

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

After Admitting to Domestic Violence Charges, Canton Man is Sentenced to 12 Years in Prison
State vs. Adam Josef Cromer

May 30, 2024 – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that Adam Josef Cromer, 32, of Canton, entered a non-negotiated guilty plea to charges related to two separate domestic violence incidents involving two different victims.

Charges included family violence aggravated assault (2 counts), false imprisonment (2 counts), family violence battery (2 counts), hindering an emergency telephone call, and criminal trespass. At the conclusion of the April 10 hearing, Cromer was sentenced to 35 years, with the first 12 years to serve in prison.

The first incident occurred on August 21, 2021, in Woodstock near Lake Allatoona. On that date, Cherokee Sheriff's Office was dispatched to a domestic dispute involving gunshots being fired at a woman. The victim told law enforcement that her on-again, off-again boyfriend fired two shots at her following a dispute. She was not injured but was fearful for her life.

During the investigation, deputies recovered Cromer's Ruger 9mm semi-automatic handgun in the front seat of his car, with missing rounds and the odor of burnt gunpowder. Neighbors reported hearing two "pops." A shell casing was later found in a nearby front yard.

The second incident occurred about two years later while Cromer was out on bond for the prior charges. This incident happened at a nearby home with a different woman.

Late in the evening on June 5, 2023, a verbal argument between Cromer and a woman became physical. Cromer then used his arm to place the woman in a chokehold. She tried to call 911, but Cromer took her phone and threw it out of reach. He strangled her a second time, causing her to nearly lose consciousness. She escaped by going into the bathroom and locking the door, then using her smartwatch to call 911.

When Cherokee Sheriff's Office responded, Cromer had fled the scene. The victim had red marks on the front and left side of her neck, as well as on her upper back. Her eyes were bloodshot, and her voice was raspy. Cromer was arrested on June 6, 2023, at his Canton home.

"This defendant terrorized not one, but two women. While he was out on bond for shooting at his girlfriend, he went on to strangle another woman," said Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Rachel Ashe of the Domestic Violence Unit, who prosecuted this case on behalf of the State. "Thankfully, both women escaped with their lives."

At the conclusion of the non-negotiated plea hearing, Superior Court Judge Tony Baker sentenced Cromer to 35 years, with the first 12 years to serve in prison. He was also banned from Cherokee County and forbidden to have contact with either of the victims.

“The violent tendencies of this defendant are deeply concerning. In both incidents, his actions could have had fatal consequences,” said District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway. “This sentence protects our community, brings this defendant to justice, and provides the victims with the opportunity for healing.”

This case was investigated by the Cherokee Sheriff’s Office and prosecuted by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Rachel Ashe, of the Domestic Violence Unit, Office of the District Attorney, Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence typically follows a pattern, with tension building, followed by a major act of violence, a calm period, and then cycling back to tension building. As time passes, the violent episodes often get more serious and may lead to a lethal act.

Strangulation is one of the most lethal forms of domestic violence even though injuries may appear to be mild or victims may have no visible marks. According to the Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention, strangulation is the ultimate form of power and control in which the batterer asserts control over the victim’s next breath. Odds for homicide increase substantially (750%) for victims who have been previously strangled.

If you or someone you know is impacted by domestic violence, please contact the Cherokee Family Violence Center, CFVC.org, 770-479-1703 (24/7 crisis hotline). In case of an emergency, call 911.

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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