



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Notice of Sentencing
Prison Ordered for Jonesboro Man Convicted of Assault at Canton Hotel
State vs. Desmond Jamal Camp

CANTON, GA (July 7, 2026) – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that on June 23, Superior Court Judge Jennifer L. Davis sentenced Desmond Jamal Camp, 37, of Jonesboro, to 20 years with the first 10 years to be served in confinement and the remainder to be served on probation.

Camp was found guilty of family violence aggravated assault and false imprisonment following a jury trial that ended on June 11.

The charges stem from a Canton Police Department investigation into an assault that occurred at the Quality Inn on April 30, 2025. A woman reported being threatened and injured by Camp, with whom she was in a relationship.

She told police Camp assaulted her inside their room and threatened her with a knife. During the assault, her clothing was cut open, and she received cuts to her hand that were bleeding. She escaped to the front desk, where a staff member assisted her and called 911.

When police officers arrived, they spoke to the woman, who was visibly frightened and covered with a blanket, in a back office. She answered questions and provided critical information that aided in the quick apprehension of Camp, who was located as he attempted to enter I-575 South.

Shortly after Camp's arrest, the victim asked that the case be dismissed.

"Domestic violence cases are often among the most difficult to prosecute because it is not uncommon for victims to later minimize or recant what they initially reported. Fear, trauma, family pressures, financial dependence, and hope that the abuse will stop can all influence what happens after an arrest. That is why we follow the evidence and not just one statement in isolation," said District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway.

Over the course of the two-day trial, the State called seven witnesses, including the 911 caller, law enforcement officers, an expert in domestic violence, and the victim. The State also introduced 14 exhibits, among which were the cut clothing, the knife, 911 call, photographs, and body-worn footage from responding officers that captured the victim's demeanor and statements immediately after the assault.

"In this case, the jury heard the victim's initial disclosures, saw the physical evidence, listened to independent witnesses, and ultimately determined what happened. Protecting victims sometimes means moving forward with a case even when they are no longer able or willing to ask for that protection. Our commitment is to seek the truth,

hold offenders accountable, and help break the cycle of violence,” said Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Rachel Ashe, Domestic Violence Unit, who prosecuted this case on behalf of the State.

At the sentencing hearing, Judge Davis heard arguments from the State and the Defense, as well as victim impact statements, then sentenced Camp to 20 years, with the first 10 years to be served in confinement and the remainder to be served on probation.

While on probation, Camp must complete a family violence intervention program and an anger management program, as well as comply with additional special conditions. He is also prohibited from entering Cherokee County except for probation intake and court proceedings.

The case was investigated by the Canton Police Department. Prosecution was handled by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Rachel Ashe, of the Domestic Violence Unit, with assistance from Assistant District Attorney Elliot Stone, Office of the District Attorney, Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit.

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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.

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