## Chatham County District Attorney Shalena Cook Jones Responds to Federal Courts Decision Granting Sanctions in EEOC Case

"While I respect Judge Baker's office, I disagree with his opinion. At the time of the deposition in question, I was in the Superior Court of Chatham County where I was supposed to be, representing a victim in a four-year-old rape case. According to Georgia law, rape trials always take precedence over civil matters. Unfortunately, the criminal trial went much longer than expected, which was not within my control. District Attorneys are often required to make difficult decisions in the execution of their duties, particularly as it relates to staffing and trying cases. However, I believe that the victim I was representing, the presiding judge, and the community I was elected to serve would agree I made the right decision to focus on that trial until it was concluded. Fortunately, the matter has now been turned over to my capable legal team so that I can focus on representing the victims and citizens of this great County."

Shalena Cook Jones, Esq. Chatham County District Attorney October 30, 2023