

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Notice of Conviction
Cherokee County Jury Convicts Waleska Man in Death of Baby
State vs. Gregory Farrell Davis

May 2, 2025 – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that a Cherokee County jury convicted Gregory Farrell Davis, 27, of Waleska, of murdering 1-year-old James “Jamie” Marco Palcio. The jury reached its verdict on May 1, after deliberating for about one hour.

Davis was found guilty of malice murder, felony murder, cruelty to children in the first degree (4 counts), and willful obstruction of law enforcement officers. Cherokee County Chief Superior Court Judge David L. Cannon Jr., who presided over the nine-day trial, stated that sentencing would be scheduled at a future date.

The case originated on April 28, 2021, when Cherokee Sheriff’s Office responded to a 911 call reporting an unresponsive baby at a residence in Waleska. At the time of the incident, Davis was the only adult with the child and had been caring for the baby while the child’s mother was at work.

Pediatric specialists concluded the child had suffered abusive head trauma consistent with shaking. Injuries included subdural hemorrhage, retinal hemorrhages, ligamentous injuries to the neck, a fractured rib, and fractured vertebrae in the lumbar spine. The child was declared brain dead on April 30, 2021. An autopsy confirmed the cause of death as acute and healing traumatic injuries to the head, neck, and torso. The manner of death was ruled a homicide.

Over the course of the trial, the jury heard testimony from 24 witnesses for the State and one for the Defense. In addition, the State presented 114 exhibits as evidence, including 911 recordings, crime scene photographs, medical reports, the autopsy report, and other physical evidence.

The case was investigated by Cherokee Sheriff’s Office and prosecuted by Chief Assistant District Attorney Katie Gropper, with the assistance of Assistant District Attorney Leyna Pope, of the 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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