

CHEROKEE COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

GRAND JURY PRESENTMENTS

**TO: The Honorable N. Jackson Harris
Chief Judge, Superior Court
Cherokee County, Georgia**

**The Honorable Ellen McElyea
Judge, Superior Court
Cherokee County, Georgia**

**The Honorable David L. Cannon, Jr.
Judge, Superior Court
Cherokee County, Georgia**

We, the members of this Grand Jury, chosen and sworn to serve the January 2014 Term of the Superior Court of Cherokee County, hereby submit the following report and presentments.

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, heard 202 bills of indictment and returned 201 true bills and 1 no bill.

PRESENTMENT 1

We, the January 2014, Grand Jury commend District Attorney Shannon Wallace, each of her Assistant District Attorneys and staff members, and each law enforcement officer and investigator associated with the cases brought before this Grand Jury for their professionalism and hard work.

PRESENTMENT 2

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, commend Superior Court Chief Bailiff Jane Johnson, Bailiff Johnny Champion and Bailiff Fay McCurry and all bailiffs for their diligent assistance in arranging materials for Grand Jury proceedings, managing the schedule for cases to be presented, coordinating Grand Jury payroll, and ensuring that proceedings ran smoothly.

PRESENTMENT 3

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, sincerely express our thanks to the Honorable N. Jackson Harris, Superior Court Judge, for his professional and informative empanelment and orientation of this Grand Jury.

PRESENTMENT 4

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, sincerely express our appreciation of the director and staff of the Anna Crawford Children's Center for the tremendous assistance and comfort provided to at-risk and victimized children in our community.

PRESENTMENT 5

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, sincerely express our thanks to the Cherokee County Multi-Agency Narcotics Squad for their hard work throughout our community. All Cherokee County citizens are encouraged to be proactive about drug related activity. Any citizen that is concerned about drug related activity in his or her area can send CMANS an anonymous tip by going to www.cmans.org/news/tips-contact or by calling the anonymous tip line at 770-345-7920.

PRESENTMENT 6

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, sincerely express our thanks to Cherokee County Sheriff Roger Garrison, Major Karen Johnson and other staff members of the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office and Adult Detention Center, Renee Cornelison of the Cherokee Office of Homeland Security-Emergency Management (OHS-EM), and staff members of the 911 Center for hosting an informative tour. These facilities were found to be well-maintained and effectively managed.

PRESENTMENT 7

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, inspected and examined the offices and operations of the Clerk of Superior Court of Cherokee County. We express our thanks to Patty Baker, Clerk of Courts of Cherokee County, for hosting an informative tour of the Superior, State and Magistrate Court Clerk's Offices and commend her staff for being extremely knowledgeable and professional and ahead of the curve with respect to technology.

PRESENTMENT 8

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, inspected and examined the offices and operations of the Judge of Probate Court of Cherokee County. We express our thanks to the Honorable Keith Wood, Probate Judge of Cherokee County, for hosting an informative tour of the Probate Court of Cherokee County.

PRESENTMENT 9

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, were presented with the Ball Ground Recycling forensic audit by Rhonda McClendon, the auditor and author of the report. We express our thanks to Ms. McClendon for taking time out of her busy schedule to discuss her findings with this Grand Jury. We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, were also updated by law enforcement as to the progress of the pending law enforcement investigation of this matter.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JANUARY 2014 GRAND JURY:

RECOMMENDATION 1:

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, recommend that the District Attorney not release the forensic audit to the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners until the local, state and federal law enforcement authorities authorize said release.

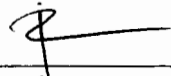
RECOMMENDATION 2:

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, recommend the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners develop a long term plan for the expansion of the Cherokee County Justice Center as soon as possible and recommend this plan be re-evaluated every five years as our county continues to grow.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

We, the January 2014 Grand Jury, were presented with a large number of drug related cases throughout our term and recommend that more law enforcement officers in Cherokee County receive the specialized training necessary to become certified drug recognition experts.

Respectfully submitted this 15th day of April, 2014.



Philip Vorreiter
Grand Jury Foreman

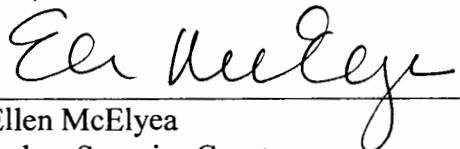
CHEROKEE COUNTY
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ORDER

It is ordered that the within and foregoing Grand Jury Presentments having been read and considered, the same be filed.

It is further ordered that a copy of the Presentments along with a copy of this Order be sent to the Cherokee Tribune for publication and the usual fees paid thereon.

This the 15 day of April, 2014.



Ellen McElyea
Judge, Superior Court
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit