

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Notice of Sentencing
Repeat Offender to Serve 20 Years in Prison for Violent Beating of Woman
State vs. Jonathon Bailey Panter

April 3, 2025 – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that Jonathon Bailey Panter, 26, of Acworth, was sentenced April 2 to serve 20 years in prison after being convicted on charges of aggravated battery and family violence aggravated assault (2 counts).

Charges stem from multiple violent assaults that took place in February 2024 at a residence in the Acworth area of Cherokee County, where Panter and the victim lived.

Cherokee Sheriff's Office became aware of the assaults after the injured woman sought medical treatment at a hospital. She had bruises and abrasions on her legs, midsection, arms, neck, and face. She also had petechial hemorrhaging in her eye, which is a sign of strangulation. She told CSO deputies that Panter beat her "half to death."

A Cherokee County jury found Panter guilty on March 13 of three of the six charges the defendant faced at trial. During the four-day trial, nine witnesses testified for the State and five for the Defense. The State also introduced nearly 90 exhibits, including injury photos taken by the victim and law enforcement.

At the sentencing hearing, the State introduced additional evidence, including text messages and jail phone calls in which the defendant appeared to make light of his conviction.

"The evidence we presented at the sentencing hearing showed that this defendant has demonstrated no remorse for his actions and continues to shift the blame onto others for the crimes he committed. His refusal to take responsibility underscores the necessity of a substantial prison sentence," said Assistant District Attorney Macelyne A. Williams, of the Domestic Violence Unit, who prosecuted this case on behalf of the State.

After hearing argument from the State and the Defense, as well as testimony from the defendant and his family, Superior Court Judge Tony Baker sentenced Panter to 20 years in prison. Panter was also banned from Cherokee County and ordered to have no contact with the victim.

As a recidivist offender pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 17-10-7 (a) and (c), Panter will be required to serve his entire prison sentence without parole eligibility.

“This defendant violently attacked an especially vulnerable woman who felt she had no one to turn to, and nowhere else to go,” said District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway. “This case is a powerful reminder of the devastating impact domestic violence has on victims and communities. We will continue to pursue justice for victims and work to make sure offenders are removed from our streets.”

The case was investigated by Cherokee Sheriff’s Office and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Macelyne A. Williams, of the Domestic Violence Unit, 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.