

NEWS RELEASE GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL

Lisamarie N. Bristol | Solicitor-General 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville, Ga. 30046

STORY CONTACT Katina Patterson Gwinnett County Solicitor's Office 770.822.8300 Solicitor-General@GwinnettCounty.com

GWINNETT SOLICITOR GENERAL LAUNCHES SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT Office prioritizing justice for sensitive misdemeanor cases

(Lawrenceville, Ga., April 30, 2025) – The Gwinnett Solicitor General's Office has launched a Special Victims Unit to better serve victims of sensitive misdemeanor offenses including sex crimes, vehicular homicides, stalking, pandering and prostitution.

The new unit is designed to address the unique challenges these cases present, particularly those involving teens. In Georgia, recent developments in the law have placed greater emphasis on acts committed between individuals ages 13 to 18, requiring additional resources, sensitivity and legal attention.

"Establishing the Special Victims Unit is a significant step toward ensuring every victim in Gwinnett County receives the attention and care they deserve," said Solicitor-General Lisamarie N. Bristol. "By dedicating specialized resources to these sensitive cases, we're not only enhancing our legal response but also reaffirming our commitment to compassionate and effective justice."

In addition to handling sex-related crimes, the new team will also serve as the primary point of contact for all animal cruelty and neglect cases prosecuted in Gwinnett County State Court.

The Special Victims Unit includes an Assistant Solicitor General, investigators, victim advocates and trial assistants. The unit allows the office to triage sensitive cases more efficiently while offering enhanced specialization and training opportunities for staff.

The Solicitor General's Office prosecutes misdemeanor crimes, traffic offenses and county ordinance violations. Through the creation of the Special Victims Unit, the office continues to elevate the standard of service provided to victims across Gwinnett.

To learn more about the unit, visit <u>GwinnettSG.com</u>.

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