

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF GORDON

FILED
Clerk Superior Ct., Gordon County

AUG 28 2025

Grant Walraven
Clerk

The Superior Court of Gordon County convened on Monday, June 2, 2025 at 9:00 a.m., with the Honorable Suzanne H. Smith, Judge of the Superior Courts for the Cherokee Judicial Circuit, presiding. After court was called to order, the following persons were selected as Grand Jurors for the June Term, 2025.

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| 1. Joyce Chasteen, Foreperson | 14. Joseph Hufstetler |
| 2. Lamar McBee | 15. Farrell Reece |
| 3. Julie V. Brown | 16. Penny Jordan |
| 4. Gerald Henry Jackson, Jr. | 17. Ashley Allen |
| 5. Lindsay Ollis | 18. Andrew Lyle |
| 6. James C. Bell | 19. Jacqueline Cascio |
| 7. Mary K. Minor | 20. Kelley Brown |
| 8. Kim Carter | 21. Jaren Jeffords |
| 9. Jake Ramirez | 22. Sandra J. Greeson |
| 10. Jessica Lee Ellis | 23. Katrina L. Walls |
| 11. Emily Beavers | 24. Marvin Young, Alternate |
| 12. David West | 25. Andrew Alcantar, Alternate |
| 13. Cody West | 26. Brittany Ponders, Alternate |

The following members were elected to serve as officers for this Grand Jury;

- 1) Joyce Chasteen, Foreperson
- 2) Lindsay Ollis, Vice Foreperson
- 3) Kelley Brown, Clerk
- 4) James C. Bell, Doorperson
- 5) Dwight Gentry, William Tyner and Barry Brock, Bailiffs

Judge Suzanne Smith charged and instructed the Grand Jury, and District Attorney Erle J. Newton III, administered the statutory oaths to the Foreperson, all other members of this Grand Jury, and to this grand jury's bailiffs.

We thank District Attorney Newton and his Assistants for their legal opinions and the whole staff for the assistance in the proceedings as to criminal cases presented to this Grand Jury. Mr. Newton's patience and understanding were much appreciated. We also commend our law enforcement personnel for the excellent job they do and thank the officers who appeared before this body from all the different local agencies for their efficiency, appearance, and professionalism. We thank our Bailiffs for their service and courtesy to this body and we recommend that they be paid an additional day's pay for their performance and all extra duties and services that they provided this body.

1. We have examined all criminal cases presented by the District Attorney's Office and reported 60 True Bills and -0- No Bills.

2. In accordance with our statutory duties (O.C.G.A. § 36-1-7) on the first day of this term, this body received the written financial reports of the following county officials:

- (1) Hon. Mitch Ralston, Sheriff of Gordon County along with Chief Deputy Robert L. Paris & Major Pat Bedford;
- (2) Hon. Scott Clements, Tax Commissioner;
- (3) Hon. John R. (Richie) Parker, Judge of Probate Court;
- (4) Hon. Grant Walraven, Clerk of Court; and
- (5) Jim Ledbetter, Administrator, Gordon County Board of Commissioners.

All financial reports have been examined and all are accepted as submitted. We appreciate and thank these officials for the job each is doing.

3. In accordance with O.C.G.A. 48-5-161(d), this Grand Jury was designated as the one to conduct the annual inspection of the Execution Docket and Cashbook of the County Tax Commissioner. The inspection committee consisting of Mary Minor, Jaren Jeffords and David West inspected our Tax Commissioner's Execution Docket and issued the following report:

96.5% of 2024 taxes have been collected; 98.5% of 2023 taxes have been collected;
99.29% of 2022 and 99.5% of 2021 taxes have been collected.

4. In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 15-12-71(b)(1), this Grand Jury was designated as the one to conduct the annual inspection of the conditions and operations of the Gordon County Jail. The inspection committee members were Sandra Greeson, Cody West, Jerry Jackson and Penny Jordan. Our report is as follows: The Jail and staff were very well organized. The staff is very efficient and takes great pride in their duties. The technology and security systems were impressive and state of the art. Staff showed great compassion for their charges. Thank you for the great job you do.

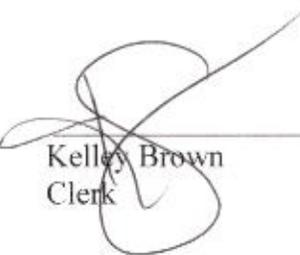
5. We authorize our Foreperson to call this Grand Jury back into session any time during our appointed term, if she warrants it to be necessary.

6. We recommend these presentments be spread upon the minutes of the Court and be published in the legal organ of Gordon County.

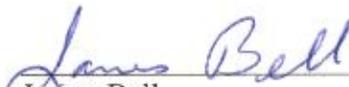
This 27th day August, 2025.



Joyce Chasteen
Foreperson



Kelley Brown
Clerk



James Bell
Doorperson

ORDER OF THE COURT

Presented in open court, let the same be filed and spread upon the minutes of the Court. Let these presentments be published in the legal organ of Gordon County.

This 28th day of August, 2025



Hon. Samir J. Patel
Judge, Superior Court
Cherokee Judicial Circuit