



**JUNE
2023**



DA

DISPATCH

**SUMMER 23  INTERN
EDITION**

FULTON COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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JULY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4 	5	6	7	8
9	10 SWEARING IN CEREMONY	11 REMOTE DAY	12  T SHIRTS & TREATS	13	14 👛 PAYDAY	15
16	17-21 PAC SUMMER CONFERENCE					22
23	24  MOVIE MATINEE	25	26	27 <small>BOOK BAG COUNT DAY</small> MOCK TRIAL	28 DA DISPATCH	29  ANNUAL BOOKBAG EVENT
30	31 REMOTE DAY				👛 PAYDAY	

AUGUST 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 REMOTE DAY	2	3  INTERN GRAD CEREMONY	4	5
6	7 REMOTE DAY	8 REMOTE DAY	9	10 REMOTE DAY	11 👛 PAYDAY REMOTE DAY	12
13	14 REMOTE DAY	15 REMOTE DAY	16	17 REMOTE DAY	18 👛 PAYDAY REMOTE DAY	19
20	21	22	23	24 DA DISPATCH	25	26
27	28  MOVIE MATINEE	29	30	31		

Congratulations to our outstanding leaders!



Executive Deputy Chief Investigator Richard Randolph, Investigator Raymond Baez-Nieves, Deputy District Attorney Natalie Zellner, Executive District Attorney George Jenkins and Deputy District Attorney Lauren McAuley successfully completed the rigorous 9-month Certified Public Manager program at University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government.

The UGA CPM program is renowned for its commitment to developing exceptional managers and enhancing the efficiency of government agencies. By dedicating their time and effort to this esteemed program, our leaders have acquired invaluable skills and knowledge that will undoubtedly elevate our office's performance.

We commend their unwavering dedication, perseverance, and hard work throughout this educational journey. Their accomplishment is a testament to their commitment to personal and professional growth. Their expertise and newfound skills will undoubtedly contribute to even greater success in our office, benefiting our team and the community we serve.

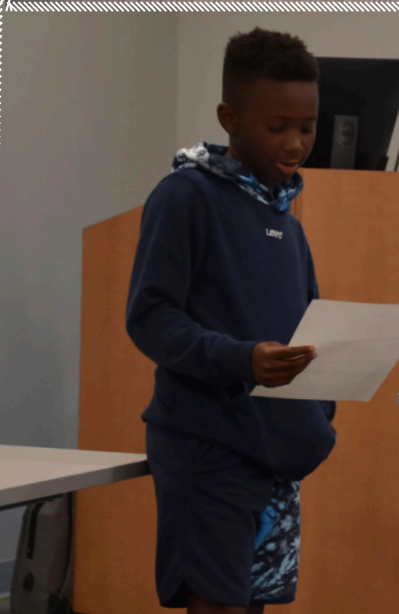


Junior DA

We proudly present the Junior DA Summer Youth Program at the Fulton County District Attorney's Office, offering a transformative opportunity for middle school students across the county.

Our comprehensive program combines education, recreation, and guidance to empower today's youth. With five classes, each lasting one week and accommodating 10-30 students, we strive to make a lasting impact.

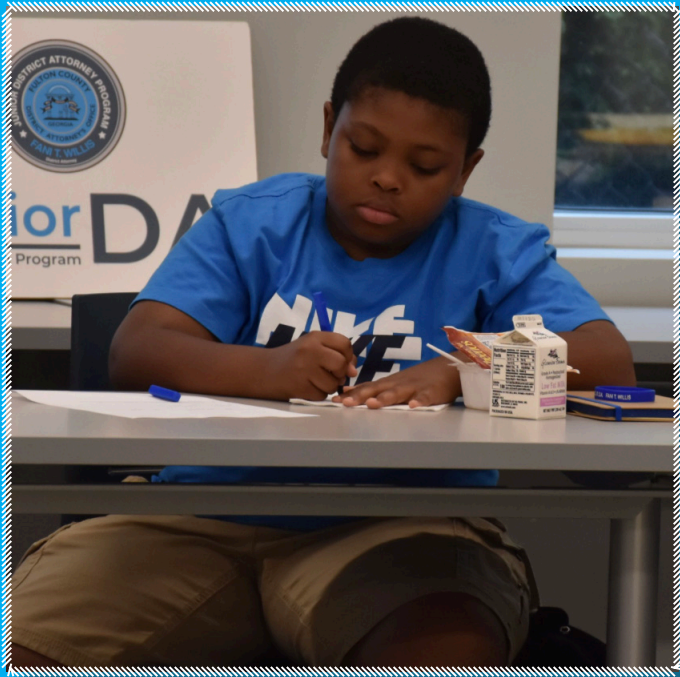
Through interactive experiences, our students explore self-discovery, community engagement, and the workings of the court system. Visits to Fulton County Superior and Juvenile courtrooms foster enlightening conversations with legal professionals.



These immersive experiences equip our Junior DAs with valuable knowledge about the court systems, social justice, decision-making, mindfulness, and future paths they may embark upon. With a commitment to their growth, we take great pride in providing this enriching program, free of charge to students and their families.

Exciting field trips to esteemed locations like the Chattahoochee Nature Center, Georgia Aquarium, Tyler Perry Studios, Atlanta Police Department Mounted Patrol, and the National Center for Civil and Human Rights further enrich their understanding.

Exciting field trips to esteemed locations like the Chattahoochee Nature Center, Georgia Aquarium, Tyler Perry Studios, Atlanta Police Department Mounted Patrol, and the National Center for Civil and Human Rights further enrich their understanding.



Fulton County Superior Court Judge Shermela Williams speaks with the Junior DAs.

WOMAN OF THE YEAR



Thank you, Women of Distinction!

On Sunday, June 25th, the annual Empowerment Luncheon, hosted by Women of Distinction, Inc., took place at the Commerce Club in Atlanta. It was a momentous occasion as Madam DA Fani T. Willis was honored with the esteemed Woman of the Year Award. Not only that, but she also received a proclamation from Fulton County Commissioner Natalie Hall of the 4th District, further highlighting her accomplishments. Additionally, DeKalb County Sherriff Melody Maddox was recognized as the Public Servant Honoree of the Year. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Women of Distinction's Founder and CEO, Alfreda Stukes, and President Carolyn Zakers for their outstanding efforts in recognizing remarkable women from across Georgia.

Fulton County District Attorney's Office



Aaron Brown
Case Intake Division/
Major Crimes Division
GSU Law



Ananya Singh
WWAP - Major Crimes
Division
Emory University



Anastasia Tyson
Case Intake Division
/Domestic Violence Unit
Emory Law



Andrew Paul
Case Intake Division
GSU Law



Angela Vasilopoulos
Conviction Integrity Unit
Emory Law



Judith Newby
Sexual Assault Unit – SVD
UGA



Anna Book
Case Intake Division
/Major Crimes Division
Emory Law



Anthony Williams
Gang Unit – MCD
Atlanta Metro College



Caleb Morris
Case Intake Division
UGA Law



Christopher Katrakis
Non-Complex Unit – Trial
Division
Emory Law



Clara Johnson
Sexual Assault Kit Initiative
(S.A.K.I.) Unit – SVD
St. John's College



Mahmoud Mohamed
Cold & Capital Case Unit – MCD
UGA Law



Elizabeth Haynes-Tucker
Domestic Violence Unit
– SVD
GSU Law



Georgia Kimball
Cold & Capital Case
Unit – MCD
Virginia Tech



Isha Jayadev
Trial Division
University of Michigan



Ivey Foster
Case Intake Division
North Carolina
Central University



Jacob Rothman
Case Intake Division
GSU Law



Ojuan Glaze
Human Trafficking & Child
Exploitation Unit - SVD
Mitchell Hamline Law



Jaida Farmer
Domestic Violence/Hu-
man Trafficking - SVD
Loyola University



Jasmine Woodruff
Non-Complex Unit
– Trial Division
GSU Law



Jhane Allen
Non-Complex Unit – Trial
Division
GSU Law



Joelle Elisa
Victim Witness Advocate
Program (WWAP)
Georgia Southern University



Joyce Dihi
Special Victims Division
Spelman College



Sophie Warmath
WWAP – Trial Division
UGA



Kalia Richards
Non-Complex Unit –
Trial Division
GSU Law



Kiera Kinsey
Special Victims Division
United States Naval
Academy



Kinley Stephens
Case Intake Division
Pace Academy



Kyla Moore
Case Intake Division
Clark Atlanta University



Michael Hosea
Gang Unit - MCD
John Marshall Law



Myla Williams
Human Trafficking & Child
Exploitation Unit - SVD
GSU

2023 Summer Interns



Priscilla Domini
Case Intake Division
Fayette County High School



Rhea D'Souza
Juvenile Court Unit - SVD
Kennesaw State University



Samantha Bertschi
Trial Division
University of Chicago



Skylahn Gyampoh
Case Intake Division
Southern University Law



Natalie Shanklin
Case Intake Division
/Domestic Violence Unit
NC Central Law



Natasha Torrence
Case Intake Division
John Marshall Law



Summer Bell
Case Intake Division
Emory Law



Tolulope Akinrolabu
Case Intake Division
UGA



Tre Greaux
Major Crimes Division
Norfolk State University



Tyler Hill
Non-Complex Unit
Trial Division
Emory Law



Wyatt Decker
Gang Unit - MCD
University of Illinois



Vajha Cuiellette
Trial Division
Alabama A&M



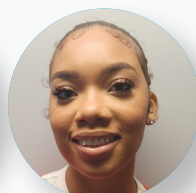
Kathryn Hardison
Crimes Against Children/
Juvenile Court - SVD
GSU Law



Ethan Fell
Case Intake Division
/Sexual Assault - SVD
Yale University



Madison Bryan
Animal Abuse/Juvenile
Units - SVD
Penn State Law



Deanna Jones
Case Intake Division
John Marshall Law



Shartecia Roman
Major Crimes Division
GSU Law



Kayla Beasley
Case Intake Division/
Programs
Tamu Sana Kanyama
Preparatory Academy



Aisah Lightfoot
Case Intake Division/
Programs
Westlake High School



Janya Rutherford
Case Intake Division/
Programs
Atlanta Technical College



Josie Holcomb
Case Intake Division -
Cold Case/RICO Cases
GSU Law



Kristen Gough
Juvenile Court Unit - SVD
John Marshall Law



Kellsie Rogers
Case Intake Division
GSU

KEY DATES

JULY

7/12 INTERN MOTION PRESENTATION
7/13 COFFEE & CONVOS
7/10, 7/14, 7/17, 7/18
MEDICAL EXAMINER TRIP
7/17 & 7/19 USE OF FORCE TRAINING WITH APD
7/26-28 MOCK TRIALS

AUGUST

8/2 FBI OFFICE TRIP
8/3 GRADUATION CEREMONY

3RD ANNUAL

Full FORCE FULTON

I want to give a huge thank you to all who worked so hard to make Full Force Fulton possible:

First and foremost, to Justice Liaison Will McCombs and Policy Advisor Gregory Ware for ALL the behind-the-scenes work. You two men never cease to amaze me. Thank you for making sure all the details were handled to perfection.

To the team of investigators who agreed to serve and did so with such professionalism. Please know I saw you at your post and it warmed my heart. Thank you – Sr. Inv. Lori Lobel, Sr. Inv. Christopher Davidson, Inv. Gammon, Sr. Inv. Kevin Lewis, Sr. Inv. Shaniece Withrow, Sr. Inv. Darrion Eshmon, Sr. Inv. DeAntoine Johnson, Sr. Inv. Gregory Campbell, and Sr. Inv. Stanley Mason. Thank you for always being the first to serve and always keeping us safe.

To the Operations team Mr. Anthony Muhammad and Mr. Dexter Bond – Thank you all for timely payments. To Dir. Tashekka Fleming and Dir. Michael Makins, thank you for the technical help.

To my awesome photographers – Ms. Mahkayla Grogan, Mr. Tychaune Douglas, and Ms. Ashley Johnson. Mr. Tychaune Douglas a special shout-out – somehow you got stuck with me and I know that was a lot.

To the Executive Team for setting up – Deputy Executive Assistant Tia Green, Executive Assistant Rhonda Heckard, Executive Assistant Jeremy Murray, Deputy DA Jeff DiSantis, thank you for always making us look good.

To those who manned the stands – Mr. Tom Wight, Ms. Whitney Meyer, Ms. Faye Rosenbaum, Ms. Jill Hollander, Ms. Nadia Rhodes, Ms. Javoyné Hicks, Mr. Mikeshaund Passmore, Ms. Yolanda Shorthouse, Ms. Carolyn Tyus, Ms. Edwina Sellan, Ms. Katrina Gill, Ms. Lucia Williams, Ms. Lisa Holland, Ms. LaTonya Gates, and those I am forgetting, please blame it on my head not my heart. THANK YOU.

To our phenomenal interns – Kiera Kinsey, Jasmine Woodruff, Andy Paul, Priscilla Domini, Wyatt Decker, Isha Jayadev, Jacob Rothman, Chris Katrakis, Skylahn Gyampoh, Tyler Hill, Ivey Foster, Natalie Shanklin, Kaila Richards, and Jhane Allen. Thank you for fitting right in and helping yesterday. I absolutely saw you. I hope you learned from the experience and enjoyed yourself a little.

Now to those speakers who ran my blood pressure up the day before in practice and then showed up and showed out. Thank you for a phenomenal job! You made it clear that I have kept a campaign promise. I promised to bring the best and the brightest to this county. We kept the best of what was here and brought in some of the best new talent in the country. Together we are one dynamic office. Thank you for your commitment to this office and OUR community. You all represent the best of us.

To all who participated, I appreciate the deference you showed for the position I hold and the professionalism you showed to the citizens we serve.

Thank You!


FANI T. WILLIS
District Attorney



VOLUNTEERS



INTERNS



SPEAKERS...



Pallavi Bailey
Media Liason,
Fulton County
District Attorney's Office



Kenneth Hutcherson
Executive District Attorney,
Case Intake Division



Chandrika Derricho
Victim Witness
Advocate Director,
Victim Witness Advocate
Program



Deonté Pollard
Operations Manager,
Pre-Indictment Adult Diversion Unit



Billy Ansel
Senior Investigator,
White Collar Crimes Unit



Stephanie Samples
Senior Investigator,
White Collar Crimes Unit



Simone Hylton
Deputy District Attorney,
Brenda Baham
Domestic Violence Unit



Tarrance Miller
Chief Senior
Assistant District Attorney,
Human Trafficking & Internet Child
Exploitation Unit



Misty Botu
Deputy
Victim Witness Advocate,
Trial Division



Jason Johnson
Senior Investigator,
Human Trafficking &
Internet Child Exploitation
Unit



Earnelle Winfrey
Deputy District Attorney,
Human Trafficking &
Internet Child Exploitation
Unit



Adam Abbate
Chief Deputy District
Attorney,
Major Crimes Division



Richard Randolph
Executive Deputy
Chief Investigator



Epiffany Henry
Deputy Chief of Staff,
Adult Diversion Director
Pre-Indictment Adult Diversion Unit



Asia Baysah
Deputy District Attorney,
Brenda Baham
Domestic Violence Unit



Aakeem Woodard
Juvenile Services Director
Special Victims Division



Christopher Sperry
Deputy District Attorney,
Major Crimes Division



Kelcee Jones-Connor
Deputy District Attorney,
Major Case Unit



Brett Pinion
Chief Deputy District
Attorney,
Special Victims Division



Antonio Long
Deputy Chief
Investigator
Major Crimes Division

The Importance of Saying No ...*Sometimes*

If you are anything like me, you are a kindhearted person that does not like saying no. It is common to feel guilt and remorse at times you do decide to say no. It can be very difficult to say no because it may cause confrontation, it may disappoint others, you may feel obligated and there is always that fear of what will happen if you decide to say no. Individuals typically fear they will miss out or things will not get done.

It can be so fulfilling to help others. Also, when you are really passionate about something you feel the strong desire to assist and help. In addition, when you take on tasks there is always an opportunity to learn, grow or obtain meaningful information. Further, saying yes could mean you end up having a very enjoyable time.

However, there must be limits and boundaries and it is important to say no to protect your mental health. Think about when you have had a really busy week, worked late multiple nights, and only slept a few hours per night. One might look forward to attending the birthday party that his or her friend has been raving about for the past two months. However, Saturday comes, you are tired and cranky and now the last thing you want to do is attend this party. But, you have already said yes. In fact, you have ordered a new outfit and tried it on 3 times. You may go and have the great time that you needed with your friends and feel so relieved. On the other hand, you may end up being irritable and watching your clock waiting for the perfect time to exit the party. Further, your friends start to notice how you are acting and now they feel uncomfortable and keep asking "Are you okay?" Perhaps it would have been in your best interest to get some rest and hang out with your friend on another night. Listen to the signs and symbols from your body. If you actually dread doing something, then maybe you should sit out this time.

As another scenario, an opportunity may become available at work for a project in an area where you have a special passion. But you just started evening graduate classes and have minimal downtime at work now. You could potentially perform excellent on this project, be recognized for your hard work and earn a promotion. Or you could be chronically late with your assignments at work and in school, constantly have errors in your work products, and provide a product that is not of the highest quality. It is very mature and reasonable to know your limits and accept how much you can realistically manage at one time.

Although you may not be able to get the exact moment or opportunity back if you pass, there will be other opportunities in the future. Surely, there will be another party where you can have a great time and wear that outfit. Certainly, there will be other projects where you can join the team and shine. Saying no can help you be attentive to your mental health and what your body needs and prevent others from getting the wrong impression of you. You may also need to say no because you are dealing with a mental health crisis, trauma, or other emotional issues. Be honest with yourself and others about your limits. Offer alternatives so there is not a debate when you say no. And be assertive and firm when you know you need to take time for yourself.

Fulton County Employee Assistance Program is available to all employees and provides up to 8 free confidential sessions. **You can reach the Employee Assistance Program 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling 800-999-7222 or visiting www.AnthemEAP.com (password: Fulton).**



Chandrika Derricho

LAW CORNER

Prior Consistent Statements

The use of a witness' previous statement comes in handy when trying to rehabilitate their credibility when it is called into question for the jury by the defense attorney's cross-examination. Under O.C.G.A. § 24-6-613(c) states, in pertinent part, as follows:

A prior consistent statement shall be admissible to rehabilitate a witness if the prior consistent statement logically rebuts an attack made on the witness's credibility. ... If a prior consistent statement is offered to rebut an express or implied charge against the witness of recent fabrication or improper influence or motive, the prior consistent statement shall have been made before the alleged recent fabrication or improper influence or motive arose.

The Supreme Court of Georgia further upheld recently that the criteria for admissibility as it relates to a prior consistent statement is broad so long as it logically rebuts any attack on a witness' credibility other than attacks on character or the use of a prior conviction against said witness.

McGarity v. State, 311 Ga. 158, 165 (2021). Recently, the Supreme Court dismissed an argument by the defense that highlighting a recent fabrication and drawing attention to perceived improper influences and motives as it related to the victim's testimony while the victim was testifying on cross-examination should not have allowed the prosecution to have a witness testify as to the victim's outcry to highlight the consistencies between said outcry and the victim's testimony on direct. **Johnson v. State**, 367 Ga. App. 108, 113 (2023). So long as the attack did not include the use of character evidence or a prior conviction to impeach the witness, as long as there was an attack on the witness' credibility, the use of a prior consistent statement to logically rebut the attack(s) of the victim were admissible by the prosecution.



Gautam Rao

CONVICTIONAlert!

State v. Daniel Chattman

Congratulations to the Gang Unit! In the case of State v. Daniel Chatman, the Defendant was found guilty of all fifteen counts including Violation of the Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act, Felony Murder, Armed Robbery, Aggravated Assault, and Hijacking a Motor Vehicle. Judge Rachel Krause will sentence the Defendant on July 17.

Special thanks to Mike Makins, Corinne Collins, Keehlan Haygood, Quintin Lewis, Investigators Chara Dennis, Glenn Cross and Harold Milanés for all their assistance.



Assistant District Attorney
Chinekwu Okam



Assistant District Attorney
Dion Peeples



Investigator
Kevin Lewis



Deputy Victim Advocate
Ilona Rolack



Victim Advocate
Katrina Gill



Legal Assistant
Enewan Akpan-Iquot

State v. Carlos Dill

Congratulations to the Domestic Violence Trial Team! In the case of State v. Carlos Dill, the Defendant was found guilty of eleven counts including Felony Murder, Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, and Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon. Judge Robert McBurney sentenced the Defendant to two consecutive life sentences without the possibility of parole plus 15 years.



Assistant District Attorney
Jazmin Willingham



Deputy District Attorney
Asia Baysah



Sr. Investigator
Shaniece Withrow



Victim Advocate
Wayne Williams



Legal Assistant
Nyome Griffin

State v. Jimmy Nyambo

Congratulations to the Domestic Violence Trial Team! In the case of State v. Jimmy Nyambo, the Defendant was found guilty of all counts including Felony Murder and Aggravated Assault. Judge Jane Barwick sentenced the Defendant to life without the possibility of parole.



Assistant District Attorney
Marshal Hodge



Deputy District Attorney
Asia Baysah



Investigator
Tracy Jemison



Victim Advocate
Wayne Williams



Legal Assistant
Cassie Lundy



Director of Trial Graphics
Michael Makins

State v. Brian Lee Baker

Congratulations to the Crimes Against Children Unit! In the case of State v. Brian Baker, the Defendant was found guilty of four counts including Rape, Incest, and Aggravated Child Molestation. Judge Melynee Leftridge sentenced the Defendant to two consecutive life sentences plus 70 years.



Assistant District Attorney Robert Shapiro



Deputy District Attorney Lauren McAuley



Investigator Natalie Brunner



Assistant Chief Temperance Stoddard



Victim Advocate Christen Clarke



Legal Assistant Alicia Scurry

State v. Jordan Scott

Congratulations to the Major Case Unit Trial Team! In the case of State vs. Jordan Scott, the Defendant was found guilty of all counts including Felony Murder, Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, and Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon. Judge Kimberly Adams sentenced the Defendant to life without the possibility of parole plus 15 years.



Chief Senior District Attorney Jeffrey Hawkins



Senior Assistant District Attorney Precious Marsh



Senior Investigator Jess Pironis



Victim Advocate Tameka Kelley



Legal Assistant Brenda Sharpe

State v. Justin Collier

Congratulations to the Major Crimes Division Trial Team! In the case of State vs. Justin Collier, the Defendant was found guilty of four counts including Felony Murder, Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, and Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony. Judge Scott McAfee sentenced the Defendant to life with the possibility of parole plus 5 years.



Chief Senior Assistant District Attorney Jeffrey Lee



Senior Assistant District Attorney Brian Trepanier



Senior Investigator Darrion Eshmon



Victim Advocate Tameka Kelley



Victim Advocate Dorsey Jones



Legal Assistant Quentin Wright

CONVICTIONAlert!

State v. Jquante Jester

Congratulations to the Major Case Unit Trial Team! In the case of State vs. Jquantae Jester, the Defendant was found guilty of three counts including Felony Murder, Aggravated Assault, and Concealing the Death of Another. Judge David Emerson sentenced the Defendant to life without the possibility of parole plus 10 years.



Chief Senior
District Attorney
Tom Griner



Senior Assistant
District Attorney
Kassie Hall



Investigator
Alfred Martin



Investigator
Felipe Brown



Victim Advocate
Maya Wilburn

State v. Cameron Major

Congratulations to the Domestic Violence Trial Team! In the case of State v. Cameron Major, the Defendant was found guilty of all counts including Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon and Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony. Judge Melynee Leftridge sentenced the Defendant to 15 years to serve plus 5 years.



Chief Senior
Assistant District
Attorney Matthew
Holmes



Senior Assistant
District Attorney
Melissa Roth



Assistant Chief
Investigator
Paula Duprey



Senior
Investigator
DaJuan Walker



Victim Advocate
Carolyn Tyus



Chief Legal
Assistant
Helen Bastien



Legal Assistant
Caderrius
Armstrong

State v. Dominique Williams

Congratulaions to the Sexual Assault Unit Trial Team! In the case of State v. Dominique Williams, the Defendant was found guilty of all counts including Rape and Aggravated Sexual Battery. Judge Emily Richardson sentenced the Defendant to life with parole followed by life on probation.



Assistant District
Attorney Travis
Thomas



Assistant District
Attorney Abigail
Long



Senior
Investigator
Kenneth Rucker



Legal Assistant
Nyome Griffin



Victim Advocate
LaTeeka
Montgomery

Special shout out to Nyome Griffin for reviewing over a thousand pieces of media, which lead to discovery of a crucial piece of evidence!

WW WELLNESS WEDNESDAY

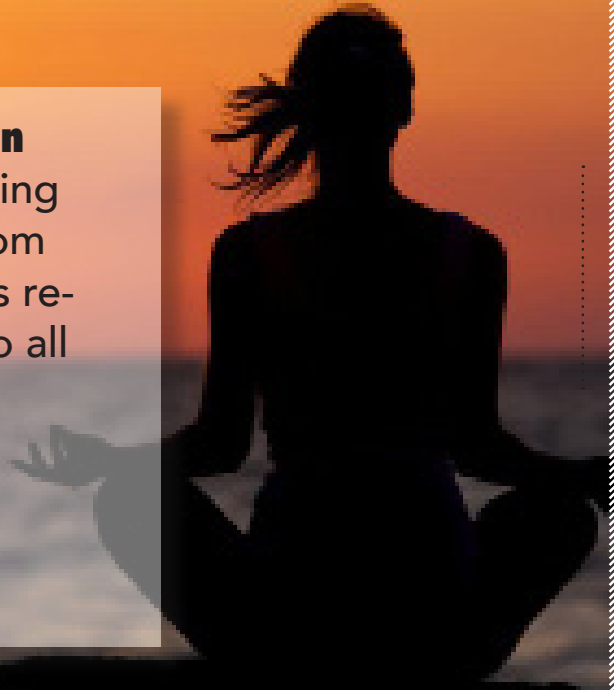
Virtual Yoga with Kimberly Hamilton

Join Kimberly as she offers engaging yoga classes every Wednesday from 12:00 to 1:00pm. No equipment is required and the classes are open to all Fulton County employees.

MICROSOFT TEAMS

Meeting ID: 284 220 315 63

Passcode: UTNZWR



Virtual Low Impact Class with Leah

Enjoy Leah's weekly low impact class for a great workout that doesn't require any equipment. The class is every Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:30pm and is open to all Fulton County employees.

MICROSOFT TEAMS

Meeting ID: 243 060 343 696

Passcode: QRHQUV



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT FULTON COUNTY WELLNESS COORDINATOR JESSICA HOUZE AT JESSICA.HOUZE@FULTONCOUNTYGA.GOV.

SHOUT-OUTS



Madam District Attorney,

I would like to thank you on behalf of GDC/OPS for allowing Assistant Chief Obed Ford and Assistant Chief Saul Alter to participate in our promotion system so that we are able to identify future leaders in the Georgia Department of Corrections/Office of Professional Standards. Partnering with other law enforcement agencies is extremely vital to keeping this agency on the right track. For the last 3 days, Mr. Ford and Mr. Alter have worked tirelessly, and they are to be commended for their efforts. If you need anything from this agency, please don't hesitate to call.

Thanks For All You Do,

Deputy Director Richey
Office of Professional Standards (OPS)

Greetings, ED Young and Madam DA,

I received an urgent call from Jayson Chavis asking me to meet him at the 7th floor bridge for help. When I arrived, Jayson was not only concerned but also moved with urgency to assist a 73-year-old lady named Ms. Moore. He informed me that she needed help, and nobody was assisting her. Ms. Moore was distressed and seeking help to remove her grandchildren and their mother from her home. She had already filed papers and contacted the police, but she was desperate for assistance. Last Friday, Jayson had volunteered at the Elder Event and had immediately given her Jill Hollander's contact information, saving it in her phone to seek further assistance with resources.

While we were talking to her, she mentioned feeling sick. Ms. Moore had a Lifeline necklace and needed Jayson's help. She pressed the button, and Jayson communicated with the emergency response team, ensuring help was on its way. He stayed by her side throughout the entire ordeal. Shortly after, seven Fulton County Sheriff's Office Deputies arrived to assess her condition and transport her to the hospital.

The fact that Jayson stopped to help her was an act of kindness that did not go unnoticed.

THANK YOU JAYSON!



NEW HIRES



Lawrence **Vazquez**
Sr. Investigator
*Case Intake
Gang Unit*



Dylan **Beck**
Victim Witness Advocate
Juvenile Unit



Eden **Bogolin**
Legal Assistant
Trial Division



Melissa **Himes**
**Chief Senior Assistant
District Attorney**
Case Intake



Kemuel **Kimbrough**
**Senior Assistant District
Attorney**
Conviction Integrity Unit



Francisco **Marquez**
**Senior Assistant District
Attorney**
*Non-Complex
Trial Division*



Bryony **Harris**
Senior Investigator
*Crimes Against Children
Special Victims Division*



Dorsey **Jones**
Victim Witness Advocate
Major Crimes Division

SWEARING-IN



Senior Investigator Bryony Harris, 3rd-Year Law Student Madison Bryan, and Senior Investigator Lawrence Vazquez are sworn in under oath.



STRENGTH IN UNITY

PROTECTING AND EMPOWERING FULTON COUNTY'S LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

We joined together on 6/27 for our 3rd annual "Strength in Unity" LGBTQ+ crime victims vigil event. This heartfelt occasion brought victims, elected officials, community partners, and law enforcement together to honor and remember those we have lost. It provided a poignant moment of reflection, enabling us to confront the challenges faced by the community and reignite our determination to drive positive change.

At the core of our mission is the belief that every individual should be free from discrimination and violence. We remain steadfast in our commitment to prosecute hate crimes and ensure justice for LGBTQ+ victims.

During this significant event, we proudly administered the oath to the newly selected members of the DA Fani T. Willis LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee. We are thrilled to announce the appointment of Assistant District Attorney Matthew Norwood as the new committee Chair. Additionally, we introduced Deputy District Attorney Kevin Armstrong as our Lead Attorney, responsible for overseeing the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr., Hate Crimes Grant. We also welcomed Caderrius Armstrong as our newly appointed Hate Crimes Victim Witness Advocate.

Madam DA Fani T. Willis was honored during the event, receiving the esteemed Pinnacle of Allyship Award from the committee. This accolade is a testament to her lifelong dedication, unwavering support, and tireless advocacy for the LGBTQ+ community.



Chair Emeritus
WILL WOOTEN



CO-CHAIR
JEREMY MURRAY



CHAIR
MATTHEW NORWOOD



LEAD ATTORNEY FOR HATE CRIMES GRANT
KEVIN ARMSTRONG



LEAD ADVOCATE FOR HATE CRIMES GRANT
CADERRIUS ARMSTRONG



COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S
STRENGTH AND EMPOWERMENT UNIT
FOR LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY



MAJOR CRIMES DIVISION GIVES BACK

BOOKS & BADGES

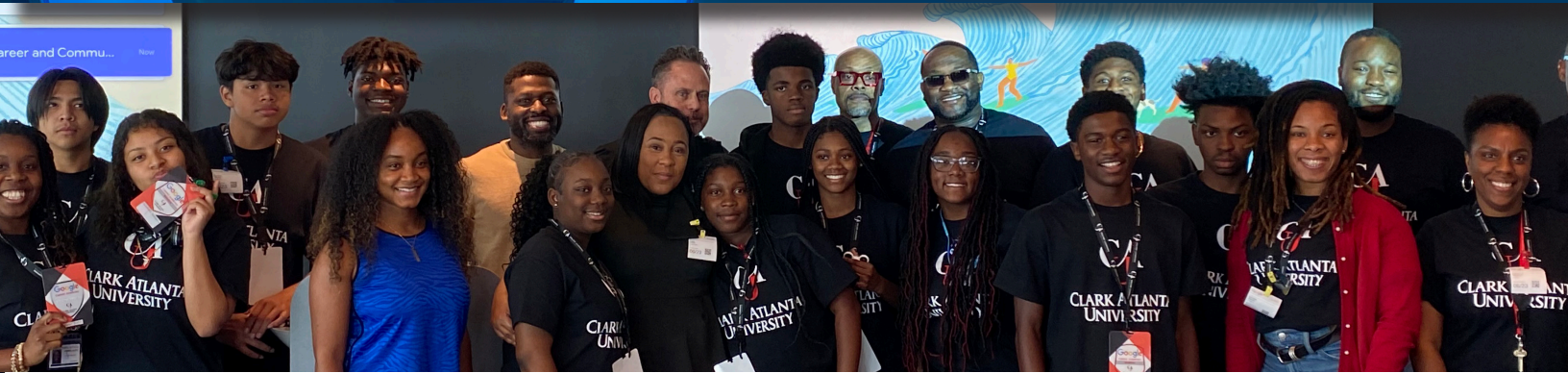


Assistant Chief Investigator (Major Crimes Division) Joseph Rickman speaking to the students of Morris Brandon Elementary and Rivers Elementary.



Executive District Attorney Mike Carlson presenting a 2 hour evidence law update block to Georgia Municipal Court Judges as part of their Summer training conference at the Jekyll Island Convention Center.

MADAM DA VISITS GOOGLE



On 6/23, Madam DA and members of her Executive Staff embarked on an inspiring tour of Google's newly established headquarters in Midtown Atlanta. Spanning an impressive 500,000 square feet across 19 floors, this office space represents Google's commitment to investing in and growing the Black Google community in Atlanta, a city renowned for its civil rights history and vibrant culture.



The design of each floor pays homage to Atlanta's rich heritage, showcasing its cultural, musical, and artistic legacy. Collaborating with over 50 local and diverse companies, Google incorporated artwork from more than 20 local artists, creating an environment that celebrates Atlanta's creative spirit. Notable features include a giant heart-shaped outline in the lobby, symbolizing a warm welcome, and a rainbow-themed staircase, representing support and celebration of Atlanta's LGBTQ+ community, inspired by the nearby rainbow sidewalks. Additionally, the Google cafeteria, known as the WERD Cafe, is named after the first Black-owned and programmed U.S. radio station.



During the visit, discussions centered around fostering collaboration, exchanging knowledge on cutting-edge technologies and innovations. The primary goal was to enhance the capabilities of the district attorney's office and promote a deeper understanding among law enforcement partners. This visit marks an important milestone in embracing new tools and strategies to advance the pursuit of justice.

Madam DA also had the incredible opportunity to surprise students from Fredrick Douglass High School's 9th Grade STEAM Academy and Marietta City Schools, who are enrolled in a summer program at Clark Atlanta University. Thanks to community partnerships with Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and Google, the students had the privilege of touring the complex luggage system at the airport and spending a day at Google's Atlanta HQ, expanding their knowledge and horizons.

World ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY



On 6/15, the FCDAO's Elder Abuse Unit actively engaged in a panel discussion at Siloam International Church to commemorate World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Madam DA, alongside Ryan Buchanan, the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, delivered welcoming remarks emphasizing the significance of open conversations about elder abuse within our communities and families. The aim was to combat these often unreported crimes effectively.

Deputy DA Jill Hollander took part in a panel discussion alongside representatives from the South Fulton Police Department, FBI, Secret Service, the United States Attorney's Office, and the North Georgia Elder Abuse Task Force. The session provided attendees with real-life examples of common crimes and schemes, equipping them with best practices to avoid becoming victims.

By actively participating in this event, the FCDAO's Elder Abuse Unit demonstrated its commitment to raising awareness and promoting prevention strategies against elder abuse.

ELDER ABUSE EVENT



On 6/23, the FCDAO's Elder Abuse Unit, alongside 30+ volunteers, cosponsored an outreach event with Commissioner Khadijah Abdur-Rahman and Judge Kenya Johnson. The event successfully catered to 250+ seniors in our community and featured numerous vendors from county agencies and nonprofits. The DA's office delivered a comprehensive 1-hour presentation highlighting the occurrence of scams, their commonalities, and effective prevention methods. In line with the Elder Abuse Unit's commitment to prioritizing prevention over prosecution, the United States Attorney's Office collaborated in shedding light on the issue of abuse, promoting open discussions, prevention strategies, and encouraging reporting. In 2022, Fulton County alone recorded 2,773 reports of crimes against individuals aged 65+. Shockingly, data reveals that only 1 in 41 seniors will report victimization, resulting in an alarmingly high number: an estimated 113,693 potential victims within our community. Through events like these, we aim to empower seniors to promptly report crimes as they occur, enabling authorities to intervene and protect them.



CONGRATULATIONS



Jazmin Dilligard

FCDAO's very own Gang Law Clerk and Internship Coordinator, Jazmin Dilligard, has successfully graduated from **Georgia State College of Law** with an outstanding Pro Bono with High Distinction.



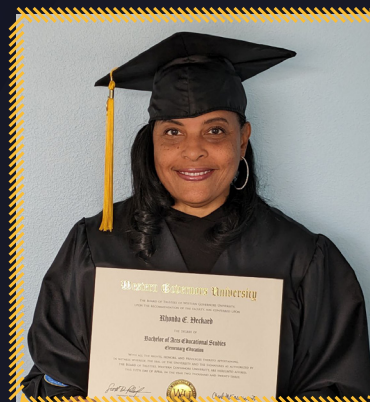
Sr. Investigator Tiffany Johnson

FCDAO's very own Senior Investigator Tiffany Johnson graduated and received her Master's in Criminal Justice - Emergency and Disaster Management from Saint Leo University



Jordan Barry

FCDAO's very own Jordan Barry received her Juris Doctor degree from Southern University Law Center. Jordan plans to sit for the Texas Bar exam next year.



Rhonda Heckard

Our very own Rhonda Heckard has successfully earned her **Bachelor of Arts degree in Educational Studies and Elementary Education from Western Governors University**. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Rhonda on this significant achievement in her academic journey. Her dedication and hard work have paid off, and we are proud to have her as part of our team.



Renajah

Renajah granddaughter of Carolyn Tyus, graduated from **Lake Ridge High School** in Mansfield, Texas. She already has 26 colleges credit due to dual enrollment.



Micah

Micah, son of Investigator Gina Harding, graduated from Pre-K, and is now headed to Kindergarten. Inv. Harding says "Micah is excited to be apart of the DA Dispatch, he's a very social and attention-loving person."



Ryan

Ryan, son of Deputy District Attorney Jill Hollander, graduated from Kindergarten at Legacy Academy.



Stanley

Stanley, son of Nikia Sellers, graduated with honors from **Riverwood International Charter School** in Sandy Springs, Georgia. He will attend Howard University in the Fall with his sister, Assata, who just completed her 2nd year.

GRADUATES!



Daelyn

Daelyn, daughter of Senior Investigator Gerald Walsh, achieved a remarkable milestone by graduating Magna Cum Laude from Kennesaw State University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.



Nina

Nina, daughter of Erika Marshall-Story, graduated Summa Cum Laude from Landmark Christian School. She is also a member of the National Honor Society and member of the cross country and track team. She will attend North Carolina A&T State University in the fall, where she will continue her love for track and field.



Olivia

Olivia, daughter of Executive District Attorney Kenneth Hutcherson, graduated from Holy Innocents Episcopal School and has been accepted into Princeton University.



Andrew

Andrew, son of Assistant Chief Saul Alter, graduated from Temple University with his Master's Degree in Sports Management.



Dawson

Dawson, son of Lisa Holland, received his EMT, Advanced EMT, and Fire Fighter certificates from the Forsyth County Fire Department after completing a rigorous nine-month training course. During the graduation ceremony, his father, Lt. Bernie Holland of the Roswell Police Department, had the distinction of bestowing his son with his firefighter badge. Dawson intends to pursue a career in medicine and will enroll in nursing school.



Cayden

Cayden, son of Senior Investigator Gerald Walsh, has attained a remarkable achievement by being selected for and successfully completing the prestigious Georgia Governor's Honors Program. Over the course of 4 weeks at Georgia Southern University, Cayden pursued his passion for computer programming.

Featured 5

Assistant District Attorney Nikia Sellers

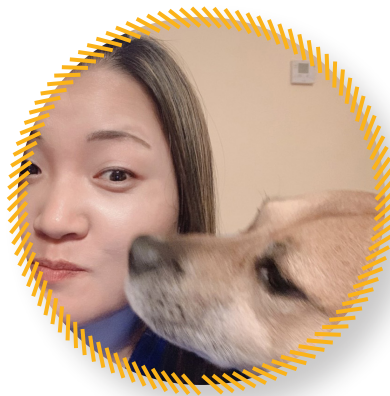


Senior Assistant District Attorney Nikia Smith Sellers has been serving the Fulton County community as a prosecutor since December 2013. She leads the Competency Docket Unit, which works with prosecutors on competency-related issues: competency to stand trial; civil commitment; annual civil commitment review for incompetency to stand trial; annual civil commitment for not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI); and involuntary administration of psychiatric medications.

Nikia attended the first HBCU in the south - the illustrious Shaw University, where she was on a cross-country scholarship and participated in track and cheerleading. After marriage and two children, she attended Pennsylvania State University's Dickinson School Law School.

Nikia is a lover of the arts and a dancer. She serves on the board of Total Dance/ Dancical Productions, Inc., A nonprofit arts organization that trains and produces dance artists and focuses on leadership transformation and the celebration of African American culture. She is a member of Mojah Dance Theatre, a professional Modern African dance company. Nikia co-founded the Women of Victory, adult liturgical dance group at New Life Presbyterian church as well as the Miriam Youth Dance Ministry.

She is most thankful for the support of her husband and she considers her greatest accomplishments to be her four beautiful children, who are ages 19 and 17, and two are 7.



Victim Witness Advocate Meesun Thongkoth

Born in the South Korean port city of Busan, Meesun Thongkoth immigrated at age 9 with her family to Buenos Aires, Argentina, where she graduated high school. She returned to South Korea to attend Hanyang University in the capital city of Seoul to earn a bachelor's degree in Hospitality and Tourism Science. Seeking to learn English, she traveled to Knoxville, Tennessee, to attend the University of Tennessee.

For a while, Meesun bounced among the three countries until she settled in the U.S. in 2003. Combined, she and her husband speak five languages. She speaks Korean, Spanish and English, which is the primary language she uses to communicate with her husband, who is Laotian. Their son, Andrew, is fluent in Korean and English.

Meesun has been a victim advocate for 17 years. As a Senior Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Victim Advocate, she provides resources and help to victims in cold cases involving sexual assault. Her compassion and passion to help the most vulnerable victims got her into the advocacy world. She started as a Temporary Protective Order (TPO) advocate at Atlanta Victim Assistance in 2006.

In her free time, she enjoys spending time with family, friends and her dog Jack. Fun fact: Before meeting her husband, Meesun vowed she would never marry a police officer. She's been married to a police officer now for 15 years.



Network Specialist Dianne Haywood

Dianne Haywood is the Network Specialist in the Operations Division. She has been employed with the Fulton County District Attorney's Office for almost 22 years. Some of her duties include onboarding new hires and interns, resolving IT issues, preparing work requests and assisting with procurement.

Outside of work, she has a Pomeranian, Blaze, who keeps her busy. She likes to listen to 'Ol Skool' music and watch old programs and movies on TV.



Assistant District Attorney Mario Kladis

Assistant District Attorney Mario Kladis was a public defender for nearly a decade before joining the Fulton County District Attorney's Office. He grew up in an Illinois town called Berwyn, which is Welsh for bright friend, or maybe bear friend.

He lived for many years in Chicago, acquiring an accent that's apparent when he says words like pajamas. He moved to Georgia in 2020 with his partner and their young child, who are both sweethearts.

For fun, he hikes with them, plays guitar, and argues with strangers on the Internet. He works in the appeals unit.



Case Manager Mike Passmore

Mikshaund "Mike" Passmore is the case manager for Pre-Indictment Diversion Unit, where true criminal justice reform takes place daily. He supervises cases, pulls GCIC's, and manages documentation for files.

He previously worked with the Department of Juvenile Justice in several roles: an administrative lieutenant supervising emergency management and facility gang intelligence/security risk group; an ACA/PREA/NIMS Audit certified coordinator; a revocation hearing officer; and a gang and a probation field training officer.

With almost two decades of criminal justice and social justice experience, Mike has received special training from the FBI and DEA. He was assigned to the Governor's Task Force for riot control. He is a certified jailer, correctional officer, juvenile correctional officer, dual adult pardons and parole certified officer with Georgia's POST. He counts among his talents: team building and supervision, crime scene investigation, staff development, emergency management, gang intelligence, social media tracking, meeting and event planning, photography, and drone photography.

He's a member of what he calls the best fraternity in the universe: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Fall 09 Ace (not a solo) just a tall line "Eternal Ice" line Coldest Train Ever "C.T.E." His other hobbies and gigs include being a mortician apprentice/funeral attendant; free-lance photographer; culinary fruit art creator; celebrity security provider; tennis player; (beginner) golfer; t-shirt graphic designer; couponer; and scented candle maker.

Summer REPORT Celebration







Congratulations to the FCDAO's Newest Leaders



Deputy Legal Assistant
Case Intake Division
Samuel Chaney



Deputy Legal Assistant
Special Victims Division
Tammy Jackson-McClendon



Chief Legal Assistant
Special Victims Division
Patrice Stewart



Chief Legal Assistant
Trial Division
Damien Lyles



Chief Legal Assistant
Case Intake Division
Lynette Gilbert

FULTON COUNTY NEWSROOM

CLICK EACH BOX FOR LINK

Man sentenced for killing pregnant East Point mother in car in 2018

Fox 5 Atlanta | 05/25/23



Man sentenced to 18 years for robbery during Facebook transaction in Atlanta

AJC | 05/25/23



Man sentenced to life in prison for 2020 Union City hotel murder

AJC | 05/30/23



Atlanta man sentenced to life for strangling woman, dumping body on I-75

AJC | 05/31/23



Summer mentorship program to reduce gun, gang violence pays teens \$100/wk

ANF | 06/02/23



Man sentenced to life for beating boyfriend to death with baseball bat

AJC | 06/12/23



Johns Creek man sentenced for life for sexually abusing girl for years

Fox 5 Atlanta | 06/16/23



'We can save this community,' Fulton County DA says

AJC | 06/21/23



Fulton DA launches school program to keep students out of gangs

WSB-TV | 06/21/23



Fulton DA announces conviction for domestic violence-related murder

WSB-TV | 06/26/23



Man gets life in prison for shooting teen during phone sale in SW Atlanta

AJC | 06/27/23



Fulton County DA hosts 3rd annual LGBTQ+ vigil

WSB-TV | 06/28/23





Fani Willis

FANI T. WILLIS
District Attorney