  
Presiding Judge

  
Roxanne E. Formey  
Judge

  
Lindretta Grindle Kramer  
Judge

  
Laura Singleton  
Associate Judge

cc. Honorable Penny Haas Freeseemann  
Honorable John E. Morse  
Honorable Timothy Walmsley  
Honorable Benjamin Karpf  
Honorable Lisa G. Colbert  
Honorable Tammy Stokes  
Honorable Tammie Mosley, Clerk of Superior Court  
Theresa Owens, Juvenile Court Administrator  
Crystal Cooper, Superior Court Administrator