

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



SHANNON WALLACE
District Attorney

Cherokee County Justice Center
90 North Street, Suite 390
Canton, GA 30114

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Cyndi Crossland
Public Information Officer
cbcrossland@cherokeega.com
770-479-1488

**Acworth man sentenced to 40 years for possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute;
three others sentenced for similar charges**

December 13, 2019 – District Attorney Shannon Wallace announces that four individuals have been sentenced for charges related to a drug bust at an Acworth home on May 17, 2018. Two defendants were found guilty by a Cherokee County jury, while the other two pled guilty at separate hearings. Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Holly Varner prosecuted the case on behalf of the State.

Carl Edward Williams, 56, of Acworth, was found guilty during a jury trial in October. A recidivist offender with six prior felony convictions, Williams was convicted of possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute. After the trial, Judge David L. Cannon Jr. sentenced Williams to 40 years with 20 years to be served in confinement.

Crystal Michelle Hyde (aka Crystal Michelle Williams), 41, of Kennesaw, entered a non-negotiated guilty plea to possession of a Schedule IV controlled substance with intent to distribute and possession of marijuana. During a plea hearing on December 3, Judge Cannon sentenced Hyde to 10 years with the first 5 years to be served in confinement.

“By possessing and distributing dangerous controlled substances like methamphetamine, these defendants have contributed to the addictions of others in our community, which will simply not be tolerated,” said District Attorney Shannon Wallace.

The other defendants pled guilty or were convicted of possession of illegal drugs. A Cherokee County jury found Jeffery Luke Dupree, 56, of Acworth guilty of possession of methamphetamine and tampering with evidence. On November 21, Judge Cannon sentenced Dupree to 13 years to be served on probation.

Maughn Marie Heisler, 57, of Rockmart, entered a negotiated guilty plea on September 16 to possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, and tampering with evidence. Senior Judge Frank C. Mills, III, sentenced her to 5 years in confinement.

“Hopefully Mr. Dupree and Ms. Heisler will use their sentences to re-evaluate their lives, overcome their addictions, and not repeat this criminal activity,” said Wallace.

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.

###