



OFFICE OF POLICY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

HIGHLIGHTS

FISCAL YEAR 2019–20

Objective

Our office works closely with internal stakeholders, elected officials, Judicial Branch employees, and those affected by the state's justice system to assess the needs of the Judicial Branch and shape our legislative outreach strategy around those needs.

WHO WE ASSIST

We work closely with our partners in the legislature and administration, as well as those within the Judicial Branch to address the emergent needs of our courts and all those who utilize their services.

Our office is in regular contact with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, North Carolina Department of Public Safety, the North Carolina State Bar, North Carolina Bar Association, the North Carolina Sheriff's Association, Domestic Violence Service Providers, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, the North Carolina Association of County Managers, the League of Municipalities, trial court judges, the Conference of District Attorneys, the Conference of Clerks of Superior Court, public defenders, Indigent Defense Services, magistrates, court managers, and a host of other stakeholder groups.



The Office of Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs of the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) oversees strategic outreach to state, federal, and local governments in order to promote the legislative and policy priorities of the Judicial Branch. In addition to managing legislative strategy and monitoring bills impacting the Judicial Branch, the Office of Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs facilitates coordination among the NCAOC and other stakeholders in order to optimize the impact of the Judicial Branch's services, programs, and resources.

To support the Judicial Branch's policy priorities, the division:

- Collaborates with the executive management team to develop policy initiatives, legislative priorities, and strategic messaging
- Works with internal stakeholders to facilitate prompt review and response to proposed legislation
- Communicates with legislators and other elected officials regarding the implications of various legislative initiatives
- Works with the Research, Policy, and Planning Division to produce timely legislative reports
- Facilitates the production and delivery of legislative correspondence, fiscal notes, and other intergovernmental communications

As always, we welcome the opportunity to incorporate your input, answer questions about legislative matters, or facilitate outreach to state legislative leaders. To contact the office, please contact [Andrew Simpson](#), Chief Counsel for Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs.



ABOUT THE OFFICE OF POLICY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Services	Brief Description
Intergovernmental Outreach	The Office of Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs works with leaders at all levels of government to raise awareness of Judicial Branch initiatives and optimize coordination among local, state, and federal government stakeholders. These efforts include regular outreach to elected officials, agency leaders, task forces, commissions, law-related organizations, and others whose collaboration is essential to the success of the Judicial Branch's services and programs.
Judicial Branch Outreach	In order to facilitate collaboration among the Judicial Branch's myriad internal stakeholders, the Office of Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs regularly seeks policy input from NCAOC leadership, superior and district court judges, the Conference of District Attorneys, the Conference of Clerks of Superior Court, the Public Defenders Association, the Office of Indigent Defense Services, the Magistrates Association, the Association for Court Management, domestic violence service providers, and a host of other Judicial Branch leaders.
Legislative Outreach	The Office of Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs works closely with members of the North Carolina General Assembly and their staff to coordinate, plan, and manage legislative initiatives impacting the Judicial Branch. The office facilitates communication between the Legislative Branch and the Judicial Branch through proactive outreach to legislative committees on budgetary and policy matters, timely responses to member inquiries, and submission of regular reports. The office also drafts and reviews legislation affecting the Judicial Branch and those it serves.