

Cullman County District Attorney's Office



2023 Annual Report

Champ Crocker
Cullman County District Attorney



A Letter From

CULLMAN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY CHAMP CROCKER



It was my highest honor to take office as your District Attorney on January 17, 2023. I am highlighting my policies of accessibility and transparency with this 2023 Annual Report.

During our first year we focused on improving the overall efficiency of this office. We hit the ground running by prosecuting violent felony cases that had been pending for years. We have met with victims and their families during this year to strengthen the bond between the Office of District Attorney and the people we serve.

We have been active in the community by maintaining a presence at community events, law enforcement activities and working closely with our school systems. We have worked to educate the public about domestic violence, elderly abuse and dangerous social media apps, and much more.

I hope you will find this information helpful. My staff and I are honored to serve you.

Champ Crocker

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District Attorney's Office Staff



Champ Crocker
District Attorney



Greg Johnson
Deputy District
Attorney



Tina Burgett
Assistant District
Attorney



Nathan Brock
Assistant District
Attorney



Chess Bedsole
Assistant District
Attorney



Lynicia Lovell
Trial
Coordinator



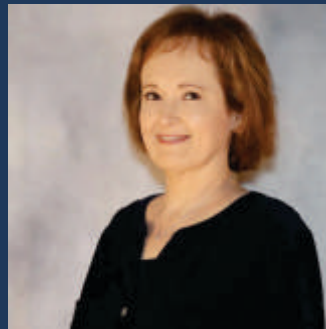
Krystal Clark
Trial
Coordinator



Bradley Williams
Victim Services
Officer



Shaletia Turbyfield
Helping Families
Initiative



Lisa Dorning
Child Support
/Check Unit



Amanda Gosa
Misdemeanor/Cost
Recovery



Chastity Puckett
Intake
Specialist



Aimee Jackson
Office Manager
GJ/PTIP



Ginger Hicks
Assistant Office
Manager



Cindy Hollis
Administrative
Assistant



Athens II
K9 ADA
H.E.R.O. Program

Notable Trials in 2023

Alabama man with 11 DUIs gets 131 years in prison for crash that killed Cullman motorcyclist

AL.com | June 28, 2023



A 59-year-old man has been sentenced to 131 years in prison for a 2018 DUI crash that killed a motorcyclist in Cullman County.

Circuit Judge Martha Williams sentenced Brett Amerson following his April conviction on reckless murder, DUI and other charges, Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker announced.

Crocker and his staff asked for the maximum sentence because of Amerson's "egregious crime and lengthy criminal history."

Cullman County man gets 75 years for failing to register as sex offender

The Cullman Times | May 10, 2023



A Cullman County man is heading back to prison for failing to register as a sex offender.

On Wednesday, David Lee Moore was sentenced to 75 years in prison by Circuit Judge Greg Nicholas. Moore was found guilty on March 1 for failing to register as a sex offender with the Cullman County Sheriff's Office in violation of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act.

According to a press release from the Cullman County District Attorney's office, Moore was previously convicted of sodomy 1st degree against a five-year-old child and multiple other felonies.

Arkadelphia man convicted of murder in wife's 2021 death

The Cullman Tribune | April 20, 2023



A Cullman County jury convicted Thomas Leon McClellan of murder for the Jan. 27, 2021, slaying of his wife, Tammy McClellan of Arkadelphia.

The four-day trial began with Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker and Assistant District Attorney Tina Burgett prosecuting the case.

"I would first like thank the jury for their service and all the Cullman County Sheriff's Office investigators who did a great job preparing this case. The evidence at trial clearly showed the defendant intentionally killed Tammy. Her children and family have my prayers. They came to court every day to show support – and this office supports them," said Crocker.

This is the man who was found guilty today after being brought to trial by District Attorney Champ Crocker.

cullmandaily.com | May 15, 2023



William Mebius was arrested in 2020 for child abuse, after it was determined he had hit and kicked a young child following an investigation by local enforcement.

He is now behind bars thanks to the District Attorney's office.

Man convicted in robbery of Holly Pond Nutrition

6 WBRC | September 13, 2023



A Cullman County jury convicted Shannon Dewayne Nickens of First-Degree Robbery for the robbery at Holly Pond Nutrition in 2022.

"I would first like thank the jury for their service and the Cullman County Sheriff's Office investigators and deputies who did a great job helping us prepare this case. I also want to thank our victim who was brave when the robbery occurred and also during the trial when she testified to what Mr. Nickens did that cold November day. When I ran for district attorney I said prosecuting career criminals would be a top priority. Cullman County is safer today because Mr. Nickens is no longer in a position to prey upon our citizens," said District Attorney Champ Crocker.

Man gets life in prison for 'cold, callous' 2020 murder in Cullman County

AL.com | November 8, 2023



A Cullman County man convicted last month of murder has now learned his fate. Cullman County Circuit Judge Greg Nichols on Wednesday sentenced 46-year-old Nathan Winston Stephens to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Stephens was convicted on Oct. 24 in the stabbing death of 56-year-old Herndon Self Jr.

"It was a privilege to stand with the Self family in pursuit of justice for this cold, callous, senseless crime," said District Attorney Champ Crocker.

The fatal stabbing happened Sept. 12, 2020, in a car at the intersection of County Road 157 and U.S. 31 in Cullman.

\$421,678.23

TRAFFIC COURT \$6,289.83

DISTRICT COURT \$59,331.30

CIRCUIT COURT \$356,057.10

TOTAL RESTITUTION

Recovered for victims in Cullman County in 2023

COURT CASES

104%
CLEARANCE RATE



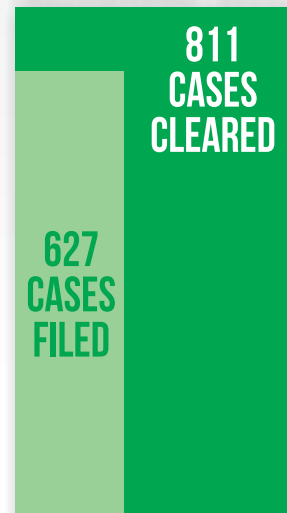
TRAFFIC COURT

110%
CLEARANCE RATE



DISTRICT COURT

129%
CLEARANCE RATE



CIRCUIT COURT

106%
CLEARANCE RATE



TOTAL CASES

The number of cases cleared in a year can exceed the number of cases filed when that number includes cases that did not clear in the previous year.

PRE-TRIAL INTERVENTION PROGRAM (PTIP)

Began in 2023 and has had 20 applicants and 2 successful graduates thus far. We expect the PTIP program to further excel in 2024.

CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTED

\$3,449,395.87



DA CROCKER WAS THE EMCEE AT THE 2023 CULLMAN COUNTY SENIOR CHRISTMAS PARTY



DA CROCKER AND DDA GREG JOHNSON MET IN THE SUMMER OF 2023 WITH CCSO SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES ABOUT BETTER WAYS TO KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR



DA CROCKER AND HIS WIFE EMILY AT THE 2023 CULLMAN COUNTY REPUBLICAN DINNER WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL STEVE MARSHALL, ALABAMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS JUDGE RICHARD MINOR, ALABAMA COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS JUDGE MATT FRIDY AND VSO BRADLEY WILLIAMS



ADA NATE BROCK TEACHING A LEGAL UPDATE AT THE CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN THE FALL OF 2023



DA CROCKER AND CHARLES CROCKER WITH ADAMS GIBBS AT THE 2023 CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S RODEO.



IN THE SPRING OF 2023 DA CROCKER WAS A SPONSOR OF THE BROOKS PLACE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER SAFE KIDS EXPO. ALONG WITH DA CROCKER ARE ADA TINA BURGETT, INTAKE SPECIALIST CHASTITY PUCKETT, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR AIMEE JACKSON AND VSO BRADLEY WILLIAMS



DA CROCKER WITH CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING DIRECTOR STEPHANIE LAWSON AND STEPHANIE NEAL AFTER THE 2023 SENIOR CHRISTMAS PARTY



DA CROCKER WITH US SENATOR TOMMY TUBERVILLE



DA CROCKER, COLD SPRINGS SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER WAYNE MYREX AND CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN JEFF CLEMONS ATTEND THE GRAND OPENING OF THE NEW GYMNASIUM AT COLD SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

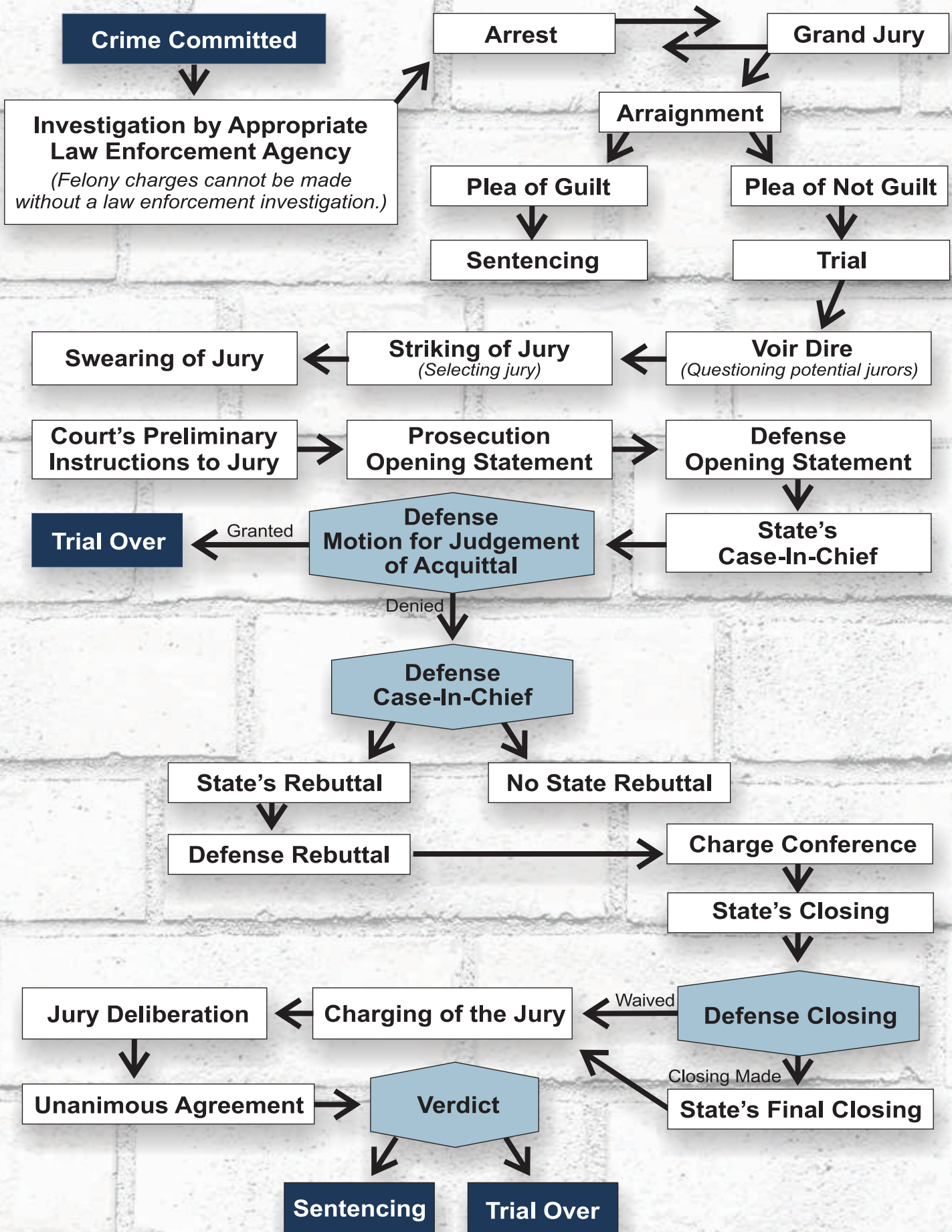


DA CROCKER, ADA CHES BEDSOLE AND VSO BRADLEY WILLIAMS MET WITH U.S. SENATOR KATIE BRITT IN WASHINGTON, D.C ABOUT FUNDING FOR THE CULLMAN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



DA CROCKER AND SHERIFF MATT GENTRY

The Criminal Procedure





Victim Services & Restitution

We understand that being a victim of a crime can be a difficult and traumatic experience. We work closely with community partners and organizations to ensure that victims have access to the resources they need to heal and rebuild their lives.

We provide information on victim advocacy, counseling services, legal assistance, financial compensation, as well as information on what to expect during the criminal justice process, and how to obtain restraining orders.

Our Office is committed to protecting the rights and dignity of victims of crimes. We believe that by working together, we can create a safer and more supportive community for all.

Victims of Crime and Leniency (VOCAL) has been helping victims in Alabama for over four 40 years. VOCAL representatives Wanda Miller and Doris Hancock visited our office today, joining VSO Bradley Williams, Office Administrator Aimee Jackson and myself to discuss how to best serve crime victims. We appreciate VOCAL and our shared mission.

**VICTIMS OF CRIMES IN OUR COMMUNITY
RECEIVE THE SUPPORT, INFORMATION, AND
RESOURCES THEY NEED TO MOVE FORWARD
AND RECOVER FROM THEIR EXPERIENCES.**

Visit CullmanDA.org

Click on Divisions > Victim Resources

- ▶ **Victim Responsibilities**
- ▶ **Victim-Bill-of-Rights**
- ▶ **Restitution and Cost Recovery Forms**

Contact Person for all Victim Services:

Bradley L. Williams
bwilliams@cullmanda.org
256-736-2800



Helping Families Initiative



- ACADEMIC SUPPORT
- MENTORING
- MENTAL HEALTH
- PARENTING EDUCATION
- HOUSING
- FOOD
- CLOTHING
- UTILITIES

1,343

Total Involvements
Cullman County and City Schools

- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- JOB TRAINING
- CHILDCARE

72
Mental Health Referrals

10
Community Presentations

23
Basic Needs Referrals

25
Interagency Meetings

The Helping Families Initiative (HFI) is built on a collaborative relationship between the Cullman County District Attorney’s Office, community partners, and the surrounding public school systems. HFI seeks to provide prevention and intervention services aimed at eliminating the barriers to the child’s emotional, behavioral, and academic success by creating a network of support and referrals to each child and family participating in the Helping Families Initiative.

Once referred to The Helping Families Initiative, the families will be paired with a case officer which will assist them by working to identify the family’s specific

needs, secure the necessary resources to assist them, as well as be there to support them as they work to reach their goals.

Visit CullmanDA.org

Click on Divisions > Helping Families

Contact Person for HFI:

Shaletia Turbyfield

sturbyfield@cullmanda.org

267-736-2800

Child Support

The Child Support Division of the District Attorney's Office works with Cullman County Department of Human Resources (DHR) to see that children are financially supported as required by law.

This service includes filing new petitions for support, modification petitions, contempt petitions for failure to comply with court orders of support, income withholding orders, registration and enforcement of foreign support orders under the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act and various other legal referrals sent to the Division from DHR.

Visit CullmanDA.org

Click on Divisions > Child Support

Contact Person for Child Support help:

Lisa Dorning

ldorning@cullmanda.org

256-736-2800

Worthless Check Unit

Self-funded by the District Attorney's Office, the Worthless Check Unit (WCU) was formed to collect restitution for victims of worthless checks. The unit assists businesses and individuals who receive insufficient funds and account-closed checks. Services are free of charge, and if the bad check writer fails to pay through our office, we assist with the prosecution.

Contact Person for
Bad Check Support:

Lisa Dorning

ldorning@cullmanda.org

256-736-2800

PreTrial Diversion Program

The Cullman County District Attorney's Office Pre-Trial Diversion (PTD) Program diverts certain first-time nonviolent defendants from the traditional court system into an individualized and supervised restorative program. Not everyone is eligible.

If the defendant successfully completes the program, the case will not be brought to trial. The defendant will be required to work, perform community service, participate in counseling, drug & alcohol treatment, anger management, theft deterrent classes, report to the PTD Office, pay restitution if applicable, and anything else the District Attorney feels will aid in the rehabilitation of the defendant.

Visit CullmanDA.org

Click on Divisions > Pretrial Diversion

► **PreTrial Intervention Program
Application**

► **PTIP Requirements**

Contact Person for the
PreTrial Diversion Program:

Aimee Jackson

ajackson@cullmanda.org

256-736-2800



**CULLMAN COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

256-734-0342
CULLMANSHERIFF.ORG



**CULLMAN POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

256-734-1434
CULLMANAL.GOV



**CULLMAN
FIRE RESCUE**

256-734-1434
CULLMANAL.GOV



**CULLMAN COUNTY
COURTHOUSE**

256-739-3530
CO.CULLMAN.AL.US



**HANCEVILLE
POLICE**

256-352-9811
CITYOFHANCEVILLE.NET



**ALABAMA LAW
ENFORCEMENT
AGENCY (ALEA)**

256-353-0631
ALEA.GOV

Cullman County District Attorney's Office

Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Ave SW, Room 204, Cullman, AL 35055

The Cullman County District Attorney's Office is located in
Room 204 on the 2nd floor of the Cullman County Courthouse

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