



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia faces a growing prison population and an increasing rate of recidivism; and

WHEREAS: The implementation of accountability courts as an alternative to traditional criminal procedure has proven to not only be an effective means to curtail imprisonment, but also a better way to rehabilitate individuals and reduce recidivism; and

WHEREAS: The funding, improvement and expansion of accountability courts is a priority of this administration; and

WHEREAS: Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-1-15 and 15-1-16, the Judicial Council of Georgia shall adopt standards and practices for drug and mental health courts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BY VIRTUE OF THE POWER VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That there is created the Accountability Court Funding Committee. The Committee shall determine funding priorities for alternative courts based on court divisions' compliance with and/or agreement to comply with the standards and procedures adopted by the Judicial Council of Georgia.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Accountability Court Funding Committee be composed of nine (9) members. Of the nine (9) members, four (4) shall be appointed by the Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court and five (5) shall be appointed by the Governor of Georgia. Of the five (5) appointments of the Governor, three (3) must be judges, either currently serving or retired.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council shall allocate funds to court divisions as determined by the Accountability Court Funding Committee.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Accountability Court Funding Committee shall operate until June 30, 2013.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That members of the Committee shall serve without compensation, but are entitled to receive reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties for the Committee. Such reimbursement shall be expended from funds appropriated to or otherwise available from the Office of the Governor of the State of Georgia.

This 24th day of May, 2012.



GOVERNOR