# **OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



SUSAN K. TREADAWAY District Attorney

Cherokee County Justice Center 90 North Street, Suite 390 Canton, GA 30114

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# 10 Years in Prison for Man Found Guilty of Kidnapping and False Imprisonment State vs. Cameron Burnett Long

**February 29, 2024** – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that on February 28, Superior Court Judge David Cannon Jr. sentenced Cameron Burnett Long, 45, of Woodstock, to 20 years, with 10 years to serve in prison and 10 years to serve on probation. A Cherokee County jury found Cameron guilty of kidnapping and false imprisonment on January 25 following a trial.

Charges stem from a Woodstock Police Department investigation that began on March 7, 2022, when an off-duty police officer from Cobb County called 911 to report a domestic dispute in which a man forcibly carried a woman into an apartment.

Woodstock Police officers determined that Long and the woman were in a dating relationship that had a history of domestic violence. After an argument, the woman decided to spend the night at a family member's home. While packing her belongings into garbage bags, the two continued to argue. Long threw a trash bag of clothing at the woman, at which point she fled the apartment.

At this point, Long chased her into the parking lot and wrestled her to the ground, where he picked her up against her will and carried her back inside their apartment. He then held her on the floor with his forearm pressed against her body so that she was unable to move. The victim was eventually able to escape from Long by deploying pepper spray.

Ring camera video shows the woman sprinting from the apartment and being carried back moments later. That video and eyewitness testimony from the off-duty police officer provided key evidence at trial. The State also presented evidence of prior family violence involving this victim as well as a woman from a previous relationship. The prior incidents were committed outside of Cherokee County.

"This defendant's behavior was incredibly disturbing. On that night, and on other occasions, he did everything in his power to assert and maintain control," said Assistant District Attorney Kelly Chavis, who prosecuted this case on behalf of the State. "The jury stood up for this victim, found this defendant guilty, and gave a domestic violence survivor the freedom to live her life without fear of more abuse."

During the sentencing hearing on February 28, the Defense recommended a sentence of 10 years in confinement, and the State recommended 20 years with the first 15 years to serve in custody.

Judge Cannon sentenced the defendant to a total of 20 years, with 10 years to serve in prison and 10 years on probation, to be served consecutively. Long will be subject to standard conditions of probation, including no

alcohol or drugs, and no possession of firearms. He is also forbidden to contact the victim and is banished from Cherokee County.

"Victims of domestic violence are often so frightened of their abusers that they never call for help. The man who witnessed this incident and called 911 is a true hero who set in motion the possibility of escape for this young woman," said District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway. "Woodstock Police thoroughly investigated this case, helping to ensure justice for this survivor, and then attended the sentencing hearing to show her their support."

The case was investigated by the Woodstock Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kelly Chavis, Office of the District Attorney, Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit.

## **Domestic Violence**

Domestic violence typically follows a pattern, with tension building, followed by a major act of violence, a calm period, and then cycling back to tension building. As time passes, the violent episodes often get more serious and may lead to a lethal act. This pattern of abuse is often referred to as the "Cycle of Violence." According to the Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention, strangulation is one of the most lethal forms of domestic violence. Odds for homicide increase substantially for victims who have been previously strangled.

If you or someone you know is impacted by domestic violence, please contact the Cherokee Family Violence Center, CFVC.org, 770-479-1703 (24/7 crisis hotline). In case of an emergency, call 911.

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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.

CONTACT: Cyndi Crossland Public Information Officer cbcrossland@cherokeega.com 770-479-1488