

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jury Finds Lawrenceville Woman Guilty of Theft by Taking and DUI (2 counts)
State vs. Cynthia Maria Melendez

February 13, 2025 – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that on Wednesday, February 12, a Cherokee County jury found Cynthia Maria Melendez, 43, of Lawrenceville, guilty on all charges, including theft by taking, driving under the influence (per se), and driving under the influence (less safe) (alcohol).

Superior Court Judge Shannon Wallace announced that sentencing would be set at a later date.

Charges stem from a Cherokee Sheriff's Office investigation that began on June 9, 2023, when a woman called 911 to report that her vehicle had been stolen by Melendez.

The investigation determined that Melendez had become intoxicated earlier in the evening and was staying at an acquaintance's home for the night. After everyone went to sleep, Melendez left the home and took a vehicle without consent. She crashed the vehicle into another parked car, then called an Uber. Deputies located Melendez nearby and arrested her.

During the trial, which took place February 10-12, the State presented 32 exhibits and called eight individuals to testify, including law enforcement officers and witnesses.

The case was investigated by the Cherokee Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney William F. "Trey" Smith III, assisted by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Damion R. Overstreet, 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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