



PATRICK "PAT" LABAT
FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF

FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Fulton County Jail Competency Restoration Program Hosts Holiday Talent Show

ATLANTA, GA - In partnership with the Fulton County Sheriff's Office and Emory University School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, participants in the Fulton County Jail's Competency Restoration Program gathered for an afternoon of celebration during the program's annual Holiday Talent Show. The competency restoration initiative began in 2011 and provides legal education, therapy, medication management, and psychiatric support for individuals who have been found incompetent to stand trial. The program currently serves 16 individuals as part of its dedicated restoration unit.

The talent show featured singing, spoken word, dancing, and moments of heartfelt creativity. One participant debuted an original song he wrote during his time in the program. "Some of these guys come to us so vulnerable and in some of the toughest conditions of their life. To see them expressing their talents in such a beautiful way really shows what we can accomplish together and just how meaningful this program is to them and to our team," shared Kelly Prejean, Program Manager with Emory's Forensic Psychiatry team.

"We are incredibly proud of the individuals who participate in this program," said Fulton County Sheriff Patrick "Pat" Labat. "Across this country jails often function as de-facto mental health hospitals and Fulton County is no exception. The joy in this program is a reminder that when committed partners come together, people can heal and rediscover their dignity even in the most challenging environments."

To commemorate the event, Emory clinicians and FCSO team members sponsored and served a full holiday meal which added warmth and fellowship to the already spirited occasion.

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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