

**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

**Man admits to molesting 11-year-old girl in Cherokee County**  
**State vs. Lomack Deamonte Pridgen**

**September 16, 2022** – District Attorney Shannon Wallace announces that on June 27, 2022, Lomack Deamonte Pridgen, 23, entered a guilty plea to aggravated child molestation, aggravated sexual battery, and child molestation. He was sentenced to life on probation, with the first 12 years to be served in confinement without the possibility of parole during those 12 years.

Cherokee Sheriff's Office arrested Pridgen in September 2021 for sexual abuse of a child under the age of 16. The child disclosed the abuse to her parent, who reported the incident to law enforcement.

As part of the investigation, the child participated in a forensic interview at the Anna Crawford Children's Center, where she provided details of the crime.

"The defendant is someone known to the child, which made the prosecution of this case more difficult for everyone involved," said Assistant District Attorney Leyna Pope, of the Special Victims Unit, who prosecuted the case on behalf of the State. "This negotiated plea enables the family to have closure, without the victim having to undergo the trauma of a trial."

At the conclusion of the hearing, Senior Judge Walter J. Matthews accepted the guilty plea and sentenced the defendant as negotiated. Upon his release from prison, Pridgen will serve the remainder of his life on probation. He is prohibited from contacting the victim or her family members and must adhere to sex offender special conditions.

"This sexual predator took advantage of an innocent little girl, subjecting her to his sick perversions when no one was around to stop him. It took real courage for her to tell her mother what happened and to stay strong throughout this process," said District Attorney Shannon Wallace. "This sentence ensures that the defendant serves 12 years in prison, registers as a sex offender, and is closely monitored by law enforcement for the rest of his life."

This case was investigated by the Cherokee Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Leyna Pope, of the Special Victims Unit, Office of the District Attorney, Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit.

*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.*

###