## For Immediate Release

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## Rossville Man Convicted of Malice Murder

December 11, 2024 – Lafayette, GA – On Thursday December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Christopher Bullock was convicted of Malice Murder, Felony Murder, Aggravated Assault, and Possession of a Firearm During Commission of a Felony. The Trial began December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 and concluded with a guilty verdict on December 5<sup>th</sup> before the Honorable Judge Don Thompson.

The evidence presented at trial showed that on the morning of October 5, 2023, Bullock shot and killed his live-in girlfriend, Tammy Cropper, at their shared apartment in Rossville, Georgia. Bullock shot Ms. Cropper multiple times in the bedroom and then shot himself in the head in an attempt to take his own life. After school that afternoon, Ms. Cropper's 7-year-old grandson returned home and discovered Bullock lying in the bedroom floor with a gunshot wound to the side of his head.

Agents with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and Rossville Police Department began an investigation and learned that the weapon used in the murder belonged to Bullock. Witnesses and video surveillance evidence showed that no other individuals entered the shared apartment during the day. Bullock also admitted to shooting himself when questioned at the scene. Law enforcement also uncovered evidence of motive for the murder and attempted suicide by determining that Bullock had a lengthy history of failed romantic relationships and had recently been terminated from his employment. In the days before the murder, Ms. Cropper had informed Bullock that he needed to start providing more financial assistance to the household or their relationship would end. Bullock responded to this ultimatum by sending a series of "good-bye" text messages to friends and family, telegraphing his intention to take his own life. Bullock followed through with his intentions on October 5<sup>th</sup>, and made the tragic decision to end Ms. Cropper's life as well.

The Jury returned a verdict of guilty after 20 minutes of deliberating and sentencing was held shortly thereafter. The Court considered the evidence presented at trial and imposed the maximum sentence of life imprisonment in the Georgia Department of Corrections without the possibility of parole. The State of Georgia was represented by Assistant District Attorney Winston Franklin and Chief Assistant District Attorney Kevin Baugh. Administrative Assistants Crystal McNabb and Lily Green, Witness coordinator Donna Howell, and Chief Investigator for the Office of the District Attorney Christy Smith provided assistance during the trial. The case was diligently and expertly investigated by Georgia Bureau of Investigation Agent Daniel Nicholson.

"I want to thank the GBI and our amazing prosecution team for relentlessly pursuing justice for Ms. Cropper and her family," District Attorney Clayton M. Fuller said. "This prosecution should send a clear message: you take a life in our community then you'll spend the rest of yours in prison."

