

Superior and Juvenile Courts
Columbia County, Georgia
Filed for Record This 20th
Day of March, 2025

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

[Signature] Chief C. P.
Cindy Mason, Clerk of Court

STATE OF GEORGIA

11:45am

IN RE: GRAND JURY PRESENTMENT FOR THE SEPTEMBER TERM 2024

The Grand Jury having returned the attached presentment for the September Term 2024, and the same having been reviewed and accepted by the Court on March 20, 2025, it is now

ORDERED that the same presentment shall be filed in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court for Columbia County, and that it shall be published once in The Columbia County News-Times, the legal gazette for said County.

It is so ORDERED this 20th day of March 2025.

[Signature]
Honorable J. Grady Blanchard
Superior Court Judge
Columbia Judicial Circuit

Superior and Juvenile Courts
Columbia County, Georgia
Filed for Record This 20th
Day of March, 2025
Jeany Wells, Chief Dep.
Cindy Mason, Clerk of Court 11:45 am

TO: The Honorable J. Grady Blanchard
Judge, Superior Court

FROM: Columbia County Grand Jury
September Term 2024

DATE: March 20, 2025

RE: Grand Jury Presentment

We, the members of the Columbia County Grand Jury, for the September Term 2024, having been duly sworn by the Honorable Sheryl B. Jolly on the 23rd day of September 2024, submit our presentment on the 20th day of March 2025, our last day as an official body of Grand Jurors.

To discharge our sworn functions, as prescribed by the laws of the State of Georgia, we met on twelve (12) occasions during our term and acted upon Bills of Indictment presented to us by staff of the District Attorney. A Sub-Committees was formed to inspect the following Columbia County Departments: the Columbia County Detention Center.

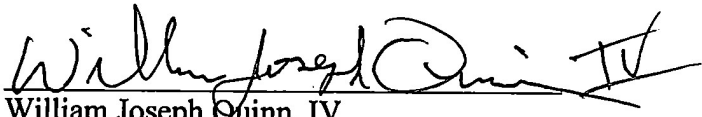
Respectfully, we present this presentment on the 20th day of March 2025 and request that it be published.




Harold Hunt, Foreperson

Sarah Michelle Freer

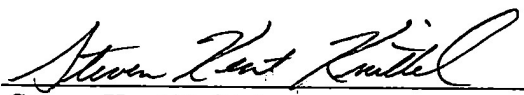
Jennifer Brooke Wells, Assistant Foreperson



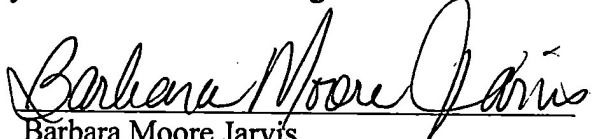
William Joseph Quinn, IV



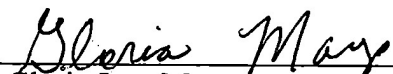
Termaine Raffel Jennings



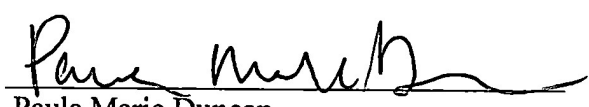
Steven Kent Knittel



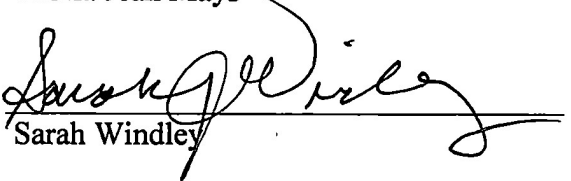
Barbara Moore Jarvis



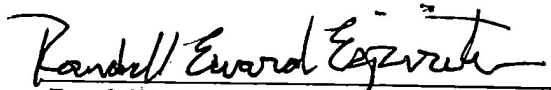
Gloria Jean Mays

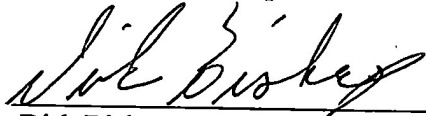



Paula Marie Duncan

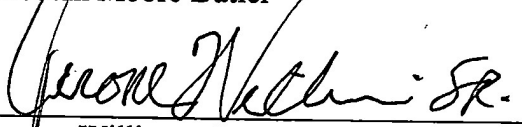


Sarah Windley


Randall Edward Espiritu

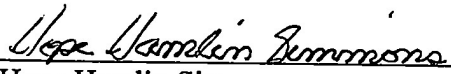

Dirk Bishop


Deborah Moore Butler


Jerome Williams, Sr.


Wendy Carson

Jason Wade Barris


Hope Hamlin Simmons

Lakeyta Crawford, Alternate

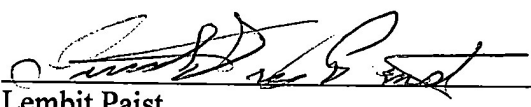
Brittany Tankersley


Logan Evan Waters

David Ransom Rabun, II

Corey Len Huss


Lancee Yeomans Leverett


Lembit Paist

Michael Thomas Briggs, Alternate

Richard Harrington, Alternate

Grand Jury Inspection of Columbia County Detention Center

On January 9, 2025, three members of the Grand Jury visited the Columbia County Detention Center. We were briefed by Captain John Sherman about the operations, procedures, and physical facility of the Detention Center. There are separate male and female areas and levels of detention in those areas are based on the severity of the crimes committed and on inmate behavior while housed in the Center. We viewed several levels of detention and toured the medical area and the resident intake area. We did not visit the female area. Consistent staffing levels remain problematic for the administration. We ate a very good lunch in the dining facility and met Sheriff Whittle while there.

All staff were professional and serious about their responsibilities. Leadership interacted well with their staff members and inmates. The Center was well organized and disciplined and every area we visited was in good repair, neat, orderly and well maintained. Other than staffing challenges, we found no deficiencies.

It is our opinion that the Columbia County Detention Center is an excellent facility, the residents are well cared for, and that the Center is a great asset to our community, our Law Enforcement organization and staff, and other members of Columbia County public service work force.

Respectfully,



H. David Hunt
Foreperson