

DA DISPATCH *FANI T. WILLIS*, District Attorney



The Fulton County District Attorney's Office FCDA Kickball vs. Public Defender's Office

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Welcome to our new DA Dispatch Graphic Designer



MAHKAYLA GROGAN

Graphic Designer
Graphics Unit /
Operations Division

Mahkayla Grogan was born in Marietta but grew up about 400 miles northwest in Memphis, Tennessee, where she spent her elementary, middle and high school years. In 2017, she went to study animation for 4 ½ years at Middle Tennessee State University, where she became the first female black graphic designer for her college's student chapter of SIGGRAPH (Special Interest Group on Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques), which has chapters in multiple colleges. For 4 ½ years, she also worked for Planet Fitness as a customer service representative and then assistant manager. During that time, she spent her free time perfecting her craft in animation and getting into graphic design. She currently works for the Fulton County District Attorney's Office as a graphic designer/ animator.

 FULTONCOUNTYDA

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 OFFICE OF THE
FULTON COUNTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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Important Dates and Special Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
JULY 2022		5	6 DA Dispatch Release	7 Kickball vs. FC Sheriff	8	9 	
10	11	12 Interns Visit Georgia Supreme Court 	13 T-Shirts & Treats 	14 Kickball vs. FC Police	15 Fulton County PayDay \$\$	16	
Junior DA - Week #3					Graduation 		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
Junior DA - Week #4					Graduation 		
24	25 Monday Matinee Movie Day! 	26 Kickball FCDAO vs. Interns 	27 Intern Mock Trial Competition 		28	29 Fulton County PayDay \$\$ Intern Commencement Celebration 	30
31							

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
AUG 2022	1	2	3	4 DA Dispatch Release Kickball Playoff Game 	5	6
7	8	9 Kickball Playoff Game 	10	11 Kickball Championship Game 	12 Fulton County PayDay \$\$ Honoring Our Volunteers Event 	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 DA Dispatch Release	26 Fulton County PayDay \$\$	27
28	29 Monday Matinee Movie Day! 	30	31	1	2	3



BACKPACK GIVE-AWAY

OFFICE COMPETITION

4 x 4 x 4

TEAMS

CITIES

(Fulton County)

PARKS

We (FCDA family) will provide **BOOK BAGS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES** to children in elementary, middle and high schools in Union City, South Fulton, Atlanta, and Sandy Springs.*

Madam DA has divided the divisions into four teams.

Let the **BEST DIVISION WIN!!**

Team 1
 9:00am - 11:00am
UNION CITY
 Ronald Bridges Park
 5285 Lake Drive, Union City
 Case Intake Division,
 Records, Diversion & Records
 Restriction Division, and
 Operations Division (HR, IT & Graphics)

Team 2
 11:30am - 1:30pm
SOUTH FULTON
 Welcome All Park
 4255 Will Lee Rd, South Fulton
 Trial Division and
 Investigations Division
 (Evidence Unit, Technology Unit,
 Administration Unit, Dignitary, and Jail Calls)

Team 3
 2:00pm - 4:00pm
ATLANTA
 West Side Park
 1660 Johnson Road NW, Atlanta
 Special Victims Division
 Anti-Corruption Unit and
 Civil Rights Unit

Team 4
 4:30pm - 6:30pm
SANDY SPRINGS
 Pavilion at Morgan Falls
 450 Morgan Falls Place, Sandy Springs
 Major Crimes Division
 and Programs Division

BACKPACK GIVE-AWAY

OFFICE COMPETITION

Let the BEST DIVISION WIN!!

5 items from the below lists will

Complete (1) Bookbag

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Backpack
#2 Pencils
Eraser
Pencil Box or Pencil Pouch
Pencil Sharpener
Pens
Colored Pencils
Highlighters
12 inch Ruler
5 inch Blunt Tip or Point Tip Scissors
Gluestick
4 oz. Glue
Wide Ruled 1 Subject Notebook
Composition Notebook
Loose Leaf Filler Paper Wide Rule
Folders
3 Ring Binder or Zipper Binder
Crayons
Markers
Ruled Index Cards
Tissues
Antibacterial Hand Sanitizer

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Backpack
#2 Pencils
Eraser
Pencil Sharpener
Pens
Highlighters
Markers
12 inch Ruler
Tape
Scissors
USB Flash Drive
Ruled Index Cards
Folders
One Subject Spiral Notebooks
Composition Notebook
Loose Leaf Filler Paper Wide Rule
3 Ring Binder or Zipper Binder
3 Ring Binder Hole Punch
Antibacterial Hand Sanitizer

HIGH SCHOOL

Backpack
#2 Pencils
Colored Pencils
Pencil Sharpener
Pens: Red, Blue, Black
Highlighters
Markers
12 inch Ruler
Dictionary
Pocket Folders
Single-Subject Spiral Notebooks
Sticky Notes
Sticky Flags
College Ruled Loose Leaf 3 Hole Paper
Tabbed Dividers
Wire Bound Weekly Planner
3-Ring Binder
USB Flash Drives
Antibacterial Hand Sanitizer

July 8th | 6pm

Official Collection Day for each Division

** Volunteers needed to count and stuff bags. Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Angela Johnson at Volunteer.Coordinator@fultoncountyga.gov to sign-up!*



Welcome **New Hires**



AMBER QUALLS
Assistant District Attorney
Case Intake Division



MICHELLE ANDREWS
Assistant District Attorney
Case Intake Division



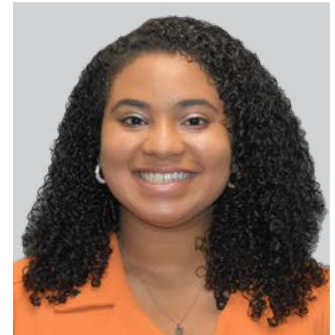
LYNETTE GILBERT
Legal Assistant
Trial Division



SALMAN KHAN
Investigator
Complex Unit
Trial Division



JOSEPH KING
Senior Investigator
Major Case Unit
Major Crimes Division



ANALLA REID
Admin Specialist
Record Restriction

Swearing-In with Judge Paige Whitaker

On June 29th, 2022, newly hired Assistant District Attorneys, Investigators, and 3rd-year law students were sworn in by Fulton County Superior Court Judge Paige Whitaker.



Madam DA's School of Integrity

Victim Witness Advocate Master Class Graduation

June 24, 2022



Presenter, Back Row: Deputy District Attorney Natalie Zellner

Presenter, Back Row: Director of Victim Witness Advocates Chandrika Derricho

Graduates, Back Row: VWA Misty Botu, VWA Rosa James, VWA LaTeeka Montgomery, VWA Nelida Ferreira

Graduates, Front Row: VWA Meesun Hong-Thongkoth, VWA Azaria Graham, VWA Dericka Mitchell, VWA Tameka Kelley, VWA Caitlin Bradley



Presenter (Center): Director of Victim Witness Advocates Chandrika Derricho
Super Star Recipients (Left and Right): VWA LaTeeka Montgomery, VWA Misty Botu



Deputy District Attorney Julianna Peterson - S.A.K.I.

Leadership Meeting

Madam District Attorney convened the Fulton County District Attorney's office's sixth leadership summit of the new administration on June 22nd at the Fulton County Central Library. In attendance were more than 80 leaders in the office, including attorneys, investigators, legal assistants, victim-witness advocates, and operations staff, to learn about effective management techniques and how to use the combined expertise of the team and the resources of the office to better serve the people of Fulton County and make every community safer.

Presenters included Tim Cunningham of Emory Healthcare, a registered nurse with experience worldwide, working with people facing severe challenges, including Ebola victims in Africa and refugees in Bangladesh. Mr. Cunningham spoke about how compassion and understanding are critical to team building and serving the public. Mike Makins spoke about services offered by the Graphics Unit, and Dexter Bond and the Operations Division spoke about issues regarding personnel management policy.



Madam DA presents Certificates of Promotion to the following leaders(left to right):

Gautam Rao, Deputy DA – Training, **Christopher Sperry**, Deputy DA – Gangs, **Deonte Pollard**, Pre-Indictment Diversion Manager, **Kevin Armstrong**, Deputy DA – Appeals, **Tammy McClendon**, Chief Legal Assistant – Training, **Tom Wight**, Deputy DA – Non-Complex, **Akeem Woodard**, Director of Juvenile Services, **Brad Malkin**, Chief Senior ADA – Complex

Monday Movie Matinee

June 27, 2022



Full Force Fulton

Law Enforcement & Elected Officials Collaboration Summit

June 15, 2022

At her second-annual leadership summit on Wednesday, June 15th, 2022, District Attorney Fani T. Willis said the three biggest crime problems in Atlanta right now are gangs, human trafficking, and juvenile offenders.

"I'm taking a two-tiered approach," DA Willis said. "One is we're going real hard against gangs. We're making sure that people who commit crimes in the furtherance of a gang are held accountable. But on the other end of the spectrum, we're trying to make sure that we do juvenile programming and diversion programs so we can keep people out of this lifestyle that literally destroys them and their families."



The North Metro

Community Relations Meeting



Lisa Holland pictured with Community Relations officers from Roswell, Sandy Springs, Clarkston, Emory, Chamblee, and Brookhaven.

On June 30, 2022, Lisa Holland from the Programs Division attended a meeting with community-relations officers from various metro Atlanta police agencies. This is a unified body of law enforcement partners who work together to prevent crime and make connections within their communities. Their purpose is to share resources, such as available grants and possible business partnerships, as well as input on the success of community outreach programs.

The North Metro Community Relations Meeting was started in the early 1990's by the Sandy Springs Police Department. Originally, there were six members, but that number grew to more than 80 participants when Lisa, who was then a community relations officer at the Roswell Police Department, took over after the founding officer retired. The group remains in existence and has welcomed the partnership with the Fulton County District Attorney's Office in attending quarterly meetings.

Atlanta Police Foundation \$1K Donation

to the Back-to-School Drive



FCDA Summer Interns



JENNA CULHAN

Case Intake Division

My name is Jenna Culhan. I am originally from Boca Raton, Florida. I attended Liberty University for undergrad where I played on the women's volleyball team. I graduated with my bachelor's of science in Government: Politics and Policy, with a minor in Business. I currently attend Thomas Goode Jones School of Law at Faulkner University, where I am a member of the Women's Legal Society, Black Law Students Association, and the Law Students For the Second Amendment club. I have enjoyed my first year of law school and the learning environment that Faulkner has provided. I enjoy hanging out with friends and family and working out during my free time. When I am back in Florida, I enjoy going out on the boat to go fishing or snorkeling. I look forward to spending my summer at the District Attorney's office and the learning opportunity that it will provide for me.



SALEM DESIR

Case Intake Division

My name is Salem Desir and I am originally from Queens, New York. I am first generation American because both of my parents from Haiti. I am the first in my family to receive a high school diploma and a college degree. I graduated from Clayton State University in 2015 and currently attend Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. I will be going into my second year of law school starting this fall. Outside of school, I spend a few hours a week volunteering at a food pantry in Stockbridge, Georgia.



CAROLINE MOSLEY

Case Intake Division

Hi - my name is Caroline Mosley and I am a rising 2L at the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law. I was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky, and I am now home for law school. At Brandeis, I am a part of the Women's Law Caucus and I am a student representative for Barbri. The Criminal and Civil Litigation fields interest me the most. For undergrad, I attended the University of South Carolina, where I double majored in Political Science and History. Go cocks! I love to travel and I see myself moving out of my home town again after law school. I am very excited to be a part of the District Attorney's Office for the summer!



JUSTIN THORNTON

Case Intake Division

I am an Atlanta native. I graduated from Tucker High School in 2019. Afterwards, I attended Georgia Southern University, where I was named the #1 student in Justice Studies. I wrote a published research thesis detailing the effects of Terry v. Ohio on minority groups in America. I graduated two years early at the top of my class, Summa Cum Laude, and received a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice and criminology. I attend the University of Georgia School of Law, where I am the youngest student, I am a member of the black law students association, and I sit as a justice on the Honor Court hearing panel, which hears all honor code constitution violations. In my spare time, I enjoy playing tennis and mentoring youth.

FCDA Summer Interns



KAMEREN SAULSBERRY

Case Intake Division

Kameran Saulsberry is a rising third-year law student at Mississippi College School of Law. Originally from Lithonia, Georgia, she plans to take the Georgia Bar Exam next summer. She graduated from Georgia State University with a B.A. in Political Science and a double minor in Philosophy and German. She served on the executive board of her local chapter Black Law Student Association for two years, and she currently serves as the Southern Regional Director of the Constance Baker Motley Mock Trial Competition. She was first runner up in MC Law's 2021 Opening Statement Competition. Currently, she works with the "Black Millennials for Flint" to fight lead contamination in the Jackson city water system. She has always had a passion for helping others, and as an attorney, she will aim to make a difference in the lives of disenfranchised minorities.



STEFAN PRUESSMANN

Case Intake Division

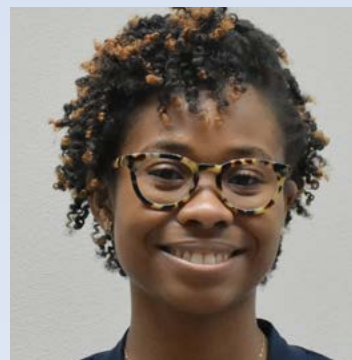
I'm Stefan Pruessmann, and I'm from Richmond, Virginia. I'm a rising 2L at Vanderbilt Law School in Nashville, Tennessee. I graduated from William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, in May 2021 with a B.A. in history and government. At Vanderbilt, I'm a member of Phi Delta Phi, the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association (APALSA), Jurists on the Go (J.O.G.), and Opening Statement. In my free time, I like to hike and ride my bike.



MITCHELL REEVES

Crimes Against Children Unit
Special Victims Division

My name is Mitch Reeves and I am a rising 2L at the Georgia State University College of Law. Prior to attending GSU, I obtained a BS in Finance from Auburn University in 2016. Between my undergraduate and law studies, I primarily worked in the finance department of Oxford Industries, where I rose to the managerial position of Associate Credit Manager. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my friends and family, exercising, and taking hikes with my dog.



RONIYAH DOUGLAS

Case Intake Division

Hello! My name is Roniyah Douglas, and I am a rising third-year student at the Georgia State University College of Law. I previously attended the University of Florida (Go Gators!), where I majored in political science and minored in English. In my free time, I enjoy working on art projects and listening to podcasts.



MHAKAI KING

Case Intake Division

Hi, my name is Mhakai King. I am from Atlanta. I graduated with a B.B.A in Business Economics from Georgia State University in 2020. I am a rising 2L at Emory University School of Law. For leisure, I enjoy working out and playing chess. Also, I enjoy sneaker collecting.

FCDA Summer Interns



RYAN SCIROCCO

Case Intake Division

Hello! My name is Ryan Scirocco. I grew up in Atlanta, where I went to St. Pius X Catholic High School. I went on to attend Wake Forest University, where I earned my undergraduate degree in Politics and International Affairs. I am currently a rising 3L at GSU College of Law, where I was on the mock trial team this past year. After representing GSU in the William Daniel Mock Trial competition, where I had the opportunity to try a case as a prosecutor, I realized that I wanted to pursue a career in prosecution. When I'm not working toward that, I like to play the guitar, spend time with my dog, and play tennis. I also consider myself a casual Atlanta sports fan, though the way I yell at the TV suggests otherwise. I am looking forward to learning everything that I can from this experience and cannot wait to meet everyone.



KIANA TAYLOR

Capital & Cold Case Unit
Major Crimes Division

I am Kiana Taylor, a recent graduate of Hampton University in Virginia. In the fall, I will attend Emory University School of Law in pursuit of my Juris Doctorate. I have hopes of practicing sports and entertainment law, specifically to represent and advocate for minority professional athletes. In my free time, I like to read, spend quality time with friends and family, and volunteer in my local community. Throughout this internship, I hope to learn valuable skills that will aid me in my future legal endeavors.



IVAN SYRITSYN

Case Intake Division

My name is Ivan Syritsyn. I am currently a rising second-year student at Georgia State College of Law. I graduated from St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland, in 2019. My hobbies include reading, chess, hiking, and cooking. I am currently serving a two-year term on the Honor Court for the College of Law. I hope to have an informative and productive summer working together with everyone.



JORDAN RIULLANO

Case Intake Division

My name is Jordan Riullano (pronounced Rio-lawn-o), and I am a 2L at Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. I am from the Bronx, New York, and I graduated from the University at Albany in New York with a major in English and minor in Business Administration. As a seasoned college athlete who played at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), I have common hobbies/extra curriculum activities that comprise working out, playing basketball, eating and watching movies/tv shows when I'm not playing video games. I am also a huge sneaker person who loves to travel when I'm not stressing about finals.

FCDA Summer Interns



KORNICHA JOHNSON

Gangs Unit
Major Crimes Division

Kornicha Johnson, a native of Sallis, Mississippi, is a rising third-year law student at Southern University Law Center. Her academic tenure has included obtaining a Master's of Science and Bachelor's of Science in Criminal Justice. At Southern, Ms. Johnson is a second-year Board Member for the Southwest Black Law Student Association (SWBLSA). She currently serves as the 2022-2023 Programming Director. Ms. Johnson previously held the position of Community Service Director (2021-2022). In addition to serving SWBLSA, Ms. Johnson is a Board Member for the Southern University Law Center's Moot Court Board, Trial Advocacy Board, and Board for Student Advisors' Teacher Assistants. Ms. Johnson's involvement does not end there, however. She is a proud Lexis Nexis Representative and a Marshall-Brennan Fellow. Ms. Johnson enjoys dividing her time equipping high-school students with oral advocacy skills through a concentration of Constitutional Law and being a resource for her law-school peers. During her spare time, Ms. Johnson loves to indulge in self-care, engage in content-creating, and spend quality time with friends/family. This summer, Ms. Johnson looks forward to being immersed in the restorative justice efforts while building relationships within the office.



CORA DONG

Appeals Unit
Major Crimes Division

Hi everyone! My name is Cora, and I am excited about the internship at the Fulton County District Attorney's Office. I'm a rising 2L and a member of the Women's Law Society at William & Mary Law School. Before attending William & Mary, I attained a Bachelor of Law degree in a civil law system, an LLM degree from Washington University in Saint Louis, and passed the New York bar. I lived in Georgia for several years and volunteered at the Atlanta Legal Aid Society before I went to William & Mary. Although I've not been on the typical law school route, I plan to practice litigation or transaction law in Georgia. I enjoy hiking with my 1-year-old golden retriever, George, and baking, particularly Japanese-style cheesecakes. My favorite restaurant in Atlanta is The Optimist in Midtown. In my spare time, I like watching TV series such as Sherlock, Killing Eve, and The Good Doctor .



KANDYCE COLLINS

Case Intake Division

Kandyce Collins is a graduate of the illustrious Spelman College located in Atlanta, where she earned a Bachelor's in Political Science with a focus in Pre-Law studies. Committed to a love for the law, she attended Clayton State University, where she received a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice after defending an original thesis discussing, in part, the shortages of marriageable African American men at the hands of mass incarceration. When she isn't wearing her "student" hat, Kandyce spend time mothering her 13-month-old son, Kason, and 4-year-old fur baby, Nori. Kandyce is a 2L at Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she expects to graduate in Fall of 2023. Following graduation, she plans to practice in the greater Metro Atlanta area working to build pathways of access and opportunity for individuals from marginalized communities. Kandyce also plans to serve as an advocate and voice of change for local neighborhoods.

FCDA Summer Interns



JAMEIA BOOKER

Domestic Violence Unit, Special Victims Division

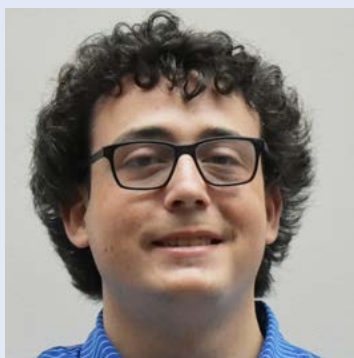
I am Jameia Booker, a 25-year-old native of Atlanta. This fall, I will be starting law school at Georgia State University College of Law. I desire to obtain a Juris Doctorate to advocate for my community. I am a 2019 graduate of the illustrious Johnson C. Smith University, where I served on the Executive Boards of several campus organizations, such as the Student Government Association ('17-'18 Vice President | '18-'19 President); Criminal Justice Association (President); 2015-2018 Sophomore Class Council (President); Gamma Lambda Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. ('17-'18 Recording Secretary); Golden Bulls Activities Committee ('16-'17 Cultural Awareness Committee Chair); Pre-Law Society ('16-'17 Secretary); Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society ('16-'17 Senator); Alpha Phi Sigma National Criminal Justice Honor Society; and National Council of Negro Women Inc. Among Jameia's many awards and achievements, she cherishes most her being featured in the 2017 edition of Who's Who of Black Charlotte Magazine; her being the recipient of the Wachovia Academic Scholarship; recipient of the Student Support Services Scholarship, her being the recipient of the Academic Achievement Scholarship; and her being the recipient of the 2017-2018 Dean of Students Award. Among her many accomplishments, Jameia was an intern for the 2018 Congressional Bipartisan Historically Black Colleges & Universities program, during which she had the pleasure of working with and meeting great political figures in Washington, D.C., such as Congresswoman Alma Adams and U.S. Representative John Lewis, just to name a few. Upon returning home, she has spent the last three years working at personal injury law firms in the metro Atlanta area. Outside of her professional career, she has served the local Atlanta community by volunteering with several organizations. She also started a not-for-profit organization, Transformed By Jay, LLC, which is dedicated to assisting high school seniors with college applications and first-generation college graduates with the law school admissions test journey. She loves dancing, sports, traveling, nature, working out, listening to music, and having fun.



DANIELLE HERCULES

Case Intake Division

My name is Danielle Hercules and I am in my second year at Florida State University College of Law. I am a double Nole. I graduated in the Summer of 2020 from FSU with a bachelor's in psychology and a minor in hospitality. Before that, I was pursuing a degree in interior design because one of my favorite things to do is paint and art. I run a small side business through Etsy, where I sell stickers and custom cups and things like that, and spend the rest of my free time painting and working on graphic design. I also really love to cook, and watch shows about cooking. I look forward to meeting you all and learning more this summer.



MAX FRIEDMAN

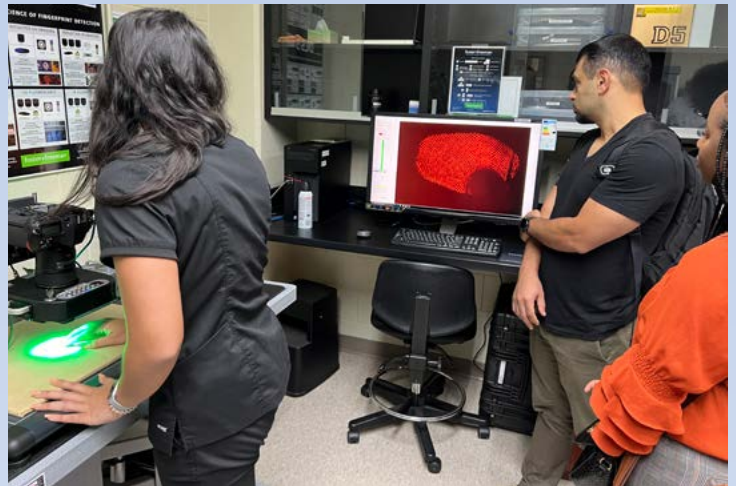
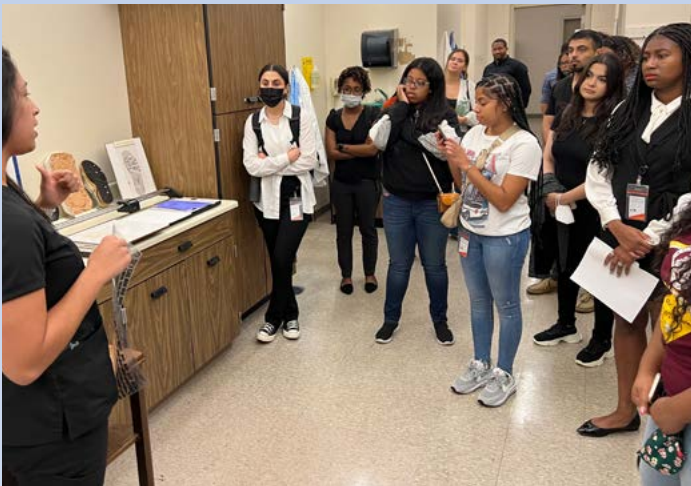
Case Intake Division

My name is Max Friedman, and I am a rising 2L at Emory University. I studied political science as an undergrad at Emory and enjoyed being involved in mock trial. I am looking forward to moot court at Emory Law! Outside of school, I like to spend time with my friends and family by playing board games or SCUBA diving. You'll often find me in and around Decatur, or back home in Sandy Springs.

Law School

FCDA Summer Interns Field Trips

Undergrad & law school interns tour the GBI Crime Lab on June 17th, 2022.



MCD Legal Assistants Learning Day 2022

On July 1, 2022, Major Crimes Division's legal assistants held their second annual Learning Day, a lunch-and-learn training focused on courtroom etiquette. A carnival theme and games were added for team-building fun. Chief Deputy DA Pat Dutcher and Chief Senior ADA Nailah McFarlane discussed the importance of team communication, particularly with attorneys during trial, acceptable and unacceptable behaviors in the courtroom, creating a trial toolkit, and more. Legal assistants had so much fun that another is planned for expansion next year.





June 30, 2022

KICKBALL

FCDA vs.
Public Defender's Office



June 30, 2022

KICKBALL

FCDA vs.
Public Defender's Office



WEEK 2

June 13-17, 2022

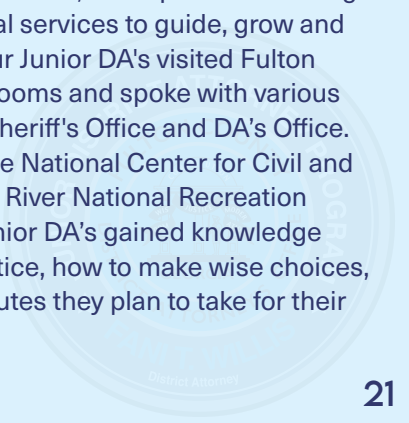
Junior DA

Summer Youth Program





At the Fulton County District Attorney's Office, we provide a strategic program of educational and recreational services to guide, grow and capture our youth in today's society. Our Junior DA's visited Fulton County Superior and Magistrate courtrooms and spoke with various employees around the Fulton County Sheriff's Office and DA's Office. They also visited Tyler Perry Studios, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, and the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area. During this range of visits, our Junior DA's gained knowledge regarding our court systems, social justice, how to make wise choices, mindfulness, and not to mention the routes they plan to take for their future endeavors.



Giving Back to Our Community

Lunch & Learn Event for Seniors in South Fulton

with Commissioner Khadjiah Abdur-Rahman

On Friday, June 24, 2022, the Fulton County District Attorney's Office, in partnership with Fulton County Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, sponsored a free lunch-and-learn event to educate seniors about the risks of elder abuse and to provide suggestions about protecting themselves from these risks.



LGBTQ+ Crime Victims Vigil

at the Central Library

June 28, 2022

On June 28, 2022, District Attorney Fani T. Willis and her LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee hosted the second annual LGBTQ+ Crime Victims Vigil to reflect on the countless number of LGBTQ+ lives lost in the fight for respect and equality, including 74 transgender and gender non-confirming people killed nationwide by violent means since January 1, 2021. These victims were primarily Black and Latinx transgender women, and it is well known that crime statistics surrounding LGBTQ+ people are historically unreported or underreported.

The vigil featured remarks from DA Fani T. Willis, APD Interim Police Chief Darin Schierbaum, Deputy DA Will Wooten, Director of Victim Witness Advocates Chandrika Derricho, LGBTQ+ Hate Crimes Victim Witness Advocate Caitlin Bradley, and Aparna Bhattacharyya, who spoke on the importance of intersectionality between the LGBTQ+ Community and the Immigrant Community. The event was attended by many community partners and law enforcement officers who renewed their commitment to uplifting, respecting, and protecting the LGBTQ+ Community in Fulton County.



CONVICTION ALERTS



ADA Roncheros Fortune



Inv. Julisha Lansiquot



Inv. Joseph Rickman



VWA Tameka Kelly



LA Leah Dean



DAVID HOLMES

Senior Assistant District Attorney
Major Case Unit
Major Crimes Division

Good morning,

Congratulations to David Holmes, Roncheros Fortune, Investigators Julisha Lansiquot and Joseph Rickman, Advocate Tameka Kelly, and Legal Assistant Leah Dean on their guilty verdict before Judge Richardson in **State v. Amari Malone**.

Thank you all for the outstanding work in honor of Mr. Joshua Boyd, his family, and our office. It was a true team effort and each one of you played a very important role in the process to successfully achieve closure for these families. We are very proud of the work, determination, and joint effort by all!

Great example of hard work paying off! 1-2-3 MCD!

Adam Abbate

Deputy District Attorney

Major Crimes Unit, Major Crimes Division



ADA Travis Thomas



Inv. Dajuan Walker



VWA Nicole Santos



LA Alicia Scurry



ASIA BAYSAH

Senior Assistant District Attorney
Domestic Violence Unit
Special Victims Division

Good evening!

I would like to say CONGRATULATIONS to Sr. ADA Asia Baysah, ADA Travis Thomas, Inv. Dajuan Walker, Victim Advocate Nicole Santos, Legal Assistant Alicia Scurry for their win in **State v Jamal Evans** who was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter. Because of this team a mother, father, brother and sister received justice today!

Thank you!

DDA Simone Hylton
Major Crimes Unit
Major Crimes Division



2023 FCDA T-shirt DESIGN COMPETITION

ARE YOU CREATIVE?

Join the 2023 FCDA T-shirt design competition!
We need your help to create our 2023 FCDA staff T-shirts.

Create a design for each of the 12 divisions.
Please refer to the inaugural 2021 T-shirts shown above.

DEADLINE: TBA

PRIZE: TBA

Winner takes all!!!

Fulton County District Attorney's

SHINING *stars*



**DEXTER
BOND**

Deputy of Operations



**AVANEL
TRACEY-GOFF**

Purchasing Manager



**EBONY
DAVIS**

Executive Assistant



**MICHAEL
MAKINS**

Director of Graphics



**TASHEKKA
FLEMMING**

Director of
Information Technology

Good morning all:

I wanted to give a huge out to the following members of the Operations Team for a job well done at the Leadership Meeting last week. Each of your presentations were informative. Thank you for your efforts. Thank you for the support you give to make this office better.

Madam DA Willis

Morehouse College Swearing-In

with Police Chief Charles Prescott

On June 21st, 2022, Madam DA Fani T. Willis had the esteemed privilege of swearing in former Fulton County District Attorney's Office Chief Investigator Charles Prescott into his newly appointed role as the Chief of Police at Morehouse College.





Elna Reese

Assistant District Attorney
Case Intake Division

Born and raised in Montgomery, Alabama, Elna received her undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama, her law degree from Cumberland School of Law and her LLM or Master of Laws in Taxation from Emory School of Law.

She comes from a family of attorneys. Her great-grandfather, grandfather, father and brother were all attorneys. Prior to moving to Georgia in 2002, she was in private practice and had her own firm in Montgomery for many years. Since moving to Georgia and prior to starting here, she was in private practice and has been a public defender.

She is an avid vegetable gardener (tomatoes being her favorite) and lifelong Alabama football fan. Additional hobbies include cooking and several sports including tennis, pickleball, and golf. During the summer, her favorite place to be on the weekends is Lake Martin in Alabama.





Jana Dixon

Assistant District Attorney - Case Intake Division

Jana is a native of Conyers, Georgia. She graduated from Heritage High School in 2010 with an academic and athletic scholarship to Erskine College in Due West, South Carolina. She graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a minor in Business in May of 2014.

Jana then returned to Georgia, where she diligently studied for the LSAT and got accepted into Florida Coastal School of Law in the Fall of 2015. While in law school, Jana participated in Mock Trial, Moot Court, and served as Academic Chair of the Black Law Student Association. As a member of Moot Court, Jana participated in the 2017 E. Earle Zehmer National Moot Court Competition. She and her team members won the final round and became National Champions.

In addition, Jana gained invaluable experience as an intern for the 4th Judicial Circuit Public Defender's Office, in Jacksonville, Florida, and the Law Office of the Public Defender for DeKalb County in Decatur, Georgia. Jana also shadowed the Honorable Phyllis Williams of the DeKalb County Magistrate Court, where she observed several dispossessory, preliminary and temporary protective order hearings.

Prior to joining the Fulton County District Attorney's Office, Jana served as a criminal defense attorney at Lister Holt & Dennis in McDonough, Georgia, and the Whitfield County Public Defender's Office in Dalton, Georgia. While in Dalton, she volunteered as an attorney coach for the Coahulla Creek High School Mock Trial team.

Jana's passion for criminal law stems from her innate desire to serve the public, to advocate for justice through action, and to make a difference no matter how small.

Currently, Jana is a member of Georgia Bar and the Rockdale County NAACP. In her free time, Jana enjoys binge watching her favorite law show, Law & Order SVU, writing poetry, performing spoken word, singing, and dancing. She also enjoys mentoring young aspiring lawyers, spending time with family and friends, eating, online shopping, and going to church.





Marcus Gerald

Senior Investigator

Major Case Unit, Major Crimes Division

Marcus Gerald is a Senior Investigator with the Fulton County District Attorney's Office. He's a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Originally from Atlantic City, New Jersey, he moved to Atlanta in 2013 after completing his bachelor's degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University. He enjoys spending time with his rambunctious kids and going to the gym. A member of the United States Navy Reserve (deploying soon), he has been in the military reserves for four years. He's also been in law enforcement for 10 years, mostly in neighboring Clayton County, where he was a K9 handler and a supervisor over the criminal investigation unit. He also recently completed a Master's degree in Public Administration.



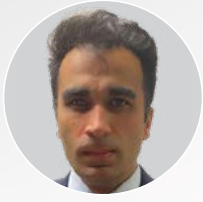


Bernice Higgins

Assistant Chief Investigator - Trial Division

Bernice Higgins was born and raised in Chicago. Although she loves Atlanta, she often travels home because home is where the heart is. She's been in law enforcement for 11 years - something she's passionate about. Outside of law enforcement, she loves to travel. So far, her favorite trip has been a solo journey to Barcelona, where the culture and architecture was amazing. Her bucket list trip is Bali. She's interested in the greenery and the infamous Alas Harum Swing. She loves music and has been playing the flute and French horn since the 6th grade. The love of music led her to join a sorority, Tau Beta Sigma National Honorary Band Sorority, Inc. at Clark Atlanta University. Through the sorority, she participates in several band-focused community service events as well as support collegiate and high school level battle of the bands throughout the state. After a long day serving the citizens of Fulton County, she enjoys being home catching up on documentaries and cooking.





CaseLaw

By: Senior District Attorney
Gautam Rao

EXPERT WITNESSES: CHANGING FROM THE HARPER STANDARD TO THE DAUBERT STANDARD

As of July 1, Georgia no longer employs the Harper Standard in criminal cases under O.C.G.A. § 24-7-707 for admitting scientific evidence at trials. Under the former standard, the test for admissibility of scientific test evidence in criminal cases is whether the procedure or technique has reached a **scientific stage of verifiable certainty**.

Harper v. State, 249 Ga. 519, 292 S.E.2d 389 (1982).

As it relates to criminal cases, O.C.G.A. § 24-7-702 will govern qualifying an expert witness. Subsection (B) indicates that a witness can be qualified as an expert by “knowledge, skill, experience, or education” and will be allowed to testify if the following criteria are met:

1. The expert’s scientific, technical, or other specialized knowledge will help the trier of fact to understand the evidence or to determine a fact in issue;
2. The testimony is based upon sufficient facts or data;
3. The testimony is the product of reliable principles and methods; and
4. The expert has reliably applied the principles and methods to the facts of the case

Under Rule 702, a judge must determine prior to trial whether the reasoning or methodology has been scientifically validated to support an expert witness’ testimony about the issue.

As this change happens, the Fulton County District Attorney’s Office is working on guidance for attorneys for introducing scientific and non-scientific evidence and for qualifying witnesses as experts in relevant fields.

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FANI T. WILLIS
District Attorney

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