

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Notice of Conviction
Canton Man Found Guilty of Burning a Child with a Cigarette
State vs. Lior Talker

May 21, 2025 – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that a Cherokee County jury found Lior Talker, 44, of Canton, guilty of cruelty to children in the first degree. The verdict was reached on May 16, following a three-day trial and approximately 12 hours of jury deliberation.

The jury heard evidence that Talker had burned a child, who was under the age of 10, with a cigarette, causing second-degree burns.

Cherokee Sheriff's Office began investigating this case on February 29, 2024, when a hospital social worker called 911 to report suspected child abuse. Earlier that day, a boy told his counselor that Talker had burned him on his back with a cigarette. Medical staff at the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA) identified a circular wound on the boy's back that was consistent with a cigarette burn.

As part of the investigation, the boy and another child participated in forensic interviews at the Anna Crawford Children's Center.

During the trial, the State presented 11 witnesses, including the children, counselor, pediatric nurse, CHOA physician, forensic interviewer, representative from the Division of Family & Children Services (DFCS), law enforcement officers, and family members. Three character witnesses and the defendant testified for the Defense.

Sentencing will be set at a later date.

The case was investigated by the Cherokee Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney David Bailey, of the Special Victims 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.

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