From: The Oconee Enterprise

highlighting and emphasis added



Angela Elder-Johnson seeks a new term as clerk

Angela Elder-Johnson seeks a new term as clerk

By Michael Prochaska | April 17, 2024 | 0

The Oconee County Courthouse is like a second home to Clerk of Superior Court incumbent Angela Elder-Johnson, a Republican who is running against Democratic challenger Laura King in the Nov. 5 General Election.

Elder-Johnson first took office in January 2001 and has won every re-election bid through present day. But her experience with the judicial system goes back even further. Johnson was previously the chief deputy clerk. And before that, she started from the bottom and worked her way up. In fact, she worked part-time for the clerk's office as an Oconee County High School senior in 1987.

A graduate of Athens Technical College, Elder-Johnson attained a degree in paralegal studies. She is a past Clerk of the Year for the 10th District for multiple years and was a recipient of the Superior Court Clerks Association's F. Barry Wilkes ECLAT Award.

Holding leadership roles with the Georgia Superior Court Clerks' Training Council, Elder-Johnson helped update the Georgia Clerks Education Certificate Program at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government.

The Clerk of Superior Courts for Oconee oversees civil and criminal court filings for the Superior, Magistrate and Juvenile Courts.

Last year, there were more than 700 civil cases filed and more than 430 criminal cases.

The job also involves the handling of plats and deeds. Real-estate documents are e-filed, and citizens can visit the Clerks Authority's website, gsccca.org, to look them up. Citizens can also register at fans.gsccca.org with an email address or phone number to enroll in the FANS program, which notifies property owners any time filings are made related to their registered property.

For space reasons, deed books were discontinued after 2017, though books prior to that year can still be found in the Clerk of Courts office.

"We have backup storage," Elder-Johnson said of the digital copies, explaining that e-filing backups exist both with the county and through the Clerk's Authority for a total of four different backup systems.

For Oconee cases, Elder-Johnson puts together the calendars for judges, as well as jury summons.

Elder-Johnson works closely with the Oconee County Sheriff's Office when deputies need to obtain warrants—a process that can happen anytime, even late at night.

"I am available 24/7," she said. "I try to make it very smooth and easy for everybody to do their jobs."

Elder-Johnson said she chose to run as a Republican because she aligns with the party's ideals.

FacebookTwitterShare

Posted in Election 2024, News