

Honorable Melodie Belcher



After ten years as a flight attendant for Eastern Airlines, Melodie Belcher needed a new career. She attended Georgia State University College of Law where she was an editor on the law review, graduating cum laude in 1992. She then worked as an associate for Swift Currie McGhee & Hiers, where she represented employers and insurers in workers' compensation claims. In 1999, she joined the State Board of Workers' Compensation as a mediator in the Columbus office. She was appointed administrative law judge in 2002, and in October of 2009, she became the chief judge, moving to the Atlanta office.

Melodie is the Chair of the Administration and Procedures Committee for the Southern Association of Workers' Compensation Administrators and is the Secretary for the National Association of Workers' Compensation Judiciary. She speaks regularly on a variety of workers' compensation issues. Melodie has two grown children (one lawyer and one in law school), and a cocker spaniel and lives in LaGrange, Georgia with her husband, Bill (who is not a lawyer).