

**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Gwinnett County Man Sentenced to Prison for Arson in Woodstock Nail Salon Fire**  
**State vs. Cang Thanh Luu**

**September 16, 2025** – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that, during a plea hearing on August 26, Cang Thanh Luu, 48, of Gwinnett County, entered a negotiated guilty plea to arson in the second degree and criminal damage to property in the second degree (2 counts).

At the hearing, Luu admitted to intentionally setting fire to Nick’s Nails, a nail salon located at 12910 Highway 92 in the city of Woodstock.

Superior Court Judge Jennifer L. Davis sentenced Luu, as negotiated, to five years, with the first three years to be served in prison and the remainder on probation. Luu is a Vietnamese national and will be subject to deportation after being released from prison. He was also ordered to pay \$382,589 in restitution.

“This conviction highlights the outstanding work of the Woodstock Police Department and the importance of close collaboration between law enforcement and prosecutors,” said Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Damion Overstreet, of the Gang/Organized Crime Unit, who prosecuted this case on behalf of the State. “Because of the swift law enforcement response, meticulous evidence collection, and thorough investigation, we were able to present a strong case in court.”

Charges stem from an arson investigation that began on January 12, 2021, after a suspicious overnight fire caused extensive damage to Nick’s Nails and adjacent businesses in the strip mall.

Upon arrival at the scene, Woodstock firefighters and police detected an overpowering odor of gasoline, a clear indication that the fire had been intentionally set. Other indicators of arson were also apparent, specifically: a gas can nozzle, four distinct points of fire origin, and burn patterns consistent with the use of flammable liquids.

As part of their investigation, detectives reviewed surveillance footage from nearby businesses to piece together the events of that night. That evidence included:

- Surveillance video from a gas station approximately one mile away showed Luu exiting a silver Toyota Camry and purchasing non-latex gloves just before 2 a.m.
- Footage showing the same Camry arriving at the strip mall shortly after 2 a.m.
- Video capturing a man carrying a red gas can into the nail salon, then leaving moments later as the fire alarm was activated.

Investigators also recovered a discarded non-latex glove at the scene that matched the brand and color of those purchased by Luu earlier that night.

“Arson is an inherently dangerous offense that threatens not only property, but also human lives, including those of firefighters, law enforcement, business owners, and the general public,” said District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway. “We are grateful for the response of the Woodstock Fire Department, which ensured that this fire was quickly contained and no injuries occurred.”

This case was investigated by Woodstock Police Department, with assistance from the Woodstock Fire Department. It was prosecuted by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Damion Overstreet, of the Gang/Organized Crime 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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