



**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway  
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit, Cherokee County  
90 North Street, Canton GA

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Notice of Conviction**  
**Canton Man Found Guilty of Sex Crimes Against Teen Girls**  
*State vs. Monquezias Deshad Watts*

March 19, 2026 – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that on March 19 a Cherokee County jury convicted Monquezias Deshad Watts, 33, of Canton, on 10 felony charges involving the sexual abuse of teenage girls. The jury found Watts guilty of four counts of rape, five counts of child molestation, and one count of aggravated sexual battery. He was acquitted of three additional counts.

Superior Court Judge Jennifer L. Davis set sentencing for March 26.

The Canton Police Department began investigating this case in April 2021 after a 14-year-old girl disclosed that Watts had sexually assaulted her. As the investigation progressed, additional victims were identified. All of the victims were under the age of 16 at the time of the offenses, including one child younger than 13. Watts was known to the victims.

At trial, prosecutors presented evidence that Watts provided drugs and alcohol to the teenagers and then assaulted them while they were asleep or otherwise impaired. Each of the victims testified at trial.

In total, jurors heard testimony from 28 witnesses, including the victims, law enforcement officers, child abuse experts, and others. The District Attorney's Office also introduced more than 100 exhibits, including a recorded forensic interview of one of the victims.

After an eight-day trial, the jury deliberated for approximately seven hours before returning its verdict.

The case was investigated by the Canton Police Department. The prosecution was handled by Assistant District Attorney Leyna Pope of the Special Victims Unit, assisted by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Geoffrey Fogus.

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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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