

## **ACTIVITIES OF STEPHANIE R. LINDSEY**

I earned my BA Degree in Political Science from Mercer University in 1994, followed by a Masters Degree in Public Administration with a focus on Local Government in 1996. Upon starting law school in 1998, I relocated to Newton County, Georgia. After earning my Juris Doctorate from John Marshall Law School in 2000, I established my law practice, The Lindsey Firm, P.C. Initially based in Decatur, Georgia from 2002 to 2012, I later opened a satellite office in Covington, Georgia in 2008 to be closer to my three younger children attending the Newton County Theme School. Although I've been active in the community since relocating here in 1998, it was having the Covington office that truly compelled me to become more deeply involved in community affairs. Witnessing various issues firsthand, including the lack of programs keeping children out of the court system, I championed initiatives for the success of children and actively worked towards addressing social injustices and inequalities that were evident in the areas of socio-economic status, workforce development and distribution of social services. Rather than simply observing, I took action to make a positive impact in my community.

It has been requested by constituents in the District that I demonstrate what I have done over the years. This is an uncomfortable and difficult task for me. People that know me, know that I do not like recognition. I like to stay in the background. When it comes to the actions I've taken to assist others, recognition is NEVER my driving force. Helping others is simply part of who I am. I may not recall every deed I've done, so this list is based on my best recollection. If I've forgotten any recognition or awards I've received, it's because of my memory, not my intentions. And if there are errors in the dates, please forgive me. I don't keep track of all my actions; I simply act.

### **Political Endeavor**

2012 Candidate for Alcovy Circuit Superior Court Judge advocating for resource courts, equitable sentencing and against "Cookie Cutter Justice".

### **Community (Schools)**

2000-current Counselor, organizer and financial sponsor for numerous school endeavors geared to enrich students and student athletics

2000-current Continuously providing a myriad of services at the request of Administrators and/or teachers to address any need that will enrich students, provide behavioral correction of students or render aid to the school staff.

2002-2003 School Council Member, Fairview Elementary School

2004-2007 School Council Member, Clements Middle School

2009-2011 President of NHS Touchdown Club

2010-2022 School Council Member, Newton High School

2010-2016 Newton High School Mock Trial Coach

### **Local Community Boards/Organizations**

2011-current Member, NewRock Legal Society

2013-2017 Board Member, Smart Growth (Advocate of smart growth throughout Newton County community; gave suggestions and recommendations to Board of Commissioner members from the collective Board on various topics affecting the direction of growth in Newton County). Was a member until the Board dissolved in 2017.

2013-current Board Member, Newton County Tomorrow For more info go to [www.newtoncountytomorrow.com](http://www.newtoncountytomorrow.com)

2013-current Member, Kiwanis International For more info go to [www.covingtonkiwanis.org](http://www.covingtonkiwanis.org)

2013-current Garden of Gethsemane Homeless Shelter Board Member and Pro Bono Attorney

2013-current Member of Chi Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated engaging in numerous community activities, including but not limited to, women’s health, building economic legacy, education and political awareness in the Newton and Rockdale County communities

### **Community Engagement**

2013-current Organizer of the Back to School Bash providing bookbags, supplies, tablets laptops for Newton County children. We have also sponsored scholarships for 1<sup>st</sup> year college students.

2023-current Organizer and Co-Sponsor with Chairman Marcello Banes of the Back to School Bash Concert for Newton County School System Employees. Gave away over \$20,000 in trips and prizes to employees to show appreciation for their involvement in enriching children.

2016-current Tiered Sponsor of Police Who Care, Fuzz Run and Family Fun Day

2019-current Community Turkey Giveaway Co-Sponsored with Chairman Marcello Banes and Truckers Who Care

### **Awards/Recognitions**

2012 NRLS Founders Day Pinnacle of Justice Award

2014-2015 Dedication, Commitment and Donation to the Band Program “Sound Factory” Recognition

2016 Women’s Legislative Caucus of Georgia Servant Leadership Award

2018 Award of Appreciation Alcovy’s Exclusive Girls Summit

???? Newton County Boys & Girls Club Founding Supporter

2020 Building Strong Futures Award of Excellence-Making a Difference Award

2020 Building Strong Futures Award of Excellence-Exemplifying Excellence in Serving Others

2022 Outstanding Dedication to The Newton County Community-NHS/Janelle Foundation

2022 Omega Psi Phi Pi Nu Nu Citizen of the Year Award

2022 Congressman Hank Johnson’s 2022 Small Business Pinnacle Award Recipient

### **Business Recognition**

???? Best Criminal Defense Attorney-Covington News

2021 Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business Alumni for LatReb Logistics, LLC

2021 Best Criminal Defense Attorney-Covington News

2023 Best Personal Injury Attorney-Covington News

2023 Small Business of the Month-Newton County Chamber of Commerce

2024 Newton High School Athletic Partner of the Year 2023-2024

2024 Best Civil Attorney-Covington News

### **Miscellaneous Actions**

Advocated for and developed the framework for the Minority Business Enterprise Policy for Newton County to advocate for equal opportunities for government contracting with minority owned businesses.

Found and reported various gaps and disconnects in Newton County Ordinances, the Enabling Legislation and policies and procedures of Newton County. Some issues have been resolved and some have not.

Former Certified Advocate for Veterans’ Affairs providing free guidance for military veterans obtaining veteran’s benefits.

Organizer and moderator for various Know Your Rights Seminars for NewRock Legal Society focused on Teen Rights, Veterans' Rights and Police Interactions.

Counseled Georgia legislators and provided research on various proposed bills focused on voting rights, criminal justice reform and judicial circuits.

Created and implemented the Newton County Chapter of the National Action Network's Understanding the Criminal Justice System for Youth 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Six week program that includes observations of court proceedings and interactive discussions on video police interactions.

Provided pro bono services assisting senior citizens with applications for the Action, Inc.'s Weatherization Program and other programs focused on improving the quality of life for seniors.

Continuously providing pro bono legal and/or strategic insight on laws that affect Newton County's governance at the request of officials and/or community stakeholders and at my own initiative.

Continuously creating and implementing programs and sharing information as an advocate of Financial Empowerment as Assistant Executive Director of Empowering Up, Inc. which is an empowerment initiative that addresses the capacity of historically disadvantaged citizens to participate in, contribute to and benefit from economic growth.

Continuously advocating against Domestic Violence through Project Renewal, Inc. an o

Continuously advocates for Law Enforcement through Pro Bono work for law enforcement officers and law enforcement officers' families.

Continuously advocates for Educators through Pro Bono work and volunteerism in the classroom.

Continuously organizing and promoting Criminal Record Restriction/Expungement Events and educating the public about rights associated with expungement and restoration of rights.

Continuously actively involved in various community initiatives, activities and programs that are geared to enhance the lives of Newton County citizens.

Continuously handling litigation efforts that focused on exposing injustice in the criminal justice system and discriminatory practices of institutions.

Continuously organizing, sponsoring and implementing voter education opportunities for Newton County residents, including, but not limited to, initiating Get Out the Vote events, live appearances by state candidates running for office and highlighting issues related to voter suppression.

Continuously physically bringing state resource programs to Newton County to make more accessible for Newton County residents.

Continuously providing financial support to several local nonprofit organizations that emphasize enrichment of children, teens and young adults.

Continuously disseminating program information to residents of the county regarding programs that are available to improve quality of life.

Currently providing free legal tips, legal awareness and commentary to legal issues through @attorneystephanie on Instagram (43,300 followers) and TikTok (58,600 followers).

Currently collaborating with the District Attorney and the Gang Violence Prosecutor in assessing the potential implementation of a Gang/Youth Violence Prevention Coordinator. Strategizing with Danville, Virginia's national recognized Violence Prevention Coordinator, Rober David Sr., to develop a plan to present to Newton County.