

PRESS RELEASE

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GSCCCA Board names Rachel Rice as new executive director

Atlanta, GA — The Board of Directors of the Georgia Superior Court Clerks' Cooperative Authority (GSCCCA) met on October 18, 2023 to officially promote Authority Project Director Rachel Rice to the position of executive director effective January 1, 2024. Rachel will serve as the fifth executive director and will take the reins from John Earle, who has headed the GSCCCA since 2014 and will retire at the end of the year.

“Rachel has been an integral part of the Clerks' Authority team for nearly two decades,” said Authority Chairman Greg G. Allen, “and during that time, has demonstrated exceptional leadership, dedication, and a deep commitment to the Authority's mission of supporting Superior Court clerks. Her vast knowledge of our history and culture, extensive experience in overseeing critical projects, and ongoing collaboration with clerks and other stakeholders make her the ideal person to take over leadership of our organization and allow for a seamless transition of management. The Board is confident that Rachel will continue to champion the Authority's ethos of innovation, prioritize our strong commitment to customer service, and foster a team-building environment — all critical pieces to the Authority's success to date.”

Throughout her nearly two decades on staff, Rice has touched every product and service the Authority offers in some fashion whether through development, management, and/or training. She joined the GSCCCA in 2004 to help support the newly created Fines & Fees Division after the Authority was mandated by the Georgia General Assembly to provide accountability and uniformity to the collection of court fees. She was later given the responsibility of managing the division and, in this role, maintained a compliance rate of nearly 100% for all courts.

A year after joining the Authority, Rice was able to put her education background to work by developing and coordinating the Authority's training program and is credited with growing this important service with an emphasis on convenience and accessibility. In FY 2023, the Authority provided training for nearly 39,000 people through 8 online classes and 176 in-person and remote training sessions.

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GEORGIA SUPERIOR COURT CLERKS' COOPERATIVE AUTHORITY

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In addition to her management of the Fines & Fee Division and training program, Rice has been integral to the tremendous growth of Authority's eFile Project which was first launched in 2010. Today, the project enjoys participation by all 159 clerks of Superior Court and allows for millions of documents to be eFiled annually. Serving as a liaison to courts and vendors, Rice's dedication to the eFile Project has supported the Authority's goal of improving the technology within clerks' offices, streamlining the document-filing process, and giving the public access to convenient and effective tools.

"Rachel has worked tirelessly over the last 19 years at the Authority in a number of roles including Fines and Fees staff and then manager, Training Coordinator, and most recently Project Director," said retiring Executive Director John Earle. "Rachel is familiar with every facet of our organization and has worked closely with clerks around the state understanding their operations and needs. With the outstanding Authority staff in place and the cooperative nature of the clerks, I am confident that Rachel will do a tremendous job in leading the organization for years to come."

When asked to comment on her promotion to executive director, Rice said: "I'm honored, humbled and grateful that the Board has entrusted me to continue the legacy that John, and David Williams before him, worked so hard to build at the Authority over the last three decades. I'm fortunate to inherit such a talented and dedicated staff, and feel confident that with this incredible team in place, we will continue to do great things for Superior Court clerks, as well as the citizens of Georgia."

Rice has a B.A. in mathematics from Queens University in Charlotte, NC. Prior to moving to Atlanta and joining the Authority in 2004, she taught math, served as the athletic director, and coached several sports teams at a high school in Charlotte. She and her husband, Brandon, have been married since 2007 and have one son, Ethan, who is a freshman in high school.

The Georgia Superior Court Clerks' Cooperative Authority was created through legislation of the Georgia General Assembly in 1993 to provide a cooperative for the development, acquisition, and distribution of record management systems, information, services, supplies, and materials for Superior Court clerks and Georgia citizens, while providing cost savings to local governments and the state of Georgia. Information from each of Georgia's 159 counties is centralized on the Authority's website, www.gsccca.org. The database is accessible at no cost to the public via terminals located in each county clerk's office, as well as through the Internet, by subscription, providing 24/7 access. Governed by a board of ten members whose meetings are open to the public, the GSCCCA was created, implemented and continues to operate without receiving any funds through local, state, or federal taxes, and its activities undergo constant legislative oversight.

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