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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 3, 2022, 9 am

Prince William County, VA

Prince William County Commonwealth's Attorney Amy Ashworth announces the successful prosecutions of two violent offenders, Mr. Miguel Guevara Contreras, 37, and Ms. Roberta Brandon, 28. Both offenders will be sentenced by the Circuit Court later this year.

## Commonwealth of Virginia v. Miguel Guevara Contreras

In December 2021, Prince William County Police began an investigation into allegations of multiple counts of rape of a juvenile after the juvenile revealed the sexual assaults to a school employee. The employee notified Child Protective Services and a joint investigation with the Prince William County Police Special Victim's Bureau was initiated.

After consultation with the Commonwealth Attorney's Office, Detective Alfonso Dorado charged Miguel Guevara Contreras with three counts of rape by use of force, threat, or intimidation. A jury trial commenced on July 25, 2022, and Mr. Guevara Contreras was found guilty of all three counts on July 28, 2022.

Ms. Ashworth offered the following comment about this case:

"Our office strives vigorously to hold those persons who sexually abuse children accountable for their actions. We applaud the courage of the victim who came forward and testified against the abuser."

The Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney commends Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney Regan Kline, the Prince William County Police Department, particularly Detective Dorado, for his investigation of this case and Sara Vutiprichar, Deputy Director of the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office Victim Witness Program, who provided valuable support for the victim.

## Commonwealth of Virginia v. Roberta Brandon

On November 29, 2016, a custody and visitation dispute turned violent in the parking lot of a supermarket in Prince William County. During this confrontation, Mr. Cordrey Jackson was beaten and subsequently shot in the chest by the defendant, Ms. Roberta Brandon. An autopsy

confirmed that the cause of death was a single gunshot wound to the chest. After several continuances due to COVID-19, Ms. Brandon was found guilty by a jury of first-degree murder and use of a firearm in commission of a felony.

Ms. Ashworth offered the following comment about this case:

"There is no place in our community for gun violence. My office is committed to doing all in our power to make Prince William County safer by aggressively prosecuting violent criminals."

The Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney commends Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney Teresa Polinske, the Prince William County Police Department, particularly Detective Cupka, for his investigation of this case and Christy Reynolds, Commonwealth's Attorney's Office Victim Witness Case Manager, who provided assistance and support to the victim's family.

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Amy Ashworth is the elected Commonwealth's Attorney for Prince William County and the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park. She was elected in November 2019. The Commonwealth Attorney's Office can be reached from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. every business day by phone at 703-792-6050 or email at <a href="mailto:cwoffice@pwcgov.org">cwoffice@pwcgov.org</a>.

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