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FEBRUARY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			WINE DOWN WEDNESDAY	2	CHAMPIONSHIP	4
5	6	7	8	9	PAYDAY VENT	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 COUNTY HOLIDAY	21	22	23 DA DISPATCH	24	25
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MARCH 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			WINE DOWN WEDNESDAY	LEADERSHIP	LEADERSHIP	LEADERSHIP
5 LEADERSHIP	6	7	8	9	10 PAYDAY	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 PAYDAY	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

BUCKHEAD COALITION PUBLIC SAFETY FORUM









APD Chief Schierbaum and Madam District Attorney hosted a public safety panel and discussion for the Buckhead Coalition.

Our very own Madam DA and Deputy DA Dexter Bond were invited to our nation's capital for a Black History Month celebration on February 28th hosted by Vice President Kamala Harris and Second Gentleman Douglas Emhoff. VP Harris and Mr. Emhoff honored Black leaders who are forging paths and making history across the country and within their respective communities.

During Madam District Attorney and Mr. Bond's time in the DMV area, they met with Baltimore City State's Attorney Ivan J. Bates to see how Baltimore has been successful in combating crime, increasing community engagement, discussing victim witness services, and much more.



BOOKS AND BADGES





Investigator Gregory Campbell reading to Elementary School students.

Elementary school students with Investigator Joseph Rickman.

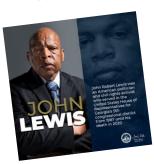
BLACKHISTORYMONTH

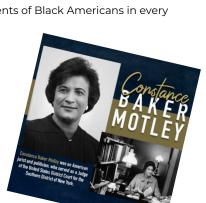
Every February, the U.S. honors the contributions and sacrifices of African Americans who have helped shape the nation. Black History Month celebrates the rich cultural heritage, triumphs and adversities that are an indelible part of our country's history. "There is no American history without African American history," said Sara Clarke Kaplan, executive director of the Antiracist Research & Policy Center at American University in Washington, D.C. The Black experience, she said, is embedded in "everything we think of as 'American history."

It was Carter G. Woodson, the "father of Black history," who first set out in 1926 to designate a time to promote and educate people about Black history and culture. Woodson envisioned a weeklong celebration to encourage the coordinated teaching of Black history in public schools. He designated the second week

of February as Negro History Week and galvanized fellow historians through the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, which he founded in 1915. Woodson's goal from the very beginning was to make the celebration of Black history in the field of history a serious area of study. The idea eventually grew in acceptance, and by the late 1960s, Negro History Week had evolved into what is now known as Black History Month. Protests around racial injustice, inequality and anti-imperialism that were occurring in many parts of the U.S. were pivotal to the change. Colleges and universities also began to hold commemorations, with Kent State

were pivotal to the change. Colleges and universities also began to hold commemorations, with Kent State University being one of the first. Fifty years after the first celebrations, President Gerald R. Ford officially recognized Black History Month during the country's 1976 bicentennial. Ford called upon Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history."



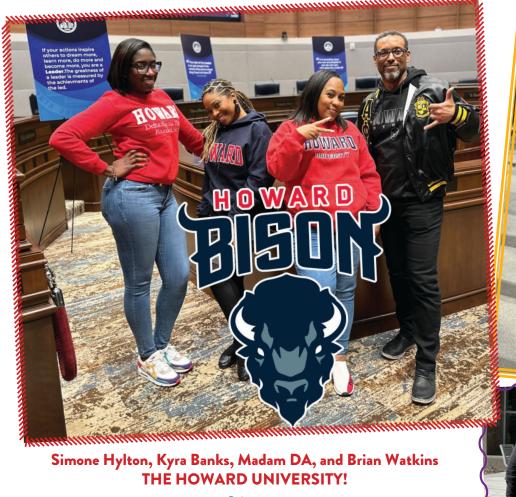


PLAYOFFS!



SPIRIT DAY AT THE FCDAO









FCDAO staff sporting swag from their universities, sororities, and fraternities for our office's first Spirit Day.





CONVICTIONA/ert!

STATE V. ISRAEL WHITTLE

Congratulations to the Major Case Unit Trial Team! In the case of State vs. Israel Whittle, the defendant was found guilty of three counts including felony murder and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Judge Ingram sentenced the defendant to life in prison.



Kelcee Jones-Connor



Danielle Russell



Joseph King



Chowan Moore



Brenda Sharpe

STATE VS. NAJEE ELDER

Congratulations to the Special Victims Division's Trial Team! In the case of State vs.

Najee Elder, the defendant was found guilty on all counts including felony murder, and cruelty to children and causing excessive physical or mental pain.



Donita Morris



Asia Baysah



Jasmyn Drummond



Christopher Davidson

CONVICTIONA/ert!

STATE VS. JOSHUA MIDDLEBROOKS

Congratulations to the Domestic Violence Unit Trial Team! In the case of State vs. Joshua Middlebrooks, the defendant pled guilty to murder and was sentenced to life in prison plus 5 years.



Shamma Iqbal



Shaniece Withrow



Nicole Santos



Alicia Scurry

STATE V. CARLOUS BAILEY, TERRY JONES, SAMUEL OTT, AND IRA WILLIAMS

State v. Carlous Bailey, Terry Jones, Samuel Ott, and Ira Williams
On Monday, January 30, Carlous Bailey, Terry Jones, Samuel Ott, and Ira Williams pled
guilty to the 2017 murder of Chelsea Beller. Carlous Bailey received a life sentence after
pleading to eight counts. Samuel Ott and Ira Troy Williams received a sentence of 30 years
to serve. Terry Jones received a sentence of 15 years to serve.

The hearing was held in front of Judge Emily Richardson and the District Attorney's Office was represented by Deputy District Attorney Adam Abbate and Assistant Chief Investigator Joseph Rickman.





CONVICTIONA/ert!

STATE V. SEQUOYAH HOWARD

Congratulations to Major Case Unit's Trial Team! In the case of State vs. Sequoyah Howard, the defendant was found guilty on all counts including felony murder and aggravated assault with deadly weapon. Judge Leftridge sentenced the defendant to life in prison plus 5 years immediately following the trial.



Shaniqua Christian



Jamell Hamm



DaJuan Walker



Chowan Moore



Amanda Green



Andre Moorer

SHOUT OUTS

FULTON PARTNERS & FRIENDS!

I want to thank each of you individually and collectively for your assistance and collaboration with our Cobb Family Advocacy Center in getting our first case/referral successfully handled. The connection started with a call that I made to our Austell Chief of Police; Chief Hamilton who then connected me to the new Assistant Chief at Fulton DA's; Assistant Chief Salters, who then got me connected with Mr. Rhodes at Fulton's SO. Our Chief here at the DA's Office sealed the connection between Assistant Chief Salters and I and made calls and contacts on behalf of this case. As a result of your diligence, this client can maintain her employment, keep her family intact, and have a second chance in turning her life around after this event. We could NOT have made this happen without each of these connections.

I plan to highlight this collaboration in several ways here in Cobb County to include a press release and newsletter that will be shared with our state and national partners.

THIS is the power of partnerships!

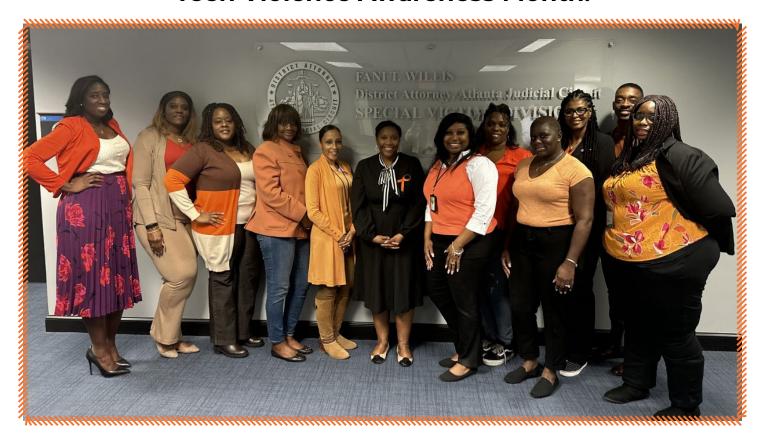
Thank you all again and we look forward to continued collaborations. If there's any way that we can support you or a client, please do not hesitate to reach out.



The Cobb Family Advocacy Center Site Coordinator



Special Victims Division Goes ORANGE in support of Teen Violence Awareness Month.





The office's internship program participated in the Southern Regional Black Law Student's Association Regional Career Fair in Orlando, Florida. Jazmin Dilligard and Jasmine Knight enjoyed getting to know the many elite black law students of our region and recruiting for top talent to join us for our rigorous summer internship program.

4TH AMENDMENT

SEARCH & SEIZURE- JAIL CELLS

The cornerstone of the 4th Amendment is the reasonableness behind a legitimate expectation of privacy that someone can or should have.

When someone is imprisoned or is a pre-trial detainee in a jail awaiting trial, courts have held that an inmate's expectation of privacy in a cell is necessarily diminished. Thomas v. State, 263 Ga. 85, 87 (1993). That's because jail officials must access cells and inmates' personal effects for security and maintenance purposes. Therefore, no search warrant is required for the search and items seized during the search, such as letters, cellphones, weapons, etc., can be used in a future prosecution.

Nonetheless, there is an exception where the 4th Amendment allows an inmate to retain limited but legitimate expectation of privacy. Leslie v. State, 301 Ga. 882, 887 (804 SE2d 351) (2017). Where jail personal or law enforcement search an inmate's cell at the behest of the State to bolster an active case, the

State would likely need probable cause to search the cell. See Id; see also Davis v. State, 307 Ga. 625, 631 (2020). The logic behind this restriction is that the courts do not want the State to take advantage of the pre-trial detainee's confinement to bolster its case against that person.

Therefore, where a search is conducted under the premise of security and maintenance, any evidence recovered from a cell does not need to be the byproduct of a search warrant.

Deputy District Attorney
Gautam Rao



DERRICHO'S CORNER

SLEEP AND MENTAL HEALTH

SLEEP IS BY FAR ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES IN REGARD TO BOTH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH.

According to the Center for Disease Control (2022), adults need "7 hours or more" of sleep each night. In addition, the quality of sleep is also important as rapid eye movement (REM) sleep is the stage when the brain is developed, memories are stored, and emotions are processed. A lack of the adequate quality or quantity of sleep can cause irritability, aggression, and can influence one's concentration, memory, mood, and performance in daily activities. Further, a lack of sleep is linked to increased mood disturbances such as stress, depressed mood, or anxiety.

On the contrary, mental illness can also greatly impact sleep. Stress, anxiety, and depression can cause difficulties falling asleep, sleeping through the night, or falling into REM sleep. Depression has also been linked with excessive sleepiness and tiredness. Lack of sleep can ascorbate symptoms of mental illness and is linked to other physical conditions such as weight gain, weakened immune system, and increases the risk of heart disease (Watson & Cherney, 2021).

One of the keys to getting adequate sleep is to create a routine. A good routine includes going to bed around the same time and waking up around the same time, even on weekends. In addition, decreasing activities that can stimulate the brain such as playing video games, intensive exercise, watching television, or being on the cell phone before going to sleep can be helpful. If you happen to fall asleep and wake up in the middle of the night, deep breathing can be a great tool to fall back asleep. If this technique does not work, try getting up from bed and read a book until you fall back asleep. If stress and anxiety is causing sleep deprivation, try journaling to write down all your

thoughts to get them off your mind (Lamotte, 2021).

If sleeping issues persists, it is best to see a medical professional to rule out any medical issues. If there are no medical issues, it may be time to seek counseling. 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).

Lamotte, S. (2021, February). 8 ways to fall back asleep after waking in the night. Retrieved February 24, 2023, from https://www.cnn. com/2021/02/23/health/fall-back-asleep-after-waking-wellness/index.html

National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Population Health. (2022, September). How much sleep do I need. Retrieved February 17, 2023, from https:// www.cdc.gov/sleep/about_sleep/how_much_ sleep.html

Watson, S. & Cherney, K. (2021, December). The effects of sleep deprivation on your body. Retrieved February 21, 2023, from https://www.healthline.com/health/sleep-deprivation/effects-on-body





RECORD RESTRICTION

On January 21, 2023, the FCDA hosted a RR Event at Chapelhill Church - Atlanta from 10am - 1pm. We had 59 people who pre-registered for the event and 141 walk-ins. At the event, we reviewed participants' criminal history and their closed Fulton County cases for possible restrictions. With the help of Pastor Jamal Baker and his superior staff and members of the Georgia Justice Project, the event was very successful.



Featured





DION PEEPLES

Assistant District Attorney

A native of Jacksonville, Florida, Dion Peeples graduated from **Florida A&M University** before attending Southern University Law Center. In his spare time, he enjoys reading. His favorite book is James Baldwin's "The Fire Next Time." Dion has an identical twin who serves in the U.S. Air Force. Dion is currently assigned to the Complex Trial Division. He has enjoyed serving in this office since his arrival.

JAZMIN WILLINGHAM

Senior Assistant District Attorney

Jazmin was born in Maywood, Illinois, about 15 minutes west of Chicago. The middle of three children and the only girl, she never had to deal with middle-child syndrome (lol). To this day, her brother don't question who is in charge; if they do, she often reminds them who's the boss. Jazmin is extremely close to her brothers Gerrett and Edmund, so close that Edmund gets sick at the time as she does even though they live hundreds of miles apart. At about age 14, Jazmin moved with her mom and brothers to Lithonia, where she graduated from Lithonia High School in 2008 before attending Hampton University. If you are familiar with Jazmin, it wouldn't be a surprising to know that she took all 8 a.m. classes and studied in her free time (IoI). Despite excelling academically at Hampton, Jazmin found it wasn't the best fit for her socially. She transferred to THE TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY, where she was a member of the SGA events committee and often volunteered at local elementary schools. She truly enjoyed her HBCU experience, one she had looked forward to since her mom took her to visit the AUC when she was 6 and led her to watch every episode of A Different World.

Jazmin graduated from Tuskegee in 2012. Shortly afterward, she met her now-husband Josh. She was blessed to grow up in a well-blended family where her dad and bonus dad became great friends before her dad passed away last July. One of the most memorable moments of her life was having her dad walk her down the aisle at her wedding. Jazmin will celebrate 5 years of marriage this June. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends (especially her new adorable nephew), eating at a good brunch spot, reading a good book, listening to 90's R&B, and traveling when she finds time. Jazmin is currently assigned to the Domestic Violence Unit.



FEATURED FIVE





MAHKAYLA GROGAN

GRAHIC DESIGNER

Mahkayla was born in Marietta and is the eldest of two. When she was little, she moved to Memphis for most of her life and moved back to Georgia just recently. She majored in Animation with a Minor in Art at Middle Tennessee State University. She enjoys traveling to different countries with her friends and family. Her hobbies are painting, animating and playing video games.

FUN FACT: Her grandfather was the first black council member to be elected in Marietta.



STACEY BURKE

ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Stacey is Dominican-American, born and raised in New York City. She is fluent in Spanish and English and every now and then, speaks a little Italian. Stacey appreciates and credits her mom, retired FDNY paramedic and U.S. Navy nurse, for being an incredible example of what it means to serve, seek justice, and have integrity. In addition to working at the FCDA's office, Stacey serves on the board for the Georgia Latino Law Foundation and serves as an officer for the Georgia Hispanic Bar Association.

Stacey earned her J.D. with Pro Bono Distinction from Atlanta's John Marshall Law School and her B.A. in political science from Eckerd College. During law school, she earned the CALI Excellence for the Future Award for Legal Research

Stacey is an avid traveler. She has studied and lived abroad in several countries in Latin America, Europe, and the South Pacific during law school and college. One of Stacey's most memorable adventures was her legal internship with the

arts, spending time with friends, and being outdoors with her four-legged sidekick, Dante.



CHRISSANDRA JALLAH

attended Thomas Goode Jones School of Law Family Violence Clinic & clerking in Montgomery Doctor degree, Chrissandra returned home to Fulton County District Attorney's Office.

In her spare time, Chrissandra enjoys

ANIMAL SHELTER VISIT



Jill Hollander and Pareesa Amjadi assisting at a mass adoption event for forfeited animals from an open animal cruelty case. All dogs were successfully adopted! (bottomhalf caption): Assistant Chief Saul Alter presenting at Perkerson's Career Day.

CAREER DAY

PERKERSON ELEM. SCHOOL, ATLANTA



REACH



REACH Mentorship outing with our mentees HAWKS GAME!

REACH Mentorship outing with our mentees HAWKS GAME! Deputy Chief Investigator Fred Glenn Jr., who volunteered as a mentor at McNair Middle School, obtained 50 basketball game tickets from Atlanta Hawks player Clint Capela. The REACH program took 40 kids and 9 mentors to see the game on February 11, 2023. When the kids saw the REACH program on the big screen, they went wild.

"For me, it was something more. Watching the kids yell, I was overwhelmed by the power of this program that Madam DA has given to society. Lives can and will be changed forever. It starts with giving our kids HOPE." - Director of Juvenile Services, Aakeem Woodward

NEW HIRES! WELCOME!



NIKAYLA SIRMONS LEGAL ASSISTANT

SWEARING-IN



ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS Precious Marsh, Abigail Long and Bethany Bridges (left to right)



INVESTIGATORS Aminah Dickerson and Lori Lobel (left to right)



3rd Year Law Students Savannah Drexler and Kofi Thom (left to right)

PROMOTIONS!



Adam Abbate Chief Deputy District Attorney Major Crimes Division



Temperance Stoddard Assistant Chief Special Victims Division Crimes Against Children Unit, Juvenile Court Unit, SB440 Unit and Conviction Integrity Unit



Misty Botu is now the Deputy Victim Witness Advocate Trial Division (Complex Unit / Accountability Court Unit and Competency Court Unit



James Spear Assistant Chief Special Victims Division Sexual Assault Unit, Sexual Assault Kit Unit, Human Trafficking and Internet Child Exploitation Unit



Lucia Williams is now the Chief Senior Victim Witness Advocate Trial Division (Non-Complex Unit, ORCA, and First Appearance)



DaShawn Raymond Deputy Chief Major Crimes Division Major Case Unit and Appeals Unit



Robert Turner Deputy Chief Case Intake Division Special Victims Division and Major Crime Division Cases



Antonio Long
Deputy Chief Major Crimes Division
Gangs Unit, Civil Forfeiture Unit, White
Collar Crime Unit



Brian Salters Assistant Chief Case Intake Division Non-Complex and Complex Cases



Joseph Rickman Assistant Chief Major Crimes Division Major Case Unit and Appeals Unit



Obed Ford Assistant Chief Case Intake Division



Michael Hill Assistant Chief Major Crimes Division Gangs Unit, Capital and Cold Case Unit, Civil Forfeiture Unit, White Collar Crime Unit



Kendall Tucker Assistant Chief Trial Division Non-Complex Unit, ORCA, and First Appearance)



Greg Thomas Assistant Chief Anti-Corruption Division



ALL STAR GAME











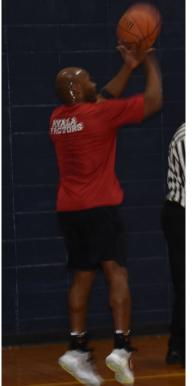


















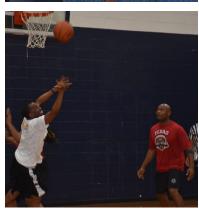






















CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF OUR HEALTH AND WELLNESS BASKETBALL SERIES



Proclamation

DAVID GETACHEW-SMITH DAY March 1, 2023

"Today we celebrate the retirement of Chief Senior Assistant District Attorney David Getachew-Smith, whose exemplary career in public service has spanned decades. Those fortunate enough to have worked alongside this true professional have known him as a respected advocate, colleague, mentor, and, most of all, friend. Chief Senior ADA Smith's accomplishments as an attorney and qualities as a person will remain an inspiration to many for years to come."

- EXECUTIVE DISTRICT ATTORNEY MIKE CARLSON

FULTON COUNTYNEWSROOM



Jan 30

Men accused in shooting at Barcelona Wine Bar plead guilty to killing restaurant manager

https://www.wsbtv.com/news/local/atlanta/ men-accused-shooting-barcelona-winebar-plead-guilty-killing-restaurant-manager/ ENI563RABZEHLAKIV43SM6TBWE/



Feb 16

Expensive dog breed seized in abuse case has long line of people waiting to adopt it

https://www.wsbtv.com/news/local/ expensive-dog-breed-seized-abuse-casehas-long-line-people-waiting-adopt-it/ YQV520DMO5GEBGLICM3JJYMBQI/



Feb 2

She Took On Atlanta's Gangs. Now She May Be Coming for Trump.

https://www.nytimes.com/2023/02/02/magazine/fani-willis-trump.html



Feb 24

DA Fani Willis labels prosecutorial oversight bills 'dangerous,' questions timing

https://www.fox5atlanta.com/news/da-fani-willis-labels-prosecutorial-oversight-bills-dangerous-questions-timing



Feb 6

Jury selection proves to be difficult for the YSL trial

https://www.wabe.org/jury-selection-proves-to-be-difficult-for-the-ysl-trial/



Feb 24

The Jolt: Fani Willis slams district attorney oversight bill as 'racist'

https://www.ajc.com/politics/politics-blog/the-jolt-fani-willis-slams-district-attorney-oversight-bill-asracist/7B7QLPJ6SVH45LTH7NTXZTIXCI/



Feb 13

Fani Willis takes brief questions on Georgia Trump investigation

https://www.11alive.com/video/news/politics/fani-willis-takes-brief-questions-on-georgia-trump-investigation/85-b961a33a-0ac2-4153-906a-ae8311c622b8



Feb 24

Deserve every bullet: Witness in YSL case could be in danger after interrogation leaks online

https://www.wsbtv.com/news/local/fulton-county/deserve-every-bullet-witness-ysl-case-could-be-danger-after-interrogation-leaks-online/TSQSMQW5HJDI3ISM4FMBV2KLDU/



Feb 13

Fulton County judge rules parts of special grand jury report to be released Thursday

https://www.wsbtv.com/news/local/atlanta/fulton-judge-says-parts-trump-grand-jury-report-be-released-later-this-week/EWIX2U3E2NDNJN24PJELDBS7LQ/



Feb 27

Fulton County makes progress on court backlog, but harder work ahead

https://www.ajc.com/news/fulton-county-makes-progress-on-court-backlog-but-harder-work-ahead/HWKX5AIWYNHVLOCG3CICUT3KB4/



Feb 14

Georgia lawmakers propose new bill that would stop growing number of gang activities

https://www.wsbtv.com/news/local/atlanta/georgia-lawmakers-propose-new-bill-that-would-stop-growing-number-gang-activities/WOREKYKNPZHQ5ILAP2H36NP76E/



Feb 27

Man indicted for murder in 1994 Atlanta homicide

https://www.ajc.com/news/crime/manindicted-for-murder-in-1994-atlanta-homicide/ BK7VBC2MMJFVXK3SBRV7R2DJIM/



Feb 16

Who is Fani Willis, the Prosecutor at the Center of the Trump Investigation?

https://www.nytimes.com/2023/02/16/us/politics/fani-willis-trump-investigation.html



Feb 28

Suspect indicted in Buckhead grandmother's stabbing death

https://www.ajc.com/news/crime/ breaking-suspect-indicted-in-buckheadgrandmothers-stabbing-death/ FRT4FKQJWFF6PJ66ZBGTMMXMQA/

