

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Holly Springs Man Sentenced to Prison for Sexual Exploitation of Children
State vs. Allen Joseph Peacock**

April 30, 2024 – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that Allen Joseph Peacock, 55, of Holly Springs, was sentenced to prison on April 18 after pleading guilty to three counts of sexual exploitation of children and one count of possession of a Schedule I controlled substance.

Charges stem from a 2022 investigation that began when an individual close to the defendant alerted law enforcement after finding Snapchat messages in which Peacock communicated with someone online about his sexual interest in minors. Law enforcement then conducted a search warrant and found sexually explicit pictures and videos of unidentified children on his cell phone that the defendant obtained off the internet, as well as illegal drugs in his home that were later identified as THC.

“While there was no evidence of Mr. Peacock committing acts of abuse against children, the evidence was clear that the defendant has a deviant sexual interest in children. The harmful and perverse images and videos on his electronics allowed us to prosecute this individual before he could act out his deviant fantasies further,” said Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Rachel Hines, of the Special Victims Unit, who prosecuted this case on behalf of the State.

During the plea hearing, Superior Court Judge Tony Baker sentenced Peacock as negotiated to 20 years with the first 5 years to serve in prison and the balance to serve on probation under sex offender special conditions, which include no contact with any minors under the age of 18 and sex offender registration upon his release from prison.

“In Georgia, it is a felony to possess or control sexually explicit material depicting minors,” said District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway. “By prosecuting and closely monitoring individuals who possess sexually explicit imagery of children, we can be proactive in preventing these offenders from victimizing children in our community.”

This case was investigated by the Cherokee Sheriff’s Office, Holly Springs Police, and Cherokee Multi-Agency Narcotics Squad. It was prosecuted by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Rachel Hines, of the Special Victims Unit, Cherokee County District Attorney’s Office.

The Office of the District Attorney for the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit is committed to seeking justice, acting with integrity, and collaborating with partner agencies in the criminal justice system in order to protect the citizens of Cherokee County and the State of Georgia.

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