

DEC 10 2025

  
CLERK SUPERIOR COURT

**2026 JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE FORSYTH COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT AND THE FORSYTH COUNTY JUVENILE COURT  
CERTIFYING FORSYTH COUNTY FUNDING FOR COURT APPOINTED  
SPECIAL ADVOCATES OF FORSYTH COUNTY, INC.**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 25 - 10**

**WHEREAS:** The Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit, by and through its Chief Judge, as well as the Forsyth County Juvenile Court, find that the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Forsyth County, Inc. ("CASA") provide a service that is critical to the functioning of the Forsyth County Juvenile Court. CASA's role in providing advocates for children under the jurisdictional purview of the Forsyth County Juvenile Court ensures that the administration of justice for and on behalf of those children is greatly enhanced.

**WHEREAS:** The Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit, acting through its Chief Judge, together with the Forsyth County Juvenile Court, further finds that providing physical space to CASA, including space for administrative functions and training activities, is directly connected to CASA's ability to fulfill its critical mission of serving children within the jurisdictional purview of the Juvenile Court.

**WHEREAS:** O.C.G.A. § 15-11-36 provides that "[t]he following charges, expenses, and costs are deemed to be charged upon the funds of the county upon certification of its juvenile court:

- (1) The cost of medical and other examinations and treatment of a child ordered by the court;
- (2) The cost of care and support of a child committed by the court to the legal custody of an individual or a public or private agency other than the Department of Juvenile Justice, but the court may order supplemental payments, if such are necessary or desirable for services;
- (3) Reasonable compensation for services and related expenses of any attorney appointed by the court, when appointed by the court to represent a child and when appointed by the court to conduct the proceedings;
- (4) Reasonable compensation for a guardian ad litem;
- (5) The expenses of service of summons, notices, and subpoenas; travel expenses of witnesses; transportation, subsistence, and detention of a child for juvenile court proceedings or superior court proceedings while a child is prosecuted in superior court pursuant to Code Section §15-11-560; and other like expenses incurred in the proceedings under this chapter; and
- (6) The cost of counseling and counsel and advice required or provided under the

provisions of Code Section § 15-11-212 or §15-11-610."

**WHEREAS:** O.C.G.A. § 15-11-54 further provides in relevant part that "[e]ach juvenile court shall be assigned and attached to the superior court of the county for administrative purposes" and that "[e]xcept for state grants provided by Code Section 15-11-52, all expenditures of the court are declared to be an expense of the court and payable out of the county treasury with the approval of the governing authority or governing authorities of the county or counties for which the juvenile court judge is appointed." In addition, O.C.G.A. § 15-11-24 provides that "[a]ny contingent expenses incurred in holding any session of the superior court, including lights, fuel, stationery, rent, publication of grand jury presentments when ordered published, and similar items, such as taking down testimony in felony cases, etc., shall be paid out of the county treasury of such county upon the certificate of the judge of the superior court and without further order."

**WHEREAS:** The Georgia Juvenile Code (O.C.G.A. §§ 15-11-2, 15-11-104, 15-11-106, and 15-11-262) contemplates the active involvement of "court appointed special advocates" and "affiliate court appointed special advocate programs" in various Juvenile Court functions, including dependency proceedings and termination of parental rights proceedings. Court Appointed Special Advocates of Forsyth County, Inc. ("CASA") is an affiliate court appointed special advocate program that supports the Forsyth County courts by providing trained advocates for children under the Court's jurisdiction. The Forsyth County Superior Court and the Forsyth County Juvenile Court find that CASA provides a material and tangible benefit to these courts and to the citizens and taxpayers of Forsyth County and that, through its efforts, CASA reduces the need for more costly guardian ad litem and related services.

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED AND CERTIFIED:** The Forsyth County Superior Court and the Forsyth County Juvenile Court certify that funding necessary to support the rental costs, utilities, maintenance expenses, and other similar overhead costs associated with CASA's administrative and training space constitutes an expense authorized by, and consistent with, the statutory authority set forth above. The anticipated costs included within this certification are as follows:


<b>Expense</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Rent	\$13,000.00
Document Shredding/Disposal	\$550.00
Office Phones/Internet	\$5,700.00
Professional Services	\$5,250.00
Total Estimated Costs	\$24,500.00

In certifying the appropriateness of such funding and requesting that it be taxed as a cost to the County treasury, the Superior Court and Juvenile Court do not assume responsibility for overseeing CASA's day-to-day expenditures. This certification is valid only for costs incurred during the 2026 calendar year, and the funds authorized herein shall not exceed \$24,500.00. Any additional appropriation related to CASA's administrative and training space overhead costs shall require further certification.

**SO ORDERED AND CERTIFIED** this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2025.



Jeffrey S. Bagley, Chief Judge  
Superior Court of Forsyth County  
Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit



Christopher Willis, Presiding Judge  
Juvenile Court of Forsyth County  
Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit