



Georgia Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc.
75 Marietta St. NW
Suite 404
Atlanta, GA 30303

(p) 404.874.2888
(f) 404.874.2889
800.251.4012

Contacts: Lori Derhammer
Georgia CASA www.gacasa.org
404-874-2888 or 800-251-4012
lderhammer@gacasa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Candyce Walker
CASA of the Augusta Judicial Circuit
706-737-4631
cwalker@childrenrichment.org

Judge Amanda Heath Is Recipient of 2022 CASA Champion Award in Georgia

Atlanta, Aug. 13, 2022 – Judge Amanda Heath, Superior Court Judge for the Augusta Judicial Circuit, has received the 2022 CASA Champion Award in Georgia. The award is given for her championing CASA advocacy, a strong commitment to CASA advocacy, and actions which have positively impacted the advancement of the CASA mission in the community.

Nominated by CASA of the Augusta Judicial Circuit, a program of Child Enrichment, Judge Heath was first introduced to the CASA program when she became a CASA volunteer in law school. Her CASA volunteer experience greatly influenced the trajectory of her career. After serving five years as a juvenile court judge, Judge Heath was appointed as a superior court judge in 2021, earning a reputation in the courtroom of being fair, considerate, and knowledgeable, while also holding each party accountable.

In being a champion for CASA, Judge Heath used her experience and observations from the juvenile court bench to recognize a gap in services for human trafficking victims in the Augusta area and convened a task force to focus on improving the response for this vulnerable population, many of which were youth served by CASA volunteers.

Judge Heath also served on the board of Child Enrichment for several years and was Board President in 2019 – 2020. During her tenure as Board President, Child Enrichment began a capital campaign to start construction on a new building, with \$4.6 million raised to date. Judge Heath's leadership made this long-term dream a reality.

While Judge Heath now serves in superior court, the CASA program remains one of her priorities. She spoke at Child Enrichment's groundbreaking ceremony, then immediately the next morning promoted Child Abuse Prevention Month on the local news TV station, while also stressing the importance of the need for more CASA volunteers to serve children in foster care. Judge Heath has also been involved in child welfare on both state and national levels.

Judge Heath is a true CASA champion who is dedicated to the children in her community and beyond and takes action to make a positive difference in the lives of families.

Georgia CASA, Inc., strengthens and supports court-sanctioned, affiliate CASA programs that empower community volunteers who advocate for abused or neglected children and contributes to advancements within the child welfare system. CASA volunteers provide compassionate, one-on-one attention, offering children experiencing foster care the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential with the support of permanent connections to family.

Last year, 2,700 CASA volunteers served over 10,000 children in Georgia. Currently, 44 affiliate programs are located across Georgia, serving 156 counties. To contact CASA of the Augusta Judicial Circuit, visit <http://www.childrenrichment.org> or call 706-737-4631. For more information about CASA in Georgia, visit www.gacasa.org or call 404-874-2888 or 800-251-4012.

###