

## Ga. Supreme Court Elects New Chief Justice

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Justice Harold Melton is quoted in the *Law360* article, "[Ga. Supreme Court Elects New Chief Justice.](#)"

Former Chief Justice Harold D. Melton, an Atlanta-based partner who joined Troutman Pepper last summer, told *Law360 Pulse* on Wednesday that Justice Boggs brings experience working for criminal justice reform and accountability programs.

"When it comes to the delivery of justice in the state of Georgia, I think his ascension to a chief position is a gift to this state and a culmination of a lot of hard work behind the scenes that he has provided to the state of Georgia," Justice Melton said. "It's only going to benefit all the judiciary having him as chief."

The title of chief justice doesn't come with a pay bump, but the role does come with additional responsibilities and resources, Justice Melton said.

"[Justice Boggs is] earning a fraction of his earning capacity, so he's not in it for the salary," Justice Melton said. "He's in it for the public service and the trick is can we reward and remunerate them enough to keep those justices in the court as long as we need them?"

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Justice Melton said the justices are "brilliant and talented."

"Their services in the marketplace are worth multiple of what they're being paid right now," Justice Melton said. "These folks are into the details of their cases, they're into the details of the administrative aspects of the judiciary; they do it because they love the work."

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Justice Melton said that Justice Boggs was heavily involved with the judicial council as it ramped up meetings from four times a year to about 50 meetings during the pandemic.

"[Justice Boggs] was a big part of that, making sure we were thinking with the right brain and had the right input from critical stakeholders along the way," Justice Melton said.

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