

17GP1003

**DEKALB COUNTY GRAND JURY PRESENTMENTS
JULY-AUGUST TERM, 2017**

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES:

COURTNEY L. JOHNSON
ASHA F. JACKSON
CLARENCE F. SEELIGER
GAIL C. FLAKE
GREGORY A. ADAMS
J P BOULEE
DANIEL M. COURSEY, JR.
LINDA W. HUNTER
MARK ANTHONY SCOTT
TANGELA BARRIE

Of the Superior Court of DeKalb County, Georgia, Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit
This Grand Jury, sworn in by the **Honorable Asha F. Jackson** in the DeKalb Superior Court
on **July 6, 2017** respectfully submits the following presentments.

INDICTMENTS

This Grand Jury was presented with (382) cases during the **July-August 2017** term. Of these cases (377) True Bills and (5) No Bills were returned. An additional (217) cases proceeded by Accusation.

REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION

Pursuant to the O.C.G.A. § 15-12-80, we the presently constituted Grand Jury recommend to the **Honorable Asha F. Jackson** that these general presentments be published in whole in the County Legal Organ.

The Grand Jury reports the following positive reviews:

- ~ Members of the Grand Jury leave their time of service more knowledgeable about how the justice system works
- ~ Members of the Grand Jury have a better appreciation of the Office of the DeKalb County District Attorney
- ~ The Grand Jury appreciated having a dedicated ADA assigned to Grand Jury and appreciates the present ADA, Kelly McMichael, for her approachable nature and very thorough knowledge of the law
- ~ The Grand Jury believes that the current structure of taking breaks as needed works well to facilitate case movement in an expedient manner
- ~ The Grand Jury appreciated the discussion of possible tours at the beginning of the session and the benefits of going on tours (i.e. jail tour)

The Grand Jury makes the following suggestions:

- ~The Grand Jury would like to encourage the DeKalb County Police Department and other law enforcement agencies within the county to continue or create school outreach programs. Further, the District Attorney's office should partner in these programs to teach students, specifically high school students, about various laws and their legal rights as they approach adulthood
- ~ The Grand Jury would request that officers not mention the race of the defendant unless necessary for the presentment of the case
- ~ The Grand Jury would suggest that a review of probable cause intermittently during the session and that said review be done in a respectful manner
- ~ The Grand Jury would suggest that the daily pay be increased to \$50 per day. In the alternative, the Grand Jury would suggest the county find another way to compensate those

individuals who take two months out of their lives to serve the county by allowing an exclusion from paying property tax during their year of service

~ The Grand Jury would suggest the following improvements be made to facilitate a more comfortable service: (1) a vending machine outside/near/in jury room, (2) the ability to better control the temperature within the jury room as it is often very hot in the room, (3) provide a Keurig, or other single serve coffee machine, to allow for coffee without the need/time requirement needed of a standard coffee pot, and (4) provide more comfortable chairs within the jury room

~ The Grand Jury would suggest the following to aid in the presentment of cases: (1) omit reading every check detail for check fraud cases (possibly displaying the checks upon a screen in the front of the room if necessary vs. reading out the detailed information), and (2) provide more visual/audio aids for certain cases

~ The Grand Jury would like to suggest the enforcement parking mishaps in the garage (i.e. tickets for individuals that do not park within a single parking space)

~ The Grand Jury would like to advocate for the appreciation and recognition of the hard work for the police officers within this jurisdiction



KAREN FALANA, FOREMAN



JUSTIN SQUIREWELL, ASST. FOREMAN



LASHANDA NELSON, SECRETARY



MARY OCCEAN, ASST. SECRETARY

NICHOLAS BASS
MARIA BONET
FELICIA COLEMAN
JEAN DEVILMAT
CHALLA GEMTA
FREDERICK HOLLEY
STEFANIE JENKINS
NEKOOSA JONES
DARIUS KELLEY
KELLY MCCARTY
JANET MCGEE
JOSEPH NEGRETE
MELIA PHIFER
CHARLES POWELL
SHARON REMALY
DOMINIQUE ROBERTSON
ARIEL RUSSELL
DAVID SANCHEZ
JOHN SCIACCA
DAVID SOMMER
JEFFERY THOMAS, JR.
WILLIAM WOOLF

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ORDER

The within and forgoing presentments have been filed in open Court,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that said presentment be filed and published, as requested, in the County Legal Organ.

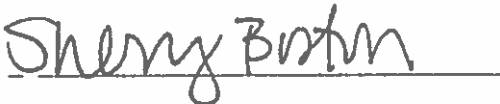
SO ORDERED this 31ST day of AUGUST, 2017.



HONORABLE ASHA F. JACKSON

DEKALB SUPERIOR COURT
STONE MOUNTAIN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

ACKNOWLEDGED:



SHERRY BOSTON
DISTRICT ATTORNEY



State of Georgia, DeKalb County,
The undersigned officer of DeKalb Superior Court certifies that this is a true and correct copy of the original document which is on file and of record in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court. Witness my hand and seal of the Superior Court of DeKalb County Georgia.

This 31st day of Aug 2017
Signature: Demay Mohamed
Deputy Clerk, DeKalb County Superior Court