

HUNDREDS OF FULTON COUNTY RESIDENTS ATEND CITIZENS' TOWN HALL ON RISING JUVENILE CRIME

State and County Leaders Discuss Recommendations for Improvement



Atlanta- In an unprecedented event, more than a dozen elected officials and hundreds of Fulton County residents converged under one roof at Cascade United Methodist Church to discuss how to change the increasing juvenile crime problems in Fulton County. Sandy Springs State Representative and Judiciary Committee Chairman Wendell Willard, Reverend Lawrence L. Young, Senior Pastor at Cascade United Methodist Church, along with Fulton County District Attorney Paul L. Howard, Jr. hosted the town hall meeting in response to an increase in juvenile crime.

The program, "Our Children, Juvenile Justice and the Community - The Analysis and Healing begins at Cascade United Methodist Church," addressed the juvenile point system, juvenile delinquency and competency proceedings in Fulton County, along

with recommendations on how to reduce juvenile crime in our community. The proposed recommendations include:

1. Requiring that juveniles charged with certain felony offenses, who have prior pending charges, or who are currently on probation be brought before the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court before release;
2. Amendments to the Juvenile Competency Statute including a requirement that juveniles who are found to be incompetent be released only to an authorized residential treatment facility;
3. Additional funding for the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Disabilities and Adolescent Forensic Services to ensure that juveniles are afforded adequate behavioral and forensic services
4. Establish a Community Risk Reduction Panel to develop an intervention plan for youth who have been adjudicated delinquent in three or more separate cases and;
5. Develop a Juvenile Offenders Coordination Council comprised of Public Officials who would draft a mandatory intervention plan when a child has been found to be delinquent in ten or more cases.

"We are tired of mourning for the families of victims murdered at the hands of juveniles in Fulton County. We recognize there needs to be a form of intervention before misdemeanor juvenile crimes escalate to very serious crimes. The presence of our elected officials at Cascade United Methodist Church shows the willingness to create laws that, not only keep Fulton County safe, but help to turn these juvenile offenders into productive Citizens," said Fulton County District Attorney Paul L. Howard, Jr.

NEW ZONE 5 COMMUNITY PROSECUTOR



Assistant District Attorney Niaa C. Daniels is a dual degree graduate from Georgia State University College of Law and Georgia State University Andrew Young School of Policy Studies. In addition to obtaining her Juris Doctor, ADA Daniels secured her Masters in Public Administration to better understand government agencies, policies, and non-profit organizations. She is licensed to practice law in the states of Georgia and New York.

ADA Daniels' past experience includes clerking for the Honorable Justice Benham of the Georgia Supreme Court, serving as a student attorney for the DeKalb County Public Defenders Office, as well as working with H.J. Russell Enterprises' General Counsel. ADA Daniels serves in several professional organizations including the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA) and the American Association for Justice. She is a proud recipient of several scholarships and awards such as

the GABWA Foundation Scholarship, the Gate City Hall of Fame Scholar Award, and the Ronald J. Freeman Opportunity Scholarship.

To ensure she is upholding the legacy of those who have invested in her success. ADA Daniels has worked hard to pursue opportunities that not only further her career, but also allow her to serve people. ADA Daniels graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University at Albany located in Albany, New York. During undergraduate school she was honored as a distinguished leader for founding the NIA A.L.A.N.A Scholarship. NIA means purpose in Kiswahili. Inspired by her own financial setbacks, she wanted to honor and assist students who too experienced hardship yet still exhibited their purpose at the University. Recipients represent African American, Latin, Asian, and Native American (A.L.A.N.A.) descent. The scholarship has been distributed to four undergraduate students annually since spring of 2012. ADA Daniels is excited to join the Zone 5 family, and begin what she is optimistic will be a fulfilling, impactful relationship with community leaders and Zone 5 citizens.



A Publication from the Fulton County District Attorney's Office

CRIME DOWN 87 PERCENT ON DELMAR LANE

County and City Leaders Tackle Crime by Revitalizing Community



At Atlanta- In 2003, a concerned citizen, Mary Williams, in the Delmar Lane community, invited Fulton County District Attorney Paul L. Howard, Jr. to witness the effects of a drug house in her neighborhood. On the day District Attorney Howard visited, there was a murder on Delmar Lane. Howard also saw illegal drug users from across metro Atlanta walk up to the dilapidated drug house at 3055 Delmar Lane insert money into an opening in the top of the door and watched the drugs fall out of another opening in the bottom of the door.

For years, this drug home plagued Ms. Williams and her Community with illegal drug activity, murders and thefts. There were 40 arrest and 23 drug transactions documented at the home.

In 2001, Fulton County District Attorney Paul L. Howard, Jr.'s Community Prosecution Unit started the Neighborhood Fresh

Start Initiative. The program partnered Community Prosecutors with law enforcement officials and representatives of community development organizations to revive communities plagued by violence and crime.

The dilapidated drug home on Delmar Lane was identified by Neighborhood Fresh Start as a property that needed to be permanently closed. In 2004, Fulton County District Attorney Howard seized the property and evicted its former occupants. The dilapidated home was demolished and the property was donated to the Habitat for Humanity, who helped build three new single-family homes on Delmar Lane. On Saturday, December, 3, 2016, the DA's office, Habitat for Humanity and volunteers from the community finished its work by planting flowers, trees and staining decks on the new homes. Each of the homes are now occupied by a deserving family.

Since the District Attorney's office became involved in transforming the Delmar Lane community in 2002, crime has decreased by 87 percent.

"The decrease in crime in the Delmar Lane community by 87 percent is significant. When I was first invited out to this area in 2003, the average number of crimes committed on Delmar Lane was 207. Delmar Lane is less than a mile long with 94 homes. Today, on average there are 26 crimes committed. We are continuing our work to lower that number. However, the reduction in the number of crimes committed shows what can happen when a community comes together," said Fulton County District Attorney Paul L. Howard, Jr.

In Fulton County, there are 89 homes that have been identified as drug homes. Prosecutors assigned to the Fulton County District Attorney's Abatement Team are working to seize those homes to continue to revive communities in Fulton County.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

LOCAL GANG “CAPO” CONVICTED OF ATTEMPTED MURDER

Victim Attempted to Withdraw from Gang

Atlanta- The “Capo”, also referred to as the leader, of a local gang and another fellow gang member pleaded guilty to Attempted Murder and several other offenses. Farrakmad Muhammad Price and Toddric Freeman were the last of five defendants to be sentenced for the shooting of a 19-year-old fellow gang member. The victim was attempting to leave the gang to raise his infant child and pursue a normal life when he was shot eight times.

Gang Activity, Criminal Attempt to Commit Murder, Aggravated Assault, Aggravated Battery, and related gun charges. Strickland was sentenced to 50 years to serve 30 in prison.

Damian Mayer was the second defendant to enter a guilty plea on December 15, 2016. The victim said Mayer was the only person he did not see with a gun during the shooting. Mayer was sentenced to 10 years probation.

The third defendant, Nathaniel Lowe agreed to cooperate with Atlanta Police detectives. However, Lowe was shot and killed for his decision to work with police on November 16, 2014. DeAngelo Tucker, a fellow gang member, was arrested and indicted for the murder of Lowe. Tucker is now awaiting trial.

Following the guilty pleas of Price and Freeman last week, Fulton County Superior Court Judge Jerry Baxter sentenced Freeman to 25 years to serve 15 in prison. Price was sentenced to 30 years to serve 18 in prison. Members of the Fulton County District Attorney’s Gang Unit, Deputy Assistant District Attorney Adriane Love and Assistant District Attorney Addison Waid IV prosecuted the case. Fulton County Senior Investigator Charles Prescott assisted in the investigation. Scott Berhalter from the Atlanta Police Department was the lead detective.

Rodrecus Strickland was the first of the five defendants to enter a guilty plea on November 4, 2016. He pleaded guilty to Participation in Criminal Street

“DEATH SQUAD” SENTENCED IN THE MURDER OF TARGET CORPORATION SUPERVISOR

Victim Shot in Her Own Closet

Atlanta- Fulton County District Attorney Paul L. Howard, Jr. announces Jonathan Banks, James Sims and James Calhoun were sentenced Tuesday after jurors returned verdicts of guilty upon charges of Murder, Felony Murder, Aggravated Assault, Burglary in the First, and Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Crime.

On November 30, 2013, Ms. Pamela Williams called 911 during an apparent break-in at her home in the Amhurst Subdivision. She told the 911 operator she was hiding in her closet. When Fulton County police arrived at the burglarized home, they found the 43-year-old with a single gunshot wound to her head. She was shot at point blank range and she died days later, as a result of those injuries.

Williams was a corporate store manager at Target located on Camp Creek Parkway. As a beloved member of the Community and valued employee, her neighbors and colleagues raised over \$15,000.00 for information leading to an arrest. Police quickly developed leads in the case that led to the arrests of Banks, Sims and Calhoun two weeks later.

During the trial, prosecutors revealed the defendants, whom they referred to as a “Death Squad,” were a part of a burglary ring responsible for more than 100 burglaries in South Fulton County and at least one other shooting. The victim in that shooting testified at trial that she too hid in a closet when she was shot several times. At trial, she identified defendant, Calhoun, as the person who shot her ten months before Williams’ death. The victim lived less than five miles from the Amhurst Subdivision.

Fulton County Superior Court Judge Tom Campbell sentenced Calhoun and Sims to life with the possibility of parole. Banks was sentenced to serve life in prison without the possibility of parole. The case was prosecuted by Chief Senior Assistant District Attorney Clint Rucker, Chief Senior Assistant District Attorney Linda Dunikoski and Community Prosecutor Jocelyn Watkins. Fulton County District Attorney’s Office Chief Investigator Cynthia Nwokocha, Investigator Wenda Killings, and Investigator Thomas Webb assisted. Rasheed Hamilton from the Fulton County Police Department was the lead Detective.

NEW DIVISION LEADERS AND DEPUTIES



AMY FERGUSON
ASSISTANT
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
DIRECTOR - CAWAC

Amy Ferguson was born and raised in North Carolina but has lived in Atlanta since 2000. She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a BA degree in History and English. She also graduated from Georgia State University College of Law in 2003. Since 2003, Amy has been a Prosecutor, and Managing Attorney of a small law firm. She was also Owner/Managing Attorney of her own small firm and prior to coming to Fulton County, she served Clayton County District Attorney’s Office as an Assistant District Attorney assigned to their Crimes Against Women and Children Unit. Amy is currently the Director of the Crimes Against Women and Children Unit in the Fulton County District Attorney’s Office. She is honored and blessed to serve all of the citizens of Fulton County but especially its women and children. Amy is married to Vincent Reynolds and has two children, Madi, age 5 and Max age 3.



ADRIANNE LOVE
DEPUTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEY

Deputy District Attorney Adriane L. Love is currently Director of the Fulton County District Attorney’s Office Gangs, Guns, and Drugs Unit. She is a veteran prosecutor with nearly 15 years of experience, who has successfully tried some of the most complex cases in the office. Her list of successfully tried cases includes gang murders, child homicides, aggravated sexual assaults and child molestations, and human trafficking. Adriane Love is a prosecutor with small town values and big city grit. She began her prosecutorial career in the Middle Judicial Circuit of Georgia, where she successfully tried scores of felony cases. She enjoys the work that she does and finds gratification in giving justice and closure to the some of the most vulnerable and sometimes the most forgotten members of the community.



IRINA KHASIN CHIEF
SENIOR ASSISTANT
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Irina Khasin is a Chief Senior Assistant District Attorney at the Fulton County District Attorney’s Office, where she has prosecuted crimes against women and children since 2011. Irina received her Bachelor of Arts degree, magna cum laude, from the University of Southern California in 2006 and her Juris Doctor from Vanderbilt University Law School in 2009. After graduating, she served as a Law Clerk to The Honorable C. Lynwood Smith, Jr. of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama before working at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, LLP as a civil litigation associate. Since joining the Fulton County District Attorney’s Office, Irina has successfully conducted more than 25 jury trials as lead prosecutor with a 100% conviction rate. She has received numerous honors for excellence in trial advocacy, including CAWAC Rookie Lawyer of the Year in 2013, the Lewis Slaton Highest Achievement Award in 2014, and the Trial Combat Award in 2015. Recognizing her commitment to advocacy for victims of sexual assault and exploitation, District Attorney Paul L. Howard, Jr. appointed Irina as the Director of the Human Trafficking Unit in 2015 as well as the Deputy Director of the Crimes Against Women & Children Unit in 2017. In addition to trying cases, Irina regularly trains law enforcement officers and educates the community about issues concerning sexual assault and human trafficking in Georgia.



PAT DUTCHER
DEPUTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEY

Pat Dutcher joined the Fulton County District Attorney’s Office in September 2008 as a Senior Assistant District Attorney. Pat graduated from Stetson University College of Law cum laude in 2004. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, from Lynchburg College in Philosophy and Political Science in 2000. Prior to his work in Fulton County, he served as an Assistant District Attorney in the Coweta Judicial Circuit, where he successfully tried dozens of felony cases ranging from burglary to murder. Since joining the Fulton County District Attorney’s Office, Pat was quickly promoted to Chief Senior Assistant District Attorney in the Major Case Division. During Pat’s rise through the DA’s Office, he has been consistently recognized for his exceptional trial skills, receiving numerous awards including Non-complex Trial Division Lawyer of the Year in 2009, Major Case Lawyer of the Year in 2014, and the Lewis Slaton Highest Achievement Award in 2016. The Fulton Daily Report also selected Pat as one of the top ten lawyers to watch in 2010. Since being assigned to the Major Case Division, Pat has not lost a murder case. Several of his prosecutions have become the basis of nationally televised shows, including episodes on Snapped, Fatal Attraction and Court TV. Committed to serving the citizens of Fulton County and achieving justice for victims of violent crimes, Pat now heads the Major Case Division as Deputy District Attorney.



KEITH LAMAR JR.
DEPUTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEY

Deputy District Attorney Keith Lamar Jr. joined the District Attorney Office in February 2012. After a brief stint in the Complaint room, Mr. Lamar was assigned to the Non-Complex Trial Division. While in the Non-Complex Division, he was awarded Non-Complex Attorney of the Year. He was promoted to Community Prosecution in 2013 and was awarded Employee of the Year for Fulton County. Most recently, Mr. Lamar was awarded the Fulton County Public Service Award for 2016. Mr. Lamar is committed to taking proactive steps in enhancing his community by reaching out to the community members and local business owners about issues within the community and working with them in implementing plans to prevent crime before it occurs. In addition to his work at the District Attorney Office, Mr. Lamar is the Southeast Regional Director for the National Black Prosecutor Association. He is responsible for Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Mr. Lamar is a graduate of Morehouse College and Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University. He is committed to the residents of Fulton County and honored to be their Community Prosecutor.



LAUREN MCAULEY
DEPUTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEY

Deputy District Attorney Lauren McAuley joined the Fulton County District Attorney’s Office in January 2013. Since joining the office, Ms. McAuley has tried felony cases with the Complex Trial Division and the Crimes Against Women and Children Unit, resulting in a 100% trial conviction rate. Ms. McAuley was recognized as the “Crimes Against Women and Children Attorney of the Year” for 2016, an accomplishment that reflects her passion and advocacy for the rights’ of victims and commitment to serving her community. Prior to becoming a prosecutor, Ms. McAuley practiced criminal defense and family law in metropolitan Detroit, where she also served as a guardian ad litem in neglect and deprivation proceedings involving children and their families. Ms. McAuley obtained her Masters of Law in Child Law & Policy from Emory University School of Law in 2012, which provides her expertise on children and their intersection within the justice system. Ms. McAuley was recently appointed to serve as the director of the Juvenile Division, where she is working to improve the juvenile justice system and the lives of children within Fulton County.