



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit, Cherokee County
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Notice of Sentencing
60 Years in Prison for Man Guilty of 16 Felony Sex Crimes Involving Multiple Children
State vs. Charles Lowry Douglas

CANTON, GA (October 1, 2026) – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that on September 9 Superior Court Judge Jennifer L. Davis sentenced Charles Lowry Douglas, 58, of Ball Ground, to a total of 80 years, with the first 60 years to serve in confinement, for 16 felony sex crimes involving four children.

In August, a Cherokee County jury found Douglas guilty of nine counts of child molestation and seven counts of sexual battery.

Douglas was indicted in 2022 following a Cherokee Sheriff's Office investigation into allegations of child sexual abuse. During the investigation, multiple victims disclosed historical abuse that occurred in Holly Springs and Ball Ground when they were as young as six and seven years old. The children described acts in which Douglas touched their breasts, buttocks, and inner thighs. All of the children were related or otherwise known to Douglas.

At the sentencing hearing, three victims and their parents provided impact statements, describing feelings of shame and fear, and the long-term trauma they've endured.

"This man has taken my dignity, my childhood, my safety, my purity, my innocence, and much more away from me until now. Now I know that he has zero control, zero power, and I can be free," said one of the children.

Another said, "I cannot get back the childhood that was taken from me, and I cannot erase the years I spent living with the consequences of what he did. But I can stand here today and speak for the little girl who was too scared to speak for herself. She deserved to be protected, she deserved to be believed, and she deserved to grow up feeling safe."

The State argued for a sentence of 80 years, with the first 60 years to serve in prison, while the Defense asked for rehabilitation and leniency.

"Throughout the prosecution of this case, the defendant showed no remorse. He put these children through the ordeal of testifying and, within an hour of being convicted, made calls from the jail saying they need to recant for his sake," said Assistant District Attorney Leyna Pope, who prosecuted this case on behalf of the State. "This defendant is exactly the man these children described him as – manipulative, controlling, and a danger to society."

At the conclusion of the hearing, Judge Davis sentenced Douglas as recommended by the State, ordering that he serve 80 years, with the first 60 in confinement. He is also forbidden from contacting the named victims and must comply with all sex offender special conditions.

“These children, now young adults, demonstrated remarkable courage in coming forward and facing their abuser in a courtroom full of strangers,” said District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway. “Their statements at sentencing reflect the long path they have traveled from victims to survivors. Their courage secured justice and safeguarded other children from harm.”

The case was investigated by the Cherokee Sheriff’s Office and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Leyna Pope of the Special Victims Unit.

Information About Sexual Abuse of Children

Child abusers often engage in a grooming process that allows them to perpetrate sexual abuse undetected. “Grooming” in the context of child sexual abuse is a manipulative process intended to secure the child’s silence. Common characteristics of the grooming process include targeting the child, gaining the child and caregiver’s trust, filling a need, using flattery and gifts, isolating the child, sexualizing the relationship, and maintaining control.

Children who have been groomed are often conflicted about their feelings for the abuser because he/she has methodically established a positive relationship with the child prior to introducing sexual touches. Children who have been groomed are also more likely to conceal the abuse and delay disclosing the abuse to others.

To report suspected child abuse, call Child Protective Services at 855-422-4453. If the child is in immediate danger, call 911.

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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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