



Trial Courts
OF THE
Northeastern Judicial Circuit

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DAWSON AND HALL COUNTIES

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**NORTHEASTERN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT TO APPOINT MATTHEW G. LEIPOLD
AS NEW JUVENILE JUDGE**

Today the Superior Court judges of the Northeastern Judicial Circuit announced their selection of Matthew G. Leipold to fill the newly-created circuit juvenile judge vacancy. Mr. Leipold's appointment and swearing-in is scheduled for March 28, 2022, after which he will temporarily be designated to hear Superior Court matters as the circuit continues to work through a COVID-related backlog of criminal cases.

Mr. Leipold is no stranger to Hall and Dawson Counties, having worked as an attorney in the Circuit Public Defender's Office since 2013. While there, he has ably represented hundreds of indigent clients at all stages of the criminal process, including twice arguing before the Georgia Supreme Court.

"We're very pleased to have Mr. Leipold continue his public service in this new capacity," stated Chief Judge Kathlene F. Gosselin. "He's earned a reputation as a devoted advocate and skillful practitioner, with a sharp knowledge of the law."

Mr. Leipold is a graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law. He and his wife, Alexandra Gloede, are residents of Hall County and proud parents of two young boys. He is proficient in Spanish and has previously served as a trainer to new Public Defenders from across the state.

Juvenile judges are appointed to the bench by the Superior Court judges of the circuit, and Mr. Leipold will be joining Chief Juvenile Court Judge Lindsay Burton, Juvenile Court Judge Alison Toller, and Juvenile Court Judge Joe Diaz. This fourth judgeship was authorized after the circuit was awarded 2022 grant funds from the State of Georgia's allocation of American Rescue Plan dollars.