



Join Us

Become an involved member of the Council of Chief Judges of the State Courts of Appeal.



President's Welcome

You will not regret becoming an active member of the Council of Chief Judges of State Courts of Appeal – I guarantee it!

I love the camaraderie of this organization—that my fellow Chief Judges from across the country are not just my colleagues; they have become my friends. I appreciate that the annual conference, website, Chief Chats, group list-servs, and intra-year Great

This organization is the trifecta of value for Chief Judge leadership of the intermediate state courts of appeal.

Educational Moments presentations always deliver common sense nuggets of wisdom that I can use at my court. And, importantly, my spouse thoroughly enjoys the conference venue and

activities that are always planned each year. In short, this organization is the trifecta of value for Chief Judge leadership of the intermediate state courts of appeal.

With your active involvement in this organization, you will make us better. And...we will make you better; for, the resources of this Council make it possible for new Chief Judges to survive and succeed in a world knowable only by those who have been there before them. And, those same resources, when wisely accessed, make even the most seasoned Chief Judge better at his or her job.

In 1980, visionary leaders of the state intermediate appellate courts created the Council of Chief Judges of State Courts of Appeal. They recognized the need

for a body of consultation and education to improve the administration of justice, especially as that occurs in the state intermediate courts. But, fundamentally, CCJSCA is a Council of Chief Judges. The scope of our mission is focused to address the uncommon challenges of Chief Judges.

I challenge you to come to the CCJSCA annual conference and see for yourself what this organization has proven to me; that CCJSCA has an "it" factor. New Chief Judge members are quick to discover there is no greater source of friendship and collegiality...of wisdom...of affirmation and belonging...than you will find in your colleagues—and friends—at CCJSCA. It has been so with me from the very start.

Come join us! You. Will. Not. Regret. It.

– JUDGE MARK D. PFEIFFER (MO)
President, Council of Chief Judges of the State Courts of Appeal



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MEET JUSTICES:

When available, Justices from the United States Supreme Court and Chief Justices from our State Supreme Courts join us as speakers and at our receptions.



Justices Sandra Day O'Connor, Clarence Thomas, Stephen Breyer, and Samuel Alito have attended conferences.

Chief Judge Mark Green (MA) and Judge Stephen Powell (OH) with Justice Stephen Breyer in Boston.

Annual Conferences

Without question, the main benefit of membership in CCJSCA is the opportunity to attend the annual conference!

These conferences are geared to the unique role of intermediate appellate court chief judges and provide opportunities to strengthen our knowledge and skills through excellent educational sessions and to converse and collaborate with our newer and more-experienced colleagues. "Once a chief, always a chief!" as Judge Maggie Robb likes to say.

Past conferences have included discussions with United States Supreme Court Justices, legal writing instructors, high-profile speakers, and nationally recognized appellate experts, and sessions on leadership and professional development. To be sure, the CCJSCA annual conference is not just another run-of-the-mill CLE, but one that offers a truly unique chance to forge friendships and

professional connections with fellow chief judges from around the country.

Time spent at a CCJSCA conference offers unique social opportunities drawing on the best that the conference site has to offer—be that a dinner on the Battleship Midway in San Diego, a day at the races in Kentucky, a tour and tasting at the Coors brewery in Colorado, a tour of Boston and its waterways on the city's famous duck boats, s'mores and a bonfire on a Florida beach, or shopping on King Street in Charleston. CCJSCA offers scholarships to enable participation from as many chiefs as possible.

Hope to see you in Monterey!

— JUDGE MICHELE CHRISTIANSEN FORSTER



2023 South Carolina Conference Attendees



Citadel Honor Guard During Opening Ceremonies

www.ccjsca.org



Our Mission

www.ccjsca.org

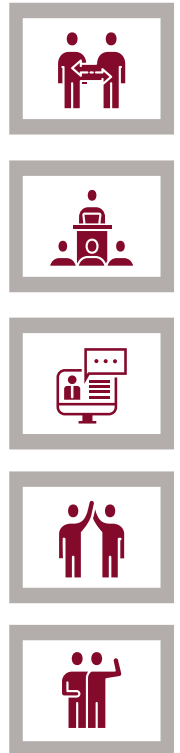
To promote the improvement of the administration of justice, rules and methods of procedure, and the organization and operation of intermediate appellate courts by offering the Chief Judges of the intermediate appellate courts a body for consultation and education.

consultation & education

Benefits of Membership

Every chief judge is busy—busy with administrative matters, busy with their caseload, and busy volunteering for law-related organizations. And then there is life outside of work. So why take more of your limited time to join another organization? The answer is simple: the Council is not just another organization, it's an organization created specifically for helping people like you—judges who already know how to judge, but now have to manage an entire court. The Council does this in many different ways:

- A. Engaging new members through an informal **mentorship program** that connects new Chiefs with a current member, providing an introduction to the Council and a contact for related issues;
- B. Spectacular **annual conferences**, which provide not only excellent and varied substantive programs, but create an unsurpassed opportunity to meet chiefs from across the country with whom ideas and experiences can be shared (scholarships to reduce or eliminate the cost of attendance are available to member courts);
- C. **Web-based programming**, such as "Chief Chats" and "GEMS," provide great opportunities throughout the year to discuss varying topics related to court administration and related matters, while the website contains valuable material compiled over the years, and hosts an active "Chiefs Forum" for the quick sharing of ideas and resources between member courts;
- D. An opportunity to **get involved in leadership** roles, giving you a better opportunity to share your ideas and to continue the work of the Council.
- E. By participating in any of the above, the opportunity to gain **lifelong friendships**, resourceful contacts, and great memories.



Join Us

Courts from the following states are members of CCJSCA.

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin

ANNUAL CONFERENCE SITES

The locations for the Council's annual conferences have spanned the country. Here are a few of the latest host cities we have enjoyed:

- 2013 – St. Louis, Missouri
Oct 29-Nov 2
- 2014 – New Orleans, Louisiana
Nov 18-22
- 2015 – New Jersey/New York City
Oct 6-10
- 2016 – Cary (Raleigh), North Carolina
Nov 12-16
- 2017 – Lexington, Kentucky
Oct 16-21
- 2018 – San Diego, California
Nov 12-17
- 2019 – Denver, Colorado
Oct 15-18
- 2021 – Boston, Massachusetts
Oct 13-15
- 2022 – Amelia Island, Florida
Nov 29-Dec 4
- 2023 – Charleston, South Carolina
Oct 24-28
- 2024 – Monterey, California
Nov. 12-16
- 2025 – Washington, District of Columbia
Oct. 12-16

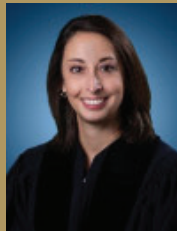
What They Are Saying

Conference attendance provides an opportunity to see parts of the country you may not otherwise visit while allowing you to meet Chief Judges from around the country. Networking with these Chiefs will expose you to alternative ways to manage the administration of Justice in your State.

“

This was hands down the best judicial education program I have attended. The quality of the speakers was top notch. As a first-time attendee, the members and leadership of the CCJSCA welcomed me with open arms. I made friends immediately. It was inspiring to get to know such impressive and dedicated judges from around the country. I know the CCJSCA will help me to be a better judge.

”



– Presiding/Administrative Judge Candace Crouse
Ohio First District Court of Appeals

“

This was one of the best conferences I have attended! The seminars were informative and entertaining, and the networking and camaraderie among my colleagues from courts across the country created a great learning experience for a new member.

”



– Vice Chief Judge Randall M. Howe
Arizona Court of Appeals, Division One

“

A fellow Chief introduced me to CCJSCA, but what keeps me active is a collaborative cohort of peers across the country who lend a wealth of knowledge and support as I navigate the new duties and challenges of a Chief. The insightful discussions, conferences and constant mentorship help sharpen my skills while fostering a shared sense of community and purpose.

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– Chief Justice Rebeca C. Martinez
Texas Fourth Court of Appeals



STATE COURTS OF APPEAL