

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Notice of Sentencing

After Burglary Conviction, Repeat Offenders Are Sentenced to Prison Without Parole
State vs. Ewell Randolph Bush Jr. and William Shane Morgan

April 11, 2025 – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that on April 8, Superior Court Judge Shannon Wallace sentenced Ewell Randolph Bush Jr., 37, of Jasper, and William Shane Morgan, 36, of Canton, to prison after a jury found them guilty in March of burglary in the first degree.

Bush was sentenced to 20 years, with the first 12 years to be served in confinement and the remainder to be served on probation. Morgan received a 20-year sentence as well, with the first 15 years to serve in confinement and the remainder on probation.

As recidivist offenders, both men will be required to serve the entire prison portion of their sentence without the possibility of parole.

In addition, Judge Wallace ordered the defendants to pay restitution totaling \$13,200 and forbid them from contact with each other or the victim. Judge Wallace also imposed a ban on the defendants from entering Cherokee County during their period of probation.

The charges stem from a burglary that occurred on August 16, 2023, at a home on Shoal Creek Road in Canton. The homeowner discovered the break-in around 4:30 p.m. when he returned from work. The intruders gained entry by breaking a glass window at the rear of the home.

Stolen items included a Smith & Wesson .44 Magnum revolver, Smith & Wesson AR-15 rifle, a Sig Sauer 9mm pistol, ammunition, six watches, a safe containing \$8,000 in cash, and landscaping equipment. Only the guns and landscaping equipment were recovered.

The investigation conducted by Canton Police Department confirmed the identity of the defendants through a combination of forensic evidence, including fingerprint analysis, pawned items at a local shop, and digital evidence extracted from the defendants' cell phones.

Detectives also determined that the house was not chosen randomly. The homeowner had previously provided Morgan with a job and a place to live.

“One of the most shocking elements of this case is that the defendants repaid kindness with the ultimate betrayal, breaking into an acquaintance’s home to steal his possessions,” said Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Damion Overstreet, of the Gang and Organized Crime Unit, who prosecuted this case on behalf of the State. “These criminals exploited someone’s generosity, then afterwards showed no remorse for their actions.”

The trial included testimony from the homeowner, law enforcement officers, an intelligence analyst, and other witnesses, as well as more 40 exhibits, including crime scene photos, surveillance video from the pawn shop, and digital communications extracted from the defendants' devices.

At the sentencing hearing on April 8, the State recommended restitution in the amount of \$13,200 to cover repairs to the home and replacement of stolen items not recovered, in addition to prison time for both defendants.

The State also presented evidence that both defendants are recidivist offenders with prior felony convictions. Pursuant to Georgia law, those who continue to commit felony crimes are required to be punished more harshly when the State elects to file notice of recidivism in sentencing and the case is prosecuted accordingly.

"These repeat offenders, with prior convictions dating back more than 10 years, have shown no remorse or willingness to take responsibility for their actions," said District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway. "The sentences handed down this week reflect the seriousness of their actions and the importance of protecting our community."

The case was investigated by the Canton Police Department, with assistance from the Cherokee Sheriff's Office. It was prosecuted by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Damion Overstreet, of the Gang/Organized Crime Unit, with the assistance of Assistant District Attorney Lauren Deutsch, 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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