

**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Man convicted of trafficking methamphetamine will serve 15 years in custody without parole**  
**State vs. William Roscoe Cherry**

**April 15, 2022** – Cherokee County District Attorney Shannon Wallace announces that, after a three-day trial that ended on February 10, 2022, a Cherokee County jury found William Roscoe Cherry, 43, guilty of trafficking methamphetamine, possession of less than an ounce of marijuana, and possession of drug related objects. The jury deliberated less than an hour before finding Cherry guilty on all charges.

Charges stem from a traffic stop on Hickory Flat Highway. Just before midnight on October 15, 2020, a Cherokee Sheriff's Office deputy initiated a traffic stop after observing a vehicle fail to maintain its lane. While speaking to the driver, deputies detected the odor of marijuana then searched the car, finding multiple bags and containers of methamphetamine totaling approximately 33 grams, a bag of marijuana, and drug paraphernalia including a marijuana grinder, meth smoking pipes, and black scales.

"The District Attorney's Office is grateful for law enforcement's efforts to obtain justice in this case and allowing us the honor to present their unequalled work-product as we strive together to maintain law and order in our community," said Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Geoffrey Fogus, who prosecuted this case on behalf of the State.

On February 17, 2022, Senior Judge Frank C. Mills, III sentenced Cherry to 30 years with the first 15 years to be served in confinement and the remainder to be served on probation. Due to his previous felony convictions, the defendant was sentenced as a recidivist pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 17-10-7(a) and § 17-10-7(c), which requires him to serve the 15-year prison portion of the sentence in confinement without the possibility of parole. Once Cherry is released from prison, he is banned from Cherokee County, forbidden from contacting his co-defendant, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs totaling more than \$300,000.

"This defendant has had numerous opportunities to turn his life around and step away from criminal activity," said District Attorney Shannon Wallace. "Instead, he has continued to distribute methamphetamine to others in our county. Enough is enough. This sentence ensures this defendant will be unable to distribute this poison in Cherokee County for many years."

This case was investigated by the Cherokee Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Geoffrey Fogus, 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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