



PATRICK "PAT" LABAT
FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF

FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fulton County Sheriff's Office Detention Officer Stabbed Inside Fulton County Jail

Atlanta, GA – On Saturday, March 8, 2025, just after 11:30 a.m., Fulton County Sheriff's Office Detention Officer Rico George was stabbed by Fulton County Jail resident Bakari Stokes-Martin, age 18, inside the Fulton County Jail. Officer George asked Stokes-Martin to remove a blanket that was covering his entire upper body while he was out for free time. Stokes-Martin became agitated and charged Officer George with a shank (homemade weapon) that he had concealed under the blanket, stabbing him at least twice in the neck, behind his left ear.

Officer George was taken to the hospital and underwent emergency surgery. He is currently in the hospital in stable condition and expected to recover.

Deputies and detention officers immediately responded to detain Stokes-Martin, and upon being searched, he had five shanks on his person. Stokes-Martin has been charged with the following:

- Aggravated assault against law enforcement officer when engaged on official duty – 3 counts
- Possession of a firearm or knife during commission of or attempt to commit certain felonies – 4 counts
- Possession of dangerous weapon or drugs by inmate – 5 counts
- Willful obstruction of law enforcement officers by use of threats or violence – 1 count

Stokes-Martin was arrested by the Atlanta Police Department on February 10, 2024, for murder and other charges and is being held without bond. His first appearance hearing for his new charges was today where he received no bond.

“Thank you to the doctors and nurses at Grady Hospital as they have done a phenomenal job in caring for Officer George. He is in good spirits and hopefully going home soon,” says Fulton County Sheriff Patrick “Pat” Labat. “We are reminded of the dangers of this profession and I commend the brave women and men of the Fulton County Sheriff's Office who come to work every single day. We have got to create a safe environment that includes a new facility and additional manpower.”

ABOUT THE FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE: The mission of the Fulton County Sheriff's Office is Service; through laser-focused efforts to protect the citizens of Fulton County with coordinated law enforcement operations, special strategic teams, and community outreach methods. The Sheriff's Office is constitutionally responsible for the security of all courtrooms, executing arrest warrants, and serving civil papers. In addition, the Sheriff's Office is responsible for the administration and operation of the Fulton County Jail.

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