Superior Court Minutes
Honorable J. Grady Blanchard, Judge Presiding
Sentencing / Jury Trial
Wednesday, July 8, 2026
Courtroom V
Court Reporter: Shannon Flannery
Assistant District Attorneys: Jarryd Brown & Grace Jolly
Deputy Clerk: Faith Powell
Assistant Deputy Clerk: Kaylynn Rollins

8:52 a.m. Court is in session.

8:55 a.m. Court conducts sentencing.

9:08 a.m. The following case announces ready for jury trial.

Case number: 2025CR1402
State of Georgia
Vs.
Paul Martin Cohen Jr., Defendant

State of Georgia is represented by Assistant District Attorney Jarryd Brown & Grace Jolly.

Defendant is represented by Attorney Gerald A. Griggs.

9:19 a.m. The following jurors enter the courtroom.

1. Marte A Gifford
2. John Clifford Wagner
3. Stacy Marie Woodard
4. Marcella Hightower Harper
5. Robyn Joanne Wirsing Black
6. William Patrick Rice
7. Marjorie A Phillips
8. Eddie Leon Hightower III
9. Amanda Tarasevitsch
10. Franklin Lariscey Jr
11. Charity Lynn Bussey
12. Sylvia Twyla Mccann
13. Shannon Elizabeth Simoneau
14. Justin R Mcbride
15. Tressa A Smith
16. Kathryn Targee Sapp
17. Glenn Aaron Bonesteel
18. Sarah Louise Harris

Filed in Clerk's Office
Wednesday, July 8, 2026 @11:44 a.m.
Cindy Mason, Clerk of Court

19. Rosetta Williams Carter
20. Rebecca June Harper
21. Kimberly Beth Smith
22. Elizabeth Anne Gibson
23. Corilla Young Maile
24. Tammy Marie Tiroff

9:21 a.m. Judge Blanchard administers oath to jurors

9:21 a.m. Judge Blanchard administers oath to bailiffs.

9:22 a.m. Judge Blanchard gives preliminary instructions to jurors.

9:26 a.m. Judge Blanchard administers voir dire oath.

9:26 a.m. Attorneys introduce themselves.

9:27 a.m. Judge Blanchard reads the Accusation.

9:32 a.m. Judge Blanchard qualifies the jury.

9:32 a.m. Jurors give information about themselves.

9:43 a.m. Attorney Jarryd Brown begins voir dire on behalf of the state.

9:57 a.m. Attorney Gerald Griggs begins voir dire on behalf of the state.

10:07 a.m. The jury exits the courtroom.

10:09 a.m. The court is in recess.

10:15 a.m. The court is back in session.

10:15 a.m. Jury is selected using the silent method outside the presence of the jury.

10:25 a.m. Court is in recess.

10:27 a.m. Court is back in session

10:29 a.m. Court is in recess.

10:48 a.m. Court is back in session.

10:48 a.m. Selected jurors enter the courtroom.

10:49 a.m. Deputy clerk publishes the jury.

Impaneled jurors are:
1. Marte A Gifford
2. John Clifford Wagner
3. Stacy Marie Woodard
4. Eddie Leon Hightower III
5. Amanda Tarasevitsch
6. Charity Lynn Bussey
7. Justin R Mcbride – Alt.

10:50 a.m.	Judge administers oath to jury.
10:50 a.m.	Judge Blanchard gives preliminary instructions to the jury.
11:02 a.m.	Assistant District Attorney Jarryd Brown delivers his opening statements on behalf of the state.
11:06 a.m.	Attorney Gerald Griggs delivers his opening statements on behalf of the defendant.
11:11 a.m.	Assistant District Attorney Jarryd Brown begins presenting his case on behalf of the state.
11:37 a.m.	The Jury exits the courtroom.
	Venue is not in Columbia County. The case is announced to be dismissed.
11:41 a.m.	The jury enters the courtroom and is excused for the week.
11:44 a.m.	Court is adjourned.