



# Georgia Bureau of Investigation

## Director Vic Reynolds



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Deputy Clerk of Magistrate Court Arrested for the Sexual Exploitation of Children**

*Woodberry, GA (August 12, 2020)* – On Wednesday, August 12, 2020, Meriwether County Deputy Clerk of Magistrate Court, Carol Washington, age 49, was charged with one (1) count of O.C.G.A 16-12-100.2 b(8), Sexual Exploitation of Children (Possession of Child Pornography) and one (1) count of O.C.G.A 16-10-1, Violation of Oath of Office, by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Child Exploitation and Computer Crimes (CEACC) Unit. An investigation into Washington by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) began after information was received from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) regarding the possible upload and possession of child pornography by Washington to a popular social media application. This investigation led to a search warrant of Washington's home and her subsequent arrest. The GBI was assisted in the search of Washington's home by the Meriwether County Sheriff's Office.

Washington is currently in custody of the Meriwether County Jail.

This investigation is part of the ongoing effort by the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, housed within the GBI's Child Exploitation and Computer Crimes Unit, to identify those involved in the child pornography trade. The ICAC Program, created by the U. S. Department of Justice, was developed in response to the increasing number of children and teenagers using the Internet, the proliferation of child pornography, and the heightened online activity by predators searching for unsupervised contact with underage victims.

Anyone with information about other cases of child exploitation is asked to contact the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Child Exploitation Unit at 404-270-8870.