



**School of
Government**

North Carolina
Judicial College

NC Association of District Court Judges 2026 Summer Conference Agenda

June 22-25, 2026

Embassy Suites Asheville Downtown, Asheville, NC

Monday, June 22

3:00 p.m. **Conference of Chief District Court Judges** [1.0 CJE hrs]
Chief Judge Scott Etheridge, President
Blue Ridge Ballroom

5:00 p.m. *Recess*

Tuesday, June 23

7:30 a.m. **Breakfast**
Blue Ridge Ballroom Foyer

8:30 a.m. **Welcome**
Judge John Davis, President, North Carolina Association of District Court Judges
Blue Ridge Ballroom

8:45 a.m. **Remarks** [0.25 CJE hrs]
Chief Justice Paul Newby, North Carolina Supreme Court

9:00 a.m. **AOC Update** [0.75 CJE hrs]
Ryan Boyce, Director, Administrative Office of the Courts
Brad Fowler, Chief Business Officer, Administrative Office of the Courts

9:45 a.m. **Office of General Counsel: Rules of Civil Procedure: Rule 70** [0.5 CJE hrs]
Antares Holloway, General Counsel, Administrative Office of the Courts

10:15 a.m. *Break*

10:30 a.m. *** Family Law Case Update** [1.5 CJE hours]
Cheryl Howell, UNC School of Government
Judge Samantha Cabe, Chief District Court Judge, Judicial District 18

12:00 p.m. *Lunch on Own*
Board of Governor's Lunch
Soprana Rooftop Restaurant

1:45 p.m. **Judicial Standards Update** [0.5 CJE hrs]
Patricia Flood, Executive Director, NC Judicial Standards Commission
Hon. Jeffrey Carpenter, Chair, NC Judicial Standards Commission
Bethanie Maxwell, Commission Counsel, North Carolina Judicial Standards

2:15 p.m. **Update from North Carolina State Bar** [0.25 CJE hours]
Katherine Frye, President, NC State Bar

- 2:30 p.m.** **CJLEADs/DCI Reports** [0.5 CJE hours]
Angela Thomas, Training Specialist, NC Department of Information Technology
- 3:00 p.m.** *Break*
- 3:15 p.m.** **Pretrial Release Issues with Bonds** [1.5 CJE hours]
Brittany Bromell, UNC School of Government
Judge Samantha Cabe, Chief District Court Judge, Judicial District 18
Judge John Davis, Chief District Court Judge, Judicial District 11
Judge Christy Wilhelm, Chief District Court Judge, Judicial District 25
- 4:45 p.m.** **Business Meeting**
- 5:30 p.m.** *Recess*
- 6:00 p.m.** **Reception**
E'Terie Restaurant

Wednesday, June 24

- 8:00 a.m.** **Breakfast**
Blue Ridge Ballroom Foyer
- 9:00 a.m.** **Concurrent Sessions** [1.5 CJE hours]
- Session A:** **Frequently Asked Questions in Domestic Cases**
Cheryl Howell, UNC School of Government
Blue Ridge Ballroom 1
- Session B:** **Handling DWI Cases: An Overview of the Legal Fundamentals**
Belal Elrahal, UNC School of Government
Blue Ridge Ballroom 3
- Session C:** **Management of Child Welfare Cases**
Sara DePasquale, UNC School of Government
Blue Ridge Ballroom 4
- Session D:** **AI: Fundamentals and Issues Regarding Evidence**
Kristi Nickodem, UNC School of Government
Timothy Heinle, UNC School of Government
Blue Ridge Ballroom 2
- 10:30 a.m.** *Break*
- 11:00 a.m.** **Repeat Concurrent Sessions** [1.5 CJE hours]
- 12:30 p.m.** *Lunch on Own*
- 2:30 p.m.** **AOC Programming: Concurrent Sessions** [1.0 CJE hours] *Must pre-register*
- Session A:** **Human Trafficking**
Ashley Tauscher, Court Management Specialist, North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission
Room TBD

Session B: Sentencing Commission

Michelle Hall, Executive Director, North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission
Judge Charlie Brown, Retired District Court Judge, Judicial District 27 & Chairman, North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission
Room TBD

3:30 p.m. AOC Programming – Children’s Home Society [1.0 CJE hours] *Must pre-register*

End the Wait: Supporting Legal Permanency in North Carolina

Brenda deLaet, Director of Training, Children’s Home Society of North Carolina
Melinda Haggerty, Senior Vice President & General Counsel, Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption
Quinn Dybdahl, Senior Attorney, Program, Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption
Room TBD

4:30 p.m. Recess

Thursday, June 25

7:30 a.m. Breakfast
Blue Ridge Ballroom Foyer

8:30 a.m. *+ Child Welfare Case Update [1.5 CJE hours]
Sara DePasquale, UNC School of Government
Blue Ridge Ballroom

10:00 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. *+ Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Law Update [0.75 CJE hours]
Jacqui Greene, UNC School of Government

11:15 a.m. Criminal Law Case Update [1.0 CJE hours]
Brittany Bromell, UNC School of Government

12:15p.m. Adjourn for those not attending afternoon session
Lunch on own for those attending afternoon session

2:30 p.m. Trauma-Informed Courts Training - Invitation Only [2.25 CJE hours]
Blue Ridge Ballroom
See Trauma-Informed Courts Training Agenda

5:00 p.m. Recess

Friday, June 26

8:00 a.m. Breakfast
Blue Ridge Ballroom Foyer

8:30 a.m. Trauma-Informed Courts Training [2.75 CJE hours]
Blue Ridge Ballroom
See Trauma-Informed Courts Training Agenda

12:00 p.m. Adjourn

This program will have **14.0** total hours of instruction for continuing judicial education credit under Rule II.C of Continuing Judicial Education. *Family Court hours total **3.75** hours. +Juvenile Certification hours total **2.25** hours. Chief Judges receive **1.0** hour for attending the meeting of Chief Judges. New judges who must attend the Trauma-Informed Courts Training will receive an additional **5.0** hours.

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