

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two men sentenced to prison for armed robbery and other charges
State vs. Brandon Devontae Kemp and Kerrick McCaslin

June 9, 2022 – Cherokee County District Attorney Shannon Wallace announces that Brandon Devontae Kemp, 29, of Smyrna, and Kerrick McCaslin, 24, of Atlanta, have been sentenced to prison for armed robbery and other crimes.

Charges stem from an armed robbery that occurred at 1:21 a.m. on January 24, 2020, at the Circle K/Flash Foods on Highway 92 in Woodstock.

Just after midnight, the defendants arrived at Flash Foods and loitered in the store for about an hour before standing outside the front door to smoke. At that point, they spotted the victim, a woman alone pumping gas, and attempted to take her vehicle at gunpoint. McCaslin brandished a firearm while Kemp climbed into the driver's seat. Frightened, the victim ran into the store, carrying her keys, seeking help. McCaslin then grabbed the victim's purse from inside her vehicle, and the two men fled on foot.

An employee called 911, and Woodstock Police responded. After speaking with the employee and the victim, police reviewed surveillance video of the incident.

Several hours later, Walmart employees spotted the suspects inside the store at approximately 6 a.m. and alerted Woodstock Police, who apprehended and arrested the men. McCaslin was carrying the loaded pistol used in the crime in the waistband of his pants, and Kemp was holding the victim's cash. Police found the victim's wallet and wristlet under a shelving unit near where Kemp was arrested and her purse next to a dumpster, which was located in the flight path from Circle K to Walmart.

Just prior to trial, McCaslin entered a negotiated guilty plea to armed robbery and possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony. Senior Judge Matthew O. Simmons sentenced him on May 23, 2022, to 25 years, with the first 10 years to be served in prison and the remainder to be served on probation.

A Cherokee County jury found Kemp guilty of all charges, including armed robbery, hijacking a motor vehicle, aggravated assault, possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony, and theft by taking. Senior Judge Simmons sentenced Kemp on May 25, 2022, to life in prison without the possibility of parole plus 25 years to run consecutively. Kemp has prior felony convictions and was sentenced as a recidivist pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 17-10-7(a) and § 17-10-7(c).

"We are pleased with this guilty verdict and the sentences for both defendants. Thanks to the hard work of law enforcement and the prosecution of this case, two dangerous criminals will no longer be on our streets," said District Attorney Shannon Wallace. "Our hearts go out to the victim who was understandably traumatized."

This case was investigated by the Woodstock Police Department and prosecuted by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Geoffrey Fogus.

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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