SUMMER 2023 INTERNS

DA DISPATCH JULY 2023

FULTON COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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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 DA DISPATCH	10 REMOTE DAY	11 Payday <i>Remote day</i>	12
13	14 REMOTE DAY	15 REMOTE DAY	16	17 REMOTE DAY	18 Mandated U-Visa/TiVisa/VAVA Immigrant Victims Training REMOTE DAY	19
20	21	22	23 WIND DOWN WEDNESDAY	24	25 ©PAYDAY	26
27	28 MOVIE MATINEE	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					7	2
3	4 LABOR DAY	5	6 WIND DOWN WEDNESDAY	7	8 ©PAYDAY	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 HEARTS OF SERVICE AWARDS LUNCHEON	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 MOVIE MATINEE	26	27	28	29	30



2023 PAC SUMMER CONFERENCE



Attorneys and Investigators of the FCDAO gathered in Jekyll Island, Georgia, for the annual Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia (PAC) 2023 Summer Training Conference. This significant gathering promises to enhance our legal prowess and foster excellence in the pursuit of justice.





FANI T. WILLIS MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION Summer 2023

Our summer interns had an unforgettable experience in the courtroom as they showcased their legal prowess at the 2nd Annual Fani T. Willis Mock Trial Competition. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to gain invaluable trial experience and hone their advocacy skills.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our esteemed panel of judges, whose expertise and guidance added immense value to this event: Judge Alexandra Manning, Judge JaDawnya Baker, Judge Marian Parker, Judge Teresa Mann, Judge Brian Rickman, Judge Jeffrey Watkins, Judge Shermela Williams, and former judge Nathan Wade.

A special shout-out to our esteemed guest judge, our very own DA Fani T. Willis, whose support, and presence made this competition possible. Her dedication to fostering legal talent is truly commendable. We are immensely proud of all the participants and extend our gratitude to everyone involved in making this event a resounding success.







LABAMA AG







Celebrating the Sweet Side of Justice! Madam DA Fani T. Willis' annual Swag & Sweets event was a blast at the FCDAO on 7/12! It was a time to indulge, show off those branded tees, and say thanks to our incredible staff and interns for their dedication and hard work. Sweet treats and good vibes all around!







COLLEGE SPIRIT DOY



College Spirit Day provided an opportunity for both our interns and staff to proudly showcase their college affiliation or their favorite college sports team. It was a chance for everyone to come together and demonstrate their school pride in a fun and engaging way. We encouraged everyone to rep their college/university colors or don their favorite college team jerseys, creating a vibrant and spirited atmosphere throughout the office.

RGIA STAT

COLLEGE OF LAW







bound

BULLIN

Teamwork occurs when two or more people collaborate for a common goal. Working together with others and sharing information can be a very positive experience that results in great outcomes. However, it can also be stressful or draining to group participants if the team is not cohesive. Within the Fulton County District Attorney's Office, it is impossible to be successful in serving the community if we do not work collaboratively. Every person in this office brings a unique set of skills and experience that are very beneficial and important. If we focus on communication, respect, and collaboration, teamwork can be a great tool which actually improves mental health.

Effective communication occurs when communication is clear and concise. For example, if there is a team directive to design a program with no parameters, this task may become difficult, confusing, and taxing. In opposition, a clearer directive would be to create an education program for Domestic Violence Awareness month that is hosted after business hours and is easily accessible to the public. This provides a lot more information and clarity that is needed for planning. Be sure that when you communicate on a team you are clear and use minimal jargon so that everyone understands. Often, we may have an idea in our mind, but may not be able to explain it eloquently. Take some time to write things down and make bullet points if necessary. Further, nonverbal communication is very important and does not go unnoticed. Be cognizant of nonverbal cues such as rolling eyes, making frowning faces, and making gestures that show discomfort such as turning your back or folding your arms in frustration.

Respect is essential in creating a seamless teamwork environment. Respect is definitely a part of communication such as not speaking over someone or using offensive language. In addition, it is important to listen to other perspectives before responding as not to appear dismissive. The team may not agree on every decision, but it is important to hear the perspective of others before making a final decision. Also, being respectful of others time is very important. Everyone is this office is extremely busy so please be considerate when making requests with limited turnaround time.

Working with a team can help to decrease your workload and stressors. Building healthy relationships with others can be great because you can continue to collaborate with those individuals in the future. Further working together can provide a broad perspective and showcase a diverse array of ideas. If we continue to work together with effective communication and respect, our office will continue to produce amazing work and service to the community.

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 Director of Victim Witness Advocates

LAW CORNER

Excited Utterances

Under O.C.G.A. Rule 24-8-803(2), a statement relating to a startling event or condition made while the declarant was under the stress of excitement caused by the event or condition will not be excluded at trial pursuant to the hearsay rule. It as also important to note that this rule does not require the declarant of the excited utterance to actually be made available for trial in order for the statement to be admitted into evidence. To determine whether a statement qualifies as an excited utterance, the Supreme Court of Georgia has held that "[t]he critical inquiry is whether the declarant is still in a state of excitement resulting from that event when the declaration is made. In making that determination, a court should consider the totality of the circumstances." Blocker v. State, 2023 Ga. LEXIS 133. In a lot of circumstance, the utterance is made contemporaneously with the startling event. For example, the declarant saying "I cant believe Person A is shooting at Person B!" or "We are about to crash!" But what happens if there is a passage of time? The Supreme Court in Blocker affirmed that an excited utterance does not have to be made contemporaneously to the startling event. The main inquiry us determining whether the declarant making the utterance was in an "excited state" and the utterance was made under the stress and excitement of the startling event. The Court stated that the length of time that has passed between the event and the statement is only one factor in that determination. See Varner v. State, 306 Ga. 726 (2019) (affirming admission of statement recorded on responding officer's body-camera in a murder case where "the stress and excitement caused by the shooting had not yet dissipated").



Guatam Rao Deputy District Attorney, Training

FANI T. WILLIS

BACK/TC

JISTHE FABLE vs. States

SCHORADA Invagaza

We are grateful for the overwhelming support at our 2nd annual backpack extravaganza! Thanks to our incredible staff and generous community partners, the Fulton County District Attorney's Office collected 2,511 backpacks filled with school supplies, setting the stage for a fantastic school season ahead for elementary, middle, and high school students across Fulton County. Each location provided a unique experience jam-packed with fun, food, games, and more!

















UNION CITY





SOUTH FULTON





ATLANTA





SANDY SPRINGS





State v. Ramelle Williams

Congratulations to the Cold and Capital Case Unit! In the case of State v. Ramelle Williams, the Defendant was found guilty of all ten counts including Murder, Armed Robbery, Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, and Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon. Judge Robert McBurney sentenced him to life without the possibility of parole plus 15 years to be served consecutively.



Deputy District

Attorney



Sr. Assistant

District Attorney

Brian Trepanier



Sr. Investigator

Glenn Cross



Sr. Investigator Chara Dennis



Deputy Victim Advocate Ilona Rolack



Legal Assistant SaQuez King

Vincent Faucette State v. Joseph Tabb

Congratulations to the Trial Team! In the case of State v. Joseph Tabb, the Defendant was found guilty of Aggravated Battery and sentenced to 20 years to serve by Judge Shukura Ingram.





Deputy District Attorney Faye Rosenbaum

Assistant District Attorney Aisha Broderick



Sr. Investigator J.P. Miller



Sr. Investigator William Hutchinson



Deputy Victim Advocate Misty Botu



Sr. Chief Victim Advocate Lucia Williams

State v. Tobias Johnson

Congratulations to the Crimes Against Children Team! In the case of State v. Tobias Johnson, the Defendant was found guilty of Aggravated Child Molestation and sentenced to 25 years to serve life on probation by Judge David Emerson.



Sr. Assistant District Attorney **Robert Shapiro**

State vs. Maurice Young



Sr. Assistant District Attorney Nalda Kay Charles



Sr. Assistant District Attorney Julian Jordan



Sr. Investigator **Bryony Harris**

Victim Advocate Christen Clarke



Congratulations to the Sexual Assault Unit Trial Team! In the case of State vs. Maurice Young, the Defendant was found guilty of three counts, including Rape, Aggravated Sodomy, and Aggravated Assault. Judge Scott McAfee sentenced the Defendant to life in prison.



Deputy District Attorney Yolanda Mack



Sr. Assistant **District Attorney** Amanda Green



Investigator William Ward



Deputy Victim Advocate Dilma Dos Reis



Victim Advocate Carolyn Tyus



Victim Advocate



Legal Assistant LaTeeka Montgomery **Tiffany Horton**



State v. John Headspeth

Congratulations to the Domestic Violence Unit! In the case of State v. John Headspeth, the Defendant was found guilty through a bench trial of eleven counts including Murder, Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, and Cruelty to Children in the Third Degree. Judge Scott McAfee sentenced the Defendant to life with the possibility of parole plus 20 years to serve following the trial.



District Attorney

Chistian Adkins



Sr. Investigator DaJaun Walker



Victim Advocate Carolyn Tyus



Legal Assistant **Tiffany Horton**



Congratulations to the Major Case Unit! In the case of State v. Clinton Robinson, the Defendant was found guilty of all counts including Murder, Felony Murder, Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, and Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon. Judge David Emerson sentenced the Defendant to life without the possibility of parole plus 15 years.









Victim Advocate

Dorsey Jones



Legal Assistant Quentin Wright

Chief Sr. Assistant District Attorney Jeffrey Lee

State v. Erice Dobynes

Chief Sr. Assistant District Attorney Nailah McFarlane

Sr. Investigator Darrion Eshmon

Congratulations to the Human Trafficking and Internet Child Exploitation Trial Team! In the case of State v. Erice Dobynes, the Defendant pled guilty to all 13 counts including Trafficking A Person for Sexual Servitude under the age of 18 years old. He was sentenced to 30 years to serve by Judge Thomas A. Cox, Jr.



Deputy District Attorney Earnelle Winfrey



Chief Sr. District Attorney Alicia Taylor



Sr. Investigator Michelle Lam



Sr. Investigator Jason Johnson



Chief Legal Victim Advocate Jasmyn Drummond Assistant Daniel Pinilla



Legal Assistant

Cadderrius Armstrong

State v. Darryl Bynes

Congratulations to the Major Case Division's Trial Team! In the case of State v. Darryl Bynes, the Defendant was found guilty of all counts including for Murder, Felony Murder, Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Criminal Damage to Property in the 1st Degree, and Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony. Judge Kelly Lee Ellerbe sentenced the Defendant to life plus 15 years.



Chief Sr. Assistant District Attorney Tom Griner



Chief Sr. Assistant District Attorney Marshal Hodge



Sr. Investigator Jess Pironis



Legal Assistant Victim Advocate Maya Wilburn Quentin Wright



Junior DA

This summer, our Junior DAs seized extraordinary opportunities to connect with esteemed leaders like Madam DA, Assistant District Attorneys, dedicated legal and administrative assistants from various units within our offices, as well as Fulton County Superior Court Judges. Together, we explored the essential workings of the District Attorney's office, prioritizing citizen safety.

In inspiring sessions, they gained valuable insights on avoiding gang activity, sex trafficking, bullying (including cyberbullying), domestic violence, and other community-threatening crimes.

Beyond the classroom, our students embarked on captivating field trips, discovering diverse career paths, historical landmarks, and the wonders of nature. From The Georgia Aquarium and the National Center for Civil and Human Rights to an enriching experience at Tyler Perry Studios, they explored vast opportunities in the entertainment industry.

Encouraging mindfulness and connection with nature, we enjoyed excursions to the Chattahoochee Nature Center, accompanied by Roswell Police Department officers who generously shared their experiences, answered questions, and provided lunch for our Junior DAs.









Thank you for taking time our or your supervise and take care of us. you have been pertirent with us and stayed with us despite having a busy job. Thank you, and I hope you have a wo noterful rest of the year. Things 1 Loved Thonk Evrything HIT things that could be changed INOTHENGI Tou Thank you madam BA for teaching me something new and Keeping as city sefe this opportunity. to MS. Mctuley Thank you for your Strive to Kelp others. Justice Thank you Ms. Mc Auley for working in crimes against women & children bur work is very much Dech, Mudure DA, preciated :: 11 7 much Dech, Mudure tak Appreciated :!! Thank you Thank you for taking your time to show us how you do time to show us how you do your job. I hope you go for in what your doing. for telling these stories too, they were very intrig-Thanks Sincerely



G.B.I. CRIME LAB TOUR



FEATURED



SHANIECE WITHROW

Born in Washington, D.C., and raised in the extremely small Georgia town of Hinesville, Investigator Shaniece Withrow graduated high school with honors before jumping at the opportunity to move to Atlanta, where she attended Georgia State University. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice and went on to attend the police academy to start her career, ignoring all fears and worries from her mother. She spent the first several years of her law enforcement career serving as a patrol officer, undercover officer, and SWAT operator, chasing a thrill, and living by the motto: "High Speed, Low Dragggg."

In her free time, she enjoys DIY home projects, traveling, reading, playing sports with her 10-year-old son, and binge-watching Grey's Anatomy.



BETHANY BRIDGES

I'm Bethany Bridges. I'm from Jackson, Mississippi where I attended Jackson State University majoring in Political Science- Prelaw. I have a strong passion for politics (studying it only), policy, and anything law-related. I'm a political bluff.

Prior to law school, I moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin where I worked for Americorps as a family involvement coordinator for an elementary school there and attended the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee where I received a Master's in Liberal Studies- Urban Education. I returned to Jackson to teach elementary and high school for a while before I enrolled in law school at Mississippi College School of Law and finished in 2017. Since admission into the MS bar, I've worked primarily in the government sector as a prosecutor in MS. However, I always wanted to live in GA, so I took the GA bar about two years post-graduation. After admission into the GA bar, I applied to the DA's office and the rest is history. I love it here.



TREY SCOTT

Albert "Trey" Scott III has spent his entire legal career as a prosecutor protecting the citizens of the State of Georgia. As a lifelong resident of Georgia, Trey was born in Atlanta, just three miles from the Fulton County Courthouse at Emory University Hospital Midtown and was raised in Stone Mountain. He graduated from Georgia College & State University in Milledgeville with a B.B.A. degree specializing in Business Management. In Spring 2009, while at the college, he crossed into the Mu Gamma Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

After graduating Cum Laude from Mercer University School of Law, Trey began his career prosecuting in the Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit, where he primarily handled juvenile cases for eight counties across middle and eastern Georgia. In 2022, Trey returned home to Atlanta and joined the Fulton County District Attorney's Office. Trey currently works in the Non-Complex Unit of the Trial Division.



TEMPERANCE STODDARD

I was born and raised in Georgia and graduated from Columbia Southern University with a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice Administration. Prior to joining the Fulton County District Attorney's Office I was a Board Certified Medicolegal Death Investigator for the Cobb County Medical Examiner's Office for over 10 years. I've been with the Fulton County District Attorney's Office PROUDLY for two years and am currently an Assistant Chief Investigator of the Crimes Against Children Unit, Conviction Integrity Unit, SB440 Unit, and Juvenile Court Unit within the Special Victims Division. I have a strong passion for helping some of the most vulnerable victims that our office serves and achieving justice on their behalf.

In my spare time I enjoy hiking and traveling to as many beach destinations as possible. I love spending time with family and friends and my three dogs, Jasper, Chance, and Stormy and am a huge Atlanta Braves baseball fan.





SHAMMA IQBAL

Chief Senior Assistant District Attorney Shamma Iqbal has been with the office since 2018. She started in the Crimes Against Women and Children Unit and is now in the Special Victims Unit, which is very near and dear to her heart. She grew up in Georgia and attended college at the University of Georgia and Georgia State University School of Law. She was born in Pakistan and speaks a total of 6 languages.

In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her two boys, Logan and Thomas, her two doggies/children, and sparring in a boxing ring.

WELCOME**NEVVHIRES**

Welcoming New Faces to the FCDAO! Join us in extending a warm welcome to our exceptional new staff members as they embark on their journey at the Fulton County District Attorney's Office.



Granville Powers

Assistant District Attorney Major Crimes/Gangs



Gabrielle Waterman

Trial Division



Kendall Watkins

Community Resource Specialist Programs



Grant Trowell Legal Assistant Trial Division



Fiza Altaf

Nathan Shoate

Investigator

Civil Forfeiture

Terrika Crutchfield

Assistant District Attorney Major Crimes/Gangs

SWEARING-IN



Assistant District Attorney Granville Powers & 3rd Year Law Student Aaron Brown are sworn in under oath by Judge Eaton on July 10, 2023.

Legal Assistant Civil Forfeiture











Mr. McCombs,

I greatly appreciated your amazing customer service. I came in on 06/26/23 to interview with your team members, the whole time I was sitting in the waiting area, I was just amazed! Your customer service culture that you have built, words can't describe. The service was just so phenomenal, I am really big on great service and the quality of how we treat others. Your team have shown exceptional service. The quality of service is 100%. Thanks for all you and your team do!

-Ms. Jemison

Good Morning, Ms. Collier,

Josh is truly enjoying his experience. Heis excited about going to the park today. Yesterday when we arrived homeour neighbor, Akil Secret, was outside walking, Josh greeted him "Mr.Secret, I'm a part of the Junior DA program! I met the DA of Atlanta, Ms.Willis!" He was so excited! Thanks for giving him this opportunity. Have a blessed day. Thanks. -Message from Junior DA Parent

Everyone,

I wanted to share an update with you. DDA Chris Sperry has taken on the role of Special ADA and was recently sworn in to handle a challenging case involving a gang-motivated child homicide with two defendants and two victims in Clayton County. The victims, aged 11 and 15, were tragically murdered in their own bedrooms. Chris has been dedicated to this case over the past two weeks in Clayton County, and I am pleased to inform you that earlier this week, a verdict was reached in Judge Mason's courtroom: guilty on all 38 felony counts.

-Mike Carlson, Executive District Attorney

Greetings FCDA Family:

We have a lot going on, and the work continues. Please be advised that MCD (Unindicted Team) was having great difficulty finding a witness who did not want to be found. We had been looking for several months for the witness. I sent an email to Lt. Hamilton saying to please find this witness ASAP. We need to decide on this case and bring some relief to this family. It took Lt. Hamilton I hour to find the witness and have them on the phone with Deputy Sprinkel. There are reasons I brag on this place. This is one of them. Lt. Hamilton – THANK YOU!

-Madam District Attorney Fani T. Willis

SHOUT-OUTS



Sr. Investigator J.P. Miller was bestowed with the esteemed President's Award from the Georgia's Gang Investigator's Association (GGIA), the most prestigious recognition offered by the organization. This distinguished honor places Inv. Miller in the company of figures like former DeKalb County DA Gwen Keyes Fleming, who have previously received this accolade.

Congratulations to the FCDAO's Newest Leaders



ASSISTANT CHIEF **GERALD WALSH** - TECHNOLGY



ASSISTANT CHIEF **STANLEY MASON** - EVIDENCE

FANI T. WILLIS INTERNSHIP AWARDS MCMMMM

From renowned colleges and universities across the nation, our summer interns of 2023 have embarked on a remarkable journey of learning and growth. They've immersed themselves in the real world of criminal cases, fine-tuned their courtroom prowess through the Fani T. Willis Mock Trial Competition, and explored diverse facets of criminal justice and government during captivating field trips.

Moreover, their dedication extends beyond the legal realm as they actively participated in office events, including our 3rd annual LGBTQ+ crime victims vigil, 2nd annual backpack back-to-school extravaganza, and our annual summer accomplishments report celebration. Their commitment and enthusiasm have left an indelible mark, shaping a brighter future for all.





OUR SUMMER 23 INTERNS!



Tolulope Akinrolabu

Jhane Allen



Samantha Bertschi



Anna Book



Aaron Brown



Madison Bryan



Vajha Cuiellette



Wyatt Decker



Priscilla Domini



Ethan Fell



Rhea D'Souza



O'juan Glaze



Tre Greaux



Skylahn Gyampoh



Joyce Dihi



Kathryn Hardison

Isha Jayadev



Elizabeth Haynes-Tucker



Clara Johnson



Tyler Hill



Josie Holcomb



Christopher Katrakis Cabot Kimball



Michael Hosea



33



Deanna Jones



Kiera Kinsey

Kaila Richards

Kyla Moore



Caleb Morris



Faith Newby



Andrew Paul







Nicole Sedran



Natalie Shanklin



Kinley Stephens



Shartecia Roman

Natasha Torrence

Angela Vasilopoulos

Jacob Rothman

Sophie Warmath



Jasmine Woodruff



Myla Williams

Not Pictured : Summer Bell, Joelle Elisa, Jaida Farmer Ivey Foster, Kristen Gough, Mahmoud Mohammed Ananya Singh, Anastasia Tyson, Anthony Williams



NEWS CORNER

Atlanta homicides down since 2022, data shows 11Alive 07/03/23	Atlanta mother wanted, detectives believe she played role in sexually exploiting a 13-year-old girl WSB-TV 07/06/23	Critics say teen repeat offenders are working Georgia's juvenile justice system WSB-TV 06/17/23
Atlanta man gets life for killing neighbor who knocked on wrong door AJC 07/19/23	Man sentenced for killing mother in East Point motel for allegedly poisoning himFOX 5 07/27/23	Fulton County DA'sOffice interns get real-life trial experienceANF 07/27/23
Man convicted of murder in 2020 shooting near Blue Flame Lounge in Atlanta, gets life in prison11 Alive 07/27/23	Fulton County DA hosts several back-to-school events on Saturday for local students FOX 5 07/30/23	Man accused of opening fire inside midtown Atlanta medical center indicted on murder charge WSB-TV 08/01/23
Click or se	can story	<u>Fulton County DA wants</u> <u>family justice center for</u>

to read

Fulton County DA wants family justice center for domestic violence victims

ANF | 08/07/23





Willio an

FANI T. WILLIS District Attorney