

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**Contact:** Douglas County District Attorney's Office  
(770)920-7292

### **Man Convicted of Aggravated Sexual Battery and Aggravated Assault**

Following a three-day trial, a Douglas County jury returned a verdict convicting twenty-two-year-old Tyrek Thomas of aggravated sexual battery and multiple counts of aggravated assault. The prosecution team was led by Senior Assistant District Attorney Brook Demeke and Assistant District Attorney Madeline Ross. Douglas County Chief Superior Court Judge William "Beau" McClain presided over the matter.

The charges arise from an assault that Mr. Thomas committed against the victim in September 2020. At the time, Thomas and the victim were in a romantic relationship. The victim reported that she and Mr. Thomas were arguing when he began to physically assault and abuse her. Thomas punched the victim in the face and stomach and then further escalated the violence by stomping on the victim as she lay defenseless on the ground. Additionally, Thomas threatened the victim with an assault rifle.

After the initial assault, Thomas coerced the victim, who was fearful for her life, into a car and then fled the residence. While in the car, the victim passed out from her injuries. When she awoke, Thomas was sexually assaulting her. Thomas took the victim back to the residence where he sexually assaulted her again. Thomas held the victim at his home for several days until she was eventually able to convince him to let her leave to return to her home.

Officers located and arrested Thomas at a relative's home. Thomas was given a pretrial bond by the court and released. However, when prosecutors later learned of another allegation of sexual assault by Thomas, they presented an indictment against him. A Douglas County grand jury indicted Thomas for the unrelated and subsequent charge of rape. Based on the new indictment, Thomas was again arrested, and this time was held without bond.

Multiple witnesses testified against Thomas at the trial. After hearing all the evidence, the jury returned a unanimous verdict convicting Thomas of four felony counts. On the convicted charges Thomas is facing a maximum sentence of life plus sixty years in prison. Sentencing will be set for a later date.

"It is unimaginable the trauma that this victim had to endure at the hands of the defendant. The jury returning a just verdict and holding the defendant accountable for his heinous conduct is a small step in this victim's journey to healing" said District Attorney Dalia Racine. Thomas's separate rape case remains pending and Thomas remains in custody.