





**Judge John J. Ellington** from Soperton, Treutlen County, Georgia, was sworn in as the 66th Judge of the Georgia Court of Appeals by Governor Roy Barnes on July 12, 1999. He was elected to a full six year term in 2000. Judge Ellington was born in Vidalia, Toombs County, Georgia, on October 26, 1960, the son of the late Charles E. Ellington, Sr. from Laurens County, Georgia and Nan Davis Ellington from Johnson County, Georgia.

Judge Ellington graduated from Treutlen County High School in Soperton, Georgia, in 1978. He attended Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College and graduated with degrees in Business and Political Science. At ABAC, Judge Ellington served as President of the Student Government Association, and he received the George P. Donaldson Award as the outstanding graduate in the Class of 1980. He graduated from the University of Georgia with a BBA in Accounting in 1982, and from the University of Georgia Law School with a J.D. in 1985.

In 1991, Judge Ellington became one of the youngest Trial Court Judges in Georgia when he was appointed State Court Judge of Treutlen County, Georgia. In addition to serving as State Court Judge in Treutlen County for over six years, Judge Ellington served as a Superior Court Judge by designation in 29 counties throughout South Georgia. He also served as Municipal Court Judge in Soperton, Lyons, Reidsville, Glenwood, Mt. Vernon and Uvalda, Georgia.

Judge Ellington was admitted to the Georgia Bar in 1985. Before going on the Bench, Judge Ellington had a general trial practice and was a partner in the Vidalia Law Firm of Andrew, Threlkeld, and Ellington.

Judge Ellington has served in many capacities in business, professional, civic and religious organizations. An Eagle Scout, Judge Ellington served as Eagle Scout Alumni Chairman for Troop #56, BSA. He is a past President of the Vidalia Rotary Club, former Chairman of Four Rivers Ducks Unlimited, past President of the Soperton Lions Club and former President of the Treutlen County Sportman's Club. Judge Ellington is a member of Gridiron, Atlanta Lawyer's Club and the Soperton Lions Club. He is a Director of the Colony Bank of Treutlen County. In 2000, he was named to *Georgia Trend's* 40-Under-40, recognizing 40 leaders throughout Georgia under age 40 who have made significant contributions to the state. He is a member of the 2001 Class of Leadership Georgia.

Judge Ellington was named the Outstanding Young Alumnus at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in 1994. He is a member of the Presidents' Club of ABAC and serves on the ABAC Foundation. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Swainsboro Technical College. Judge Ellington is a member of the First Baptist Church in Soperton where he has taught Sunday School and is a former Chairman of the Board of Deacons.

Judge Ellington lives on a family farm in Treutlen County, Georgia.