



Trial Courts
OF THE
Northeastern Judicial Circuit

JASON STEPHENSON
COURT ADMINISTRATOR
P.O. BOX 1435
GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA 30503
770-532-1895

DAWSON AND HALL COUNTIES

Media Release
February 12, 2024

NORTHEASTERN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT NAMES
JASON J. DEAL NEW CHIEF JUDGE

The Superior Court Judges of the Northeastern Judicial Circuit have announced their selection of a new Chief Judge effective today, February 12, 2024. The Honorable Jason J. Deal takes over for Judge Kathlene F. Gosselin, who recently announced her planned retirement at the end of the year.

Chief Judge Deal has served as a Superior Court Judge since June 2005. He is the presiding judge of the Hall County Drug Court and the Dawson County Treatment Court. Before joining the bench, he served as the District Attorney for the Northeastern Judicial Circuit, Magistrate Judge of the Hall County Magistrate Court, Assistant District Attorney for the Northeastern Judicial Circuit, County Attorney for Dawson County, and as an associate with the law firm of Thompson, Fox, Chandler, Homans, Hicks & McKinnon. He received his law degree from the University of Georgia and his Bachelor of Science degree from Furman University. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army.

"I'm grateful for the confidence of my fellow judges and appreciate the opportunity to continue the strong legacy of leadership provided by Judge Gosselin, Judge Andrew Fuller, and Judge Richard Story," stated Deal. "We're a strong circuit, with Superior Court judges who act with thoughtfulness and unity, and we've never been busier."

The work of a Chief Judge is often accomplished behind the scenes, with duties and responsibilities related to budgeting, facilities, personnel, and other administrative matters. Judge Gosselin steps aside after serving in the role since July 2018, and after having led the judicial system through the extraordinary challenges of the 2020 pandemic and its aftermath.

FILED
HALL CO., GA

24 FEB 9 PM 3:00

CHARLES BAKER, CLERK
SUPERIOR STATE COURT

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURTS OF HALL & DAWSON COUNTIES
STATE OF GEORGIA

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ASSIGNMENT OF CHIEF JUDGE
FOR THE NORTHEASTERN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
February 2024

WHEREAS, Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 15-1-9.1 designates as "Chief Judge" of the Circuit that judge who is "most senior in time of service or, if applicable, the judge to whom the administrative duties of a court have been assigned"; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Kathlene F. Gosselin desires to step aside as the Chief Judge of the Superior Court for the Northeastern Judicial Circuit; and

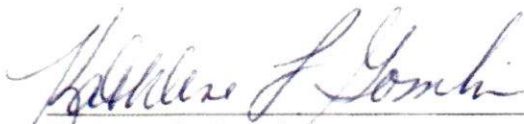
WHEREAS, the Judges of the Superior Court for the Northeastern Judicial Circuit agree to this assignment of duties.


Effective as of February 12, 2024, the Honorable Jason J. Deal shall be assigned to serve as the Chief Judge of the Superior Court for the Northeastern Judicial Circuit.

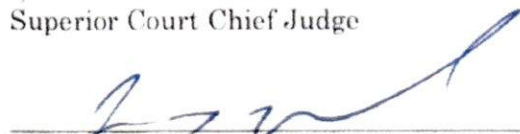
The Chief Judge shall be responsible for those duties as required by law.

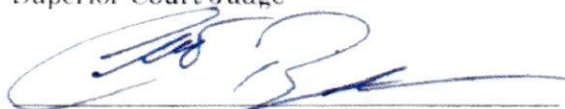
The Hall County Clerk of Court and Dawson County Clerk of Court shall enter a copy of this order upon the minutes of the Superior Court.

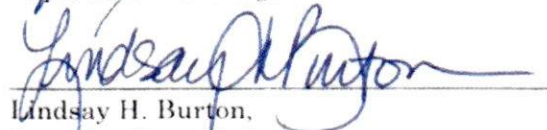
SO ORDERED this 9th day of February, 2024.


Kathlene F. Gosselin,
Superior Court Chief Judge


Bonnie Chessher Oliver,
Superior Court Judge


Judge Jason J. Deal,
Superior Court Judge


Clint G. Bearden,
Superior Court Judge


Lindsay H. Burton,
Superior Court Judge

IN THE SUPERIOR COURTS OF HALL & DAWSON COUNTIES
STATE OF GEORGIA

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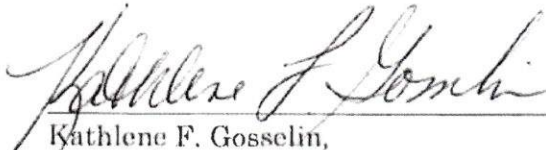
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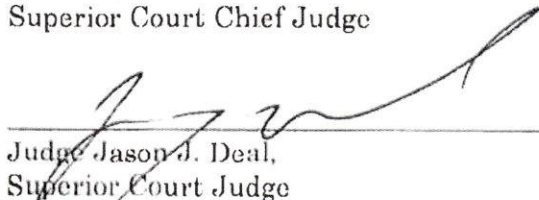
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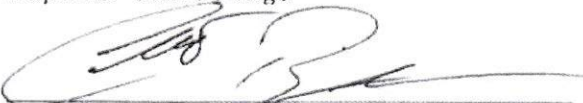
Kathlene F. Gosselin,
Superior Court Chief Judge



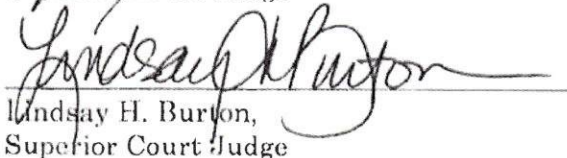
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Superior Court Judge



Clint G. Bearden,
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Lindsay H. Burton,
Superior Court Judge

GEORGIA, DAWSON COUNTY
CLERK OF COURT, SUPERIOR COURT
FILED FOR RECORD
AT 2:56 P.M. 02-09-2024
Recorded in _____ Book _____ Page _____
this _____ day of _____, 20____
, Clerk