

DA DISPATCH

FANI T. WILLIS, District Attorney



The Fulton County District Attorney's Office

Welcome our new Copy Editor a.k.a. Grammar Guru



Born in Hong Kong, Sau Chan immigrated at the age of 5 to the United States with her parents who eventually settled in a tiny town in Virginia, where the “in” crowd’s favorite activity on Saturday night was circling the local Burger King and the McDonald’s in pickup trucks. Unable to see over the dashboard of most pickups, Sau chose to spend the next decade or so working toward a career that allowed her to circle the globe rather than the local fast-food franchises.

She spent five years as a reporter and editor with the Associated Press in cities including Boston and New York covering breaking news, such as the downing of flight TWA 800, and flying with at least one state governor in a C-130 over a natural disaster. In 1999, she joined Bloomberg News in Hong Kong, where she worked with reporters in South Korea, China, Taiwan, Thailand and the Philippines directing news coverage and training reporters to be faster than the competition. Her work earned her the Bloomberg News “Speed Demon” award. During her time in Asia, Sau also spent two years as Bloomberg’s bureau chief in Seoul and took the opportunity to enter North Korea, where it’s a sure thing that no one complains about a fascist state and mask mandates.



In 2008, Sau returned to Virginia – talk about coming full circle – to attend law school before becoming a prosecutor in the city of Richmond, where she was part of a two-person on-call team specializing in vehicular homicides. In 2017, she became only one of two multi-jurisdictional prosecutors for insurance fraud. Because of her work with animal rescue groups, Sau also was the go-to person for prosecuting animal-abuse cases, which ranged from the serious, such as dogfighting, to the absurd, including prosecuting the owner of an albino peacock – yes, they exist – for letting his bird roam free to defecate on a neighbor’s newly refinished porch. Sau is currently in the Anti-Corruption Unit working on cases that do not involve porch-pooing fowl with melanin deficits . . . not yet, at least.

Sau Chan



Content

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Sau Chan

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Important Dates and Special Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
AUG 2021	2	3	4	5 Citywide Mayoral Crime Forum 6pm-8pm	6	7
8	9	10 Swearing-In Ceremony for Conviction Integrity Board 3pm	11 FCDA Leadership Meeting 8:30am - 5:30 pm	12 Chief's Meeting	13	14 Records Restriction Clinic APD Police Academy Family and Fitness Day
15	16 Canine Cellmates Behind The Bars Program Grand Opening	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Wellness Wednesday	26	27	28
2021 GCIC Training Symposium Savannah, Georgia						
29	30	31	SEPT 2021	2	3	4
5	6 Labor Day Holiday Rosh Hashana (Start)	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Yom Kippur (Start) Executive Team Meeting	16	17	18

FCDA Employee Wellness Wednesday



Awards

Jr. DA's Summer Youth Program Employee Awards

Special recognition from Madam DA presented to our Programs team and Volunteers for their outstanding service with the Jr. DA Summer Youth Program. Their hard work and dedication to our youth are greatly appreciated.

From Left to Right Top Row: Tiffany Horton, Jinnique Roberts, Kyren McGary-Crenshaw, Michael Cuffee

From Left to Right Bottom Row: Deonte Pollard, Krystal Lunsford, Epiffany Henry, Donald Moore



Awards

Congratulations

The National Bar Association Women Lawyers Division - Outstanding Public Service Award Winner

RuShondra Davenport | Chief Senior ADA | Gang Unit



The National Bar Association's Women Lawyers Division - Outstanding Public Service Award recognizes and honors women who work on behalf of the public and demonstrate outstanding public service and dedication through work and volunteering. A tireless volunteer, RuShondra has helped build homes for Habitat for Humanity; tutored for the Wolverine/Straker Bar Association Minority Bar Passage Program; collected and delivered items to children with incarcerated parents through Angel Tree; mentored for "The Just the Beginnings Foundation"; served as a member of the State Bar of Michigan District H Character and Fitness Committee; delivered meals through Meals on Wheels; and volunteered for Ronald McDonald House. Her other activities include serving as a board member for an inner-city Head Start; a committee member of the State Bar of Michigan Client Protection Fund and the Judicial Qualifications Committee; and participating in the Junior League. A go-to leader, RuShondra has organized Alpha Kappa Alpha Annual Law Days to provide people in the community with free legal advice. She also was a featured guest speaker for Jack and Jill and the University of Detroit Mercy Law School. She currently supervises a wonderful intern in the Fulton County District Attorney's Office.



ATTENTION PLEASE

Due to a rapid increase in COVID-19 cases locally and nationally, the Board of Commissioners has updated its policy on mask requirements to protect the health and safety of our employees and the public while visiting our facilities.

Effective Thursday, August 5, masks are required for all employees and visitors in Fulton County facilities, regardless of vaccination status.



Staff & Stories

Welcome to our New Hires



A warm welcome and lots of great wishes for becoming part of our growing family. Your remarkable skills and talents will be a great addition to our office.

As quoted by Helen Keller:

“Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.”



WE ARE HIRING

ONLY OPEN TO CURRENT EMPLOYEES

ASSISTANT CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATION

Duties will include, but not be limited to, Post Records (Training, etc.), GCIC, Vehicles, and Equipment.

You will have until **August 31, 2021**, to submit your resume and a letter of interest to Mrs. Kyra Banks.

Interviews for this position will begin in Mid-September.

Staff & Stories

2021 Summer PAC Conference

Madam DA and members of our team attend the 2021 Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia Summer Conference on Jekyll Island from July 18 - 21.



Madam DA Fani T. Willis with DA Dalia Racine (Douglas Judicial Circuit), DA Anita Reynolds Howard (Macon Judicial Circuit), DA Deborah Gonzalez (Western Judicial Circuit), and DA Darius Pattillo (Flint Judicial Circuit).

Staff & Stories

Jr. DA's (6th & 7th Grade) Meet with Atlanta Police Department

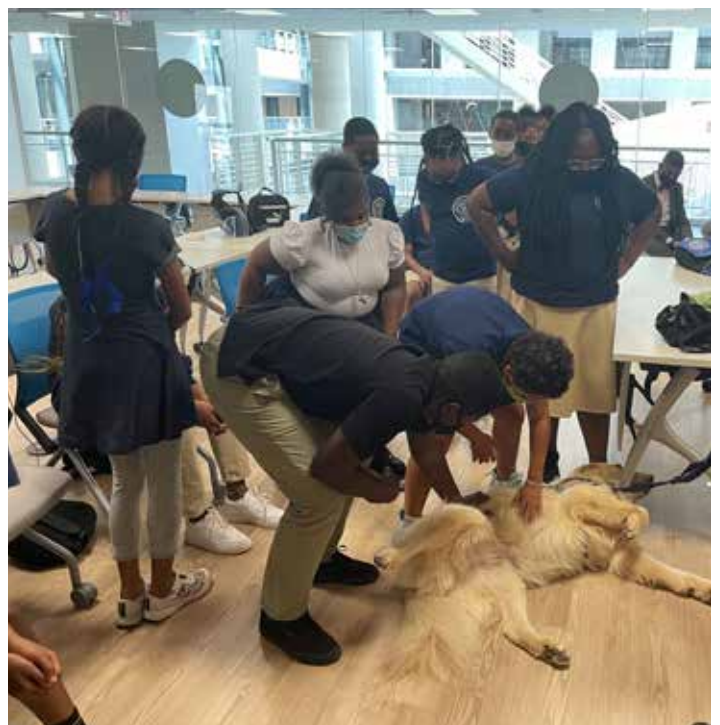
On Monday, July 26, 2021, Junior District Attorneys in the Summer Youth Program (6th/7th Graders) had the opportunity to spend the day at the Atlanta Police Department's Police Training Academy. There they had a chance to meet Major Fred Watson and his team of training officers. After an extensive morning informational session on the inner workings of the academy, our Junior DA's ate lunch and then prepared for hands-on simulation training. Participants took part in many simulations to include a traffic stop simulation, a shoot or don't shoot simulation, and had the opportunity to meet with the SWAT team to see and handle some of their equipment.



Staff & Stories

Jr. DA's (6th & 7th Grade) Therapy Dog "Cub" Meet & Greet

On Tuesday, July 27, 2021, our 6th & 7th grade Junior DA's got to meet with Cub, a service dog specially trained to provide emotional support as well as detect dangerously high and low blood sugar. As the courthouse begins to resume more open operations, Cub and his human, Ret. Maj Browning, will become a regular presence at the Fulton DA's office and courtrooms. He will assist victims and witnesses as they prepare for court and provide an outlet for staff who may need a smile and a wet nose. Cub received a lot of treats and belly rubs from our Junior DA's.



Staff & Stories

Jr. DA's (8th & 9th Grade) Meet & Greet with Fulton County Sherriff's Office

On Thursday, July 22, 2021, Junior District Attorneys in the Summer Youth Program had the opportunity to meet and talk with Fulton County Sheriff Patrick Labat's leadership team, as well as his deputies and special operations team. During the visit, Sheriff Labat's team answered many questions from our youth about their official duties, responsibilities, and social justice questions. Junior DA's also had the opportunity to meet the canine officer, and they also had the chance to see some of the equipment that the SWAT Team uses in the course of a call where they have to render tactical assistance.



Staff & Stories

Jr. DA's (8th & 9th Grade) meet with Judge Melynee Leftridge Harris

On Thursday, July 22, 2021, Junior DA's in the Summer Youth Program had the opportunity to meet with Fulton County Superior Court Judge Melynee Leftridge Harris and tour her chambers to see where the judge and her staff conduct the administrative business for her calendared court cases.



Staff & Stories

Jr. DA's (8th & 9th Grade) World of Coke Tour

On Friday, July 23, 2021, Junior DA's in the Summer Youth Program (8th/9th Graders) had the opportunity to visit Atlanta's infamous World of Coca-Cola.



Staff & Stories

Jr. DA's (8th & 9th Grade) Civil Rights Museum Tour

On Friday, July 23, 2021, Junior DA's in the Summer Youth Program (8th/9th Graders) had the opportunity to visit Atlanta's National Center for Civil and Human Rights.



Staff & Stories

Jr. DA's (8th & 9th Grade) Meet with Atlanta Police Department

On Wednesday, July 28, 2021, Junior DA's in the Summer Youth Program (8th/9th Graders) had the opportunity to spend the day at the Atlanta Police Department's Police Training Academy. There, our youth had a chance to meet the academy's training officers. After an extensive morning informational session on the inner workings of the academy, our Junior DA's had lunch and then had the opportunity to meet the officers from the Helicopter Unit, K9 Unit, and the SWAT Unit.



Staff & Stories

Jr. DA's Summer Youth Program Graduation Ceremony

On Friday, July 30, 2021, Madam District Attorney Fani T. Willis hosted her administration's first Junior District Attorney Summer Youth Program Graduation Ceremony. The event took place at the Fulton County Government Center in Assembly Hall. This graduation ceremony concluded three weeks of the Junior District Attorney Summer Youth Program. Madam DA, our Programs Division, and volunteers from our staff were honored to have had the opportunity to be a part of Fulton County youth's summer camp experience.



Staff & Stories

FCDA Summer Intern Program Recognition Ceremony

On Friday, July 30th, Madam District Attorney Fani T. Willis hosted her administration's College Intern Summer Recognition Program. The event took place at the Fulton County Government Center in Assembly Hall. This ceremony concluded the 2021 Summer College Internship Program. Madam District Attorney Fani T. Willis and the Programs team were honored to have had the opportunity to be a part of Fulton County and for the chance to host Summer College Interns from across the country.



Staff & Stories

FCDA Major Case Unit Ice Cream Celebration

Major Crimes Division Legal Assistants hosted their first Ice Cream Social on July 28th. They had more than enough ice cream and all of the fixings for all who attended. The purpose of this event was to create an opportunity for legal assistants to meet and interact with one another in a fun way. They look forward to hosting another one soon.



FCDA Wellness Wednesdays - Yoga

On July 28th, FCDA staff participated in our second Wellness Wednesday yoga session. Derived from the Sanskrit word “yuji,” meaning yoke or union, yoga is an ancient practice that brings together mind and body. It incorporates breathing exercises, meditation and poses designed to encourage relaxation and reduce stress.



Staff & Stories

Madam DA and FCDA Staff participate in the 4th Annual Back to School Bash sponsored by W.A.V.E.

Madam District Attorney Fani T. Willis and our staff participated in the 4th Annual Back to School Bash sponsored and organized by Jason Cade of the Non-Profit W.A.V.E. The event on Saturday, July 31st, brought together many organizations and area leaders that collected book bags and school supplies for youth in our community. Our office collected over 250 book bags for the event - as well as countless school supplies.



Staff & Stories

Madam DA and FCDA Staff participate in the 4th Annual Back to School Bash sponsored by W.A.V.E.



Staff & Stories

Mayor Bottoms Back to School Bash

In honor of her late nephew, Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms hosted a Back to School Bash on Saturday, July 31st. Madam DA and Chief Capers Green hand delivered 150 backpacks to the event that our staff had collected and filled with school supplies.



Madam DA with Councilwoman Andrea Boone



Madam DA with Det. David Quinn - ATL Homicide

Staff & Stories

GBI Crime Lab Tour

On July 28th, members of our team visited the GBI Crime Lab. The purpose of this tour was to acquaint the staff and interns with the crime lab and the services they offer. Our Case Intake Unit relies heavily on the lab for testing, especially DNA, and other investigative leads, so our office wanted to personally meet the staff that we have been corresponding with regarding our cases. Aimee Maxwell, LaTonya Gates, Trina Swanson-Lucas, FCDA summer interns, and other FCDA staff were in attendance.



Staff & Stories

Accountability Court Graduation

On July 30th, Madam DA and Deputy ADA Rewa Collier attended and gave remarks at the Combined Drug Court and Behavioral Health Treatment Court Graduation. Pictured to the left of Madam DA and Rewa are some dignitaries: Vice-Chair Commissioner Natalie Hall; Judge Emily K. Richardson (the event was hosted in her courtroom); Judge Robert C. I. McBurney. Madam DA said during her remarks congratulating the graduates that our accountability courts are a model for how we can save lives and make everyone in our community safer. The last thing we want to see is more people trapped in the criminal justice system, with time lost in prison and damaged futures. Thank you to Judge Robert C. I. McBurney, Judge Rachel R. Krause, Judge Emily K. Richardson, Judge Ural Glanville, and their staff for their time and dedication to this program.



White Collar Unit meets with Georgia Cyber Crime Task Force

On July 26th, the White Collar Crime Unit met with the FBI Atlanta Field Office cyber crime division as part of its work on the Georgia Cyber Fraud Task Force. The task force is made up of multiple federal, state, and local agencies working to stop business email compromise, money mules, and other cyber crimes.



The Fab Four Spotlight



Chandrika Derricho

Director of Victim Witness Assistance
Programs Division

As one of a few Georgia Peaches who still live in Georgia, Chandrika Derricho is a product of the DeKalb County School System, graduating from Lithonia High School. She received a Bachelor's of Science in Community Psychology with a minor in Speech from Georgia State University (GSU). She started her career as a temporary employee with what is now the Georgia Office of Victim Services before working as a Parole Officer with the State Board of Pardons and Parole. She also volunteered with the Partnership Against Domestic Violence in Atlanta. When she realized she was more of a social worker than a law enforcement officer (and not good at shooting), Chandrika obtained her Master's in Social Work along with a Certificate in Nonprofit Management at the University of Georgia. While in Athens, Georgia, Chandrika worked the overnight shift at Project Safe, Inc., the local domestic violence shelter.

Fascinated with research and program evaluation, Chandrika interned with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government for a year and worked at GSU for six years. At the Fiscal Research Center of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, she was a Quality Assurance Reviewer for the Kenny A. Consent decree, an agreement reached in federal court aimed at improving services for children in foster care in Fulton and DeKalb counties. At the Georgia Health Policy Center of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, she was a member of an evaluation team for Money Follows the Person, a Medicaid-funded program that helps transition older adults and those with physical disabilities and traumatic brain injuries out of institutions and into community-based living. At the Georgia Center of Excellence, she assisted with a statewide training initiative for employees working in behavioral-health facilities to help these employees recognize secondary traumatic stress and ensure they took advantage of self-care. After becoming a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in 2018, Chandrika was the clinical expert for the Georgia Health Policy Center's Medicaid team, leading a state project to obtain information from Medicaid participants about quality and access to healthcare. In June 2019, she became Director of Victim Witness Assistance in the Fulton County District Attorney's Office.

Chandrika loves Football - Georgia Dawgs and the Atlanta Falcons!! No disturbing her on Saturdays when the Dawgs play and on Sundays when the Falcons play. When the Falcons are home, her tailgating starts at 6 a.m. In her past life, she was an event planner and caterer. For the past eight years, she has hosted an annual cabin trip with her friends in the North Georgia Mountains, though she complains about how frustrated and tired she is with planning. Yet, she refuses help because she has to ensure everything is perfect! When her friends have events, she is tasked with cooking barbeque meatballs and pasta salad.

The Fab Four Spotlight



Kassie L. Hall

Assistant District Attorney
Complex - Trial Division

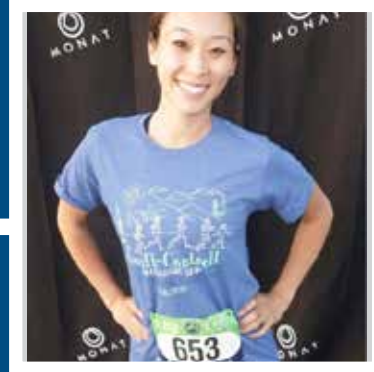
Kassie L. Hall has been an Assistant District Attorney since June 2017. She first joined the Fulton County District Attorney's Office in 2014 as intern before transitioning to being a fellow, a research analyst, and then a legal assistant. She is currently a line attorney in the Trial Division Unit.

Kassie's commitment to Fulton County runs deep. During her adolescence, she went to school in Fulton County, and she has lived in Fulton County since returning in 2015. Having the opportunity to serve in the community where she was raised, educated, and live is a full circle moment in her life. In high school, Kassie interned with the Atlanta Bar Association for 2 summers before moving to Gainesville, Florida, for college. She says that she graduated from the best school in the SEC: The University of Florida (Gooooo Gators!!). She did not want to leave out the fact that UF won 3 National Championships during her attendance there.

After graduation, Kassie worked with Nationwide Insurance Company and Shands Hospital before moving to Tuscaloosa, Alabama, for law school. Kassie graduated from The University of Alabama, School of Law in May 2015. During her 2L year, Kassie studied abroad in Australia for 5 weeks and The Cayman Islands for 3 weeks. During her last year of law school, Kassie worked as a student attorney with the Capital Defense Clinic, representing clients who were facing the death penalty. She earned both a Juris Doctor Degree and a Master of Laws Degree from Alabama (Rolllllll Tide).

There is nothing that Kassie enjoys more than traveling. Her mother was a traveler and since her mom's passing in 2019, she has made a commitment to continue seeing the world like she did with her mom. She is the only girl out of 4 siblings and she has a twin brother. For fun, she likes to dance and have a good time with family and friends. Recently, she decided to document her weight loss journey via social media and now she has more than 4,000 followers on YouTube (need tips: go to Kassie Mae Life_With_Kas).

The Fab Four Spotlight



Amanda Thrash

Assistant District Attorney
Non-Complex - Trial Division

Mandy Thrash attended undergraduate school at Kennesaw State University, earning her bachelor of science degree in political science. She later went on to earn her juris doctor from Emory University School of Law.

Mandy has spent some time as a guardian ad litem and a criminal defense attorney with the Cobb County Circuit Defender's Office. She also enjoyed spending some time with the Hall County Solicitor General's Office.

Mandy went back to Reynolds Law Group, where she previously conducted a fellowship while attending Emory Law School. Mandy currently enjoys her position as an Assistant District Attorney for Madam D.A., Fani Willis, at the Fulton County District Attorney's Office Non-Complex Unit.

In her spare time, Mandy enjoys yoga and running in 5k's for charity events in her community.

The Fab Four Spotlight



Kelly Greenberg
Social Services Coordinator
SB440 Unit

Kelly is from Baltimore, Maryland, where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Police Science and graduated Cum Laude from the University of Baltimore in 2010. After graduating, she followed her parents to South Florida and began her career in the criminal justice field at the Clerk of Courts, Criminal Division. After a few years, she was ready for a new challenge and became a Victim Witness Coordinator for the Felony Division at the State Attorney's Office while beginning her pursuit of a Master's Degree in Social Work at Catholic University. In 2014, a new professional opportunity presented itself, prompting Kelly to move to Killeen, Texas, where she was finally able to work in her dream field as a Reentry Case Manager at a maximum security prison. In this role, Kelly interviewed and assessed individuals who maxed out their sentences or were granted parole and provided them community resources and referrals to help facilitate a smoother transition back into the free world. In 2017, Kelly graduated Summa Cum Laude with her Master's Degree in Social Work and moved to Denver, Colorado, for a year to work as a Pretrial Case Manager. However, being so far from their family and friends, Kelly and her significant other decided to move back to the east coast and settled in Atlanta.

In 2020, Kelly joined the DA's Office and was transferred to the SB440 Unit as the Social Services Coordinator. Her main responsibility is to complete biopsychosocial assessments on the juveniles charged under the SB440 statute and provide a professional recommendation as to where the juvenile's case should be handled. Kelly also provides wrap-around community and referral services to individuals exonerated by the Conviction Integrity Unit. Kelly thoroughly enjoys her job and believes that this position is where real and true change is going to occur! Currently, Kelly is in the process of obtaining her clinical hours to become a Clinically Licensed Social Worker.

Kelly is a die-hard Baltimore Ravens fan who flies home with her family multiple times a year to go to the games to watch the Ravens destroy every opponent! (Especially the 49ers who her boyfriend absolutely loves!) She loves to travel to other countries to learn about other cultures and indulge in their cuisine. In her free time, she loves spending time with her family, boyfriend and their 2 kids (who happen to have 4 paws), Hawk and Harper, and her friends. In her down time, she loves to read autobiographies and binge on reality TV (preferably any Bravo Housewives show). She loves eating good food and enjoys the Atlanta nightlife while balancing her vices with working out, cycling and staying fit while enjoying nature!

Newsroom

Click story for more information

Fulton County DA still seeks hate crime charge, death in spa shootings



Robert Aaron Long moved to Fulton County jail; DA will seek death penalty



Spa shooter booked into Fulton County Jail; arraignment set for next month



Georgia Man Gets Life Sentence After Pleading Guilty To 4 Asian Spa Killings



REACTION: Civic leader calls spa shooter's plea deal 'a slap in the face' for Asian community



Atlanta-area spa shooter to serve 4 life sentences in Cherokee County slayings



Atlanta spa shooting suspect still faces charges in Fulton County after plea deal



In a courtroom near you

Domestic Violence

Rochel Facey

#20SC176856

Courtroom: Millender

8/5/21

9:00am

Motion: Final Plea

Malik Grant

#18SC163754

Courtroom: Millender

8/11/21

9:00am

Motion: Pre-Trial Conference

Marcell Ozuna

#21SC178432

Courtroom:

8/10/21

9:00am

Plea & Arraignment

Capital Case & Cold Case

Michael LeJeune

#Y19234

Courtroom: Leftridge

8/6/2021

9:30 am

Final Plea

Robert Aaron Long

#20SC176856

Courtroom: Glanville

8/23/2021

9:00 am

Plea and Arraignment

Trial - Complex

Jauvoric Griffin

#19SC166999

Courtroom: TBD

7/22/2021

9:30am

Final Plea

Appeals

James Burns

18SC161705 /S2110621

Courtroom: Georgia Supreme Court

8/24/2021

2:00pm

Oral Argument

Sex Crimes

John Brooks

#21SC178390

Courtroom: Krauss

8/10/21

9:00am

Arraignment



FANI T. WILLIS
District Attorney

DADISPATCH
The Fulton County District Attorney's Office