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DISTRICT ATTORNEY
CLAYTON JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 12, 2022

Clayton County District Attorney Tasha M. Mosley announces the conviction of Michael Lovelace. A Clayton County jury returned a guilty verdict on Rape (two counts), Statutory Rape, Aggravated Child Molestation and Child Molestation.

During the trial, the State presented evidence showing that on December 27, 2015, the victim accompanied her boyfriend while he repaired the Defendant's vehicle at the Defendant's residence. The victim entered the Defendant's trailer to use the restroom. She lost consciousness after consuming a beverage provided to her by the Defendant. While the victim was unconscious, the defendant raped her. DNA evidence connected the Defendant to the assault.

The Defendant raped a child two months later on February 20, 2016. The defendant gave the fifteen-year-old child methamphetamine and opiates. He raped the child victim while she was incapacitated by drugs. The State presented evidence of a prior conviction for Aggravated Assault with Intent to Rape.

This case was prosecuted by the Clayton County District Attorney Office Special Victims Unit led by Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Rebecca Perez-Espejo. Assistant District Attorney La'Carrian Blount was the secondary prosecutor. Investigator Brian Hoe, Investigator Mike Harris and Victim Advocate Ciara Stewart were also vital in the prosecution of the case, which involved multiple victims and witnesses from across the country. The trial began on August 8, 2022, and the verdict was returned on August 10, 2022.

Clayton County Superior Court Judge Shana Rooks Malone presided over this case. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled within the next 60 days.

District Attorney Mosley stated, *"Our community is safer because another violent offender has been convicted. As always, my office will continue to work tirelessly on behalf of all Clayton County citizens."*

