

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



SUSAN K. TREADAWAY
District Attorney

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Repeat Offender to Serve 20 Years in Prison for Theft, Forgery, and Related Charges
State vs. Cody Ryan Henderson

October 29, 2025 – Cherokee County District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that, during a hearing on October 15, Cody Ryan Henderson, 40, of Canton, entered a non-negotiated guilty plea to theft by deception, theft by receiving stolen property, forgery in the first degree, identity fraud, and sale of a vehicle having an altered vehicle identification number.

A non-negotiated plea occurs when the defendant admits guilt to the charges, and both the prosecution and the defense counsel present sentencing recommendations and arguments before the judge determines the sentence.

Charges stem from an investigation that began on November 4, 2024, when the Cherokee Sheriff's Office learned that a stolen 2023 John Deere skid steer loader had been located at a Cherokee County storage facility and listed for sale on Facebook marketplace. Detectives determined that the man in possession of the equipment was unaware that it had been stolen. He had purchased it from another individual, later identified as Henderson, who altered the serial number, used a false identify, and produced fraudulent documentation to make the sale appear legitimate.

Using surveillance images and Flock camera technology, detectives identified Henderson and located him in Michigan, where he had been arrested for other charges.

“The defendant told law enforcement that a member of Hells Angels would give him ‘assignments’ to steal high-value vehicles using Ghostface Gangster members to conduct the thefts,” said Assistant District Attorney Pete Lamb, who prosecuted this case on behalf of the District Attorney’s Office. “He admitted to stealing the John Deere skid steer, removing its tracking chip, altering its VIN, and forging the bill of sale by using another person’s identification.”

At the conclusion of the hearing, Superior Court Judge Tony Baker sentenced Henderson to 35 years with the first 20 years to serve in prison. As a recidivist offender under O.C.G.A. 17-10-7(a) and (c), Henderson must serve the entire prison term without the possibility of parole. He was also ordered to have no contact of any kind with members or associates of criminal street gangs.

“When a defendant repeatedly engages in criminal activity, particularly when that individual has multiple prior felony convictions, a lengthy prison sentence is necessary,” said District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway. “This outcome reflects the serious consequences that follow a continued pattern of criminal behavior and reinforces our commitment to protecting persons and property in the community.”

This case was investigated by the Cherokee Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Pete Lamb, 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.

CONTACT

Cyndi Crossland, Public Information Officer

cbcrossland@cherokeega.com

770-479-1488