

Local COVID-19 case total to date holds at 48

With the reported deaths from COVID-19 rising above 2,600 this week, the Georgia Department of Health reported the number of Seminole Countians testing positive for the Coronavirus did not rise this week, and the number of local citizens who have died from the disease remained at two. As of Wednesday, June 24, the county's number continues to stand at 48 positive cases, and two virus related deaths since reporting began in mid March.

Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp extended the public health emergency through July 12th; however, the shelter-in-place order for people ages 65 and older, seniors living in long-term care facilities and persons with certain chronic health issues ended on June 12.

Social distancing, keeping six feet apart from others, wearing masks and hand washing continue to be encouraged by all.

As of Wednesday, June 24, there have been 67,675 cases of COVID-19 statewide, - out of 874,123 people tested - and 2,687 deaths reported to state health officials.



Southwest Georgia Health District total COVID-19 cases by county

as of June 23, 2020, 12:00 PM

County	Positive	Deaths
Baker	36	3
Calhoun	158	6
Colquitt	744	18
Decatur	232	8
Dougherty	1831	152
Early	255	31
Grady	157	4
Lee	389	22
Miller	45	0
Mitchell	440	38
Seminole	48	2
Terrell	219	27
Thomas	372	33
Worth	291	21
Totals	5217	365

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Bacarri Rambo granted bond

According to information obtained from the Associated Press, former Seminole County Indian and Georgia All-American safety Bacarri Rambo was granted a \$20,000 bond Monday morning in Athens-Clarke County Superior Court.

Rambo, 29, is charged with the June 12 rape of a 21-year-old University of Georgia student at Rambo's apartment complex in downtown Athens.

Superior Court Judge Patrick Haggard set bond with requirements that Rambo is banned from the county except for visits to his attorney or medical reasons. Rambo has been in the Clarke County Jail since his arrest June 15.

Rambo's attorney Kim Stephens told the court that Rambo has a place to live in Oconee County.

Stephens and Western Circuit District Attorney Brian Patterson agreed that Rambo is not a flight risk and has no criminal history.

Several people were in the courthouse and willing to testify as to Rambo's "peaceful nature" and his ties to the community, according to Stephens.

Stephens had asked for a \$10,000 bond, while Patterson asked for bond set at \$40,000.

Another stipulation for the bond is that Rambo have no contact with the victim or three other people listed as witnesses in the case.

It was reported that Patterson told the court that the victim, who is still attending the University of Georgia, met with Rambo and they agreed to go out that evening, but when they returned to his apartment she did not consent to sexual relations.

Rambo had served on Georgia's football support staff the past two seasons. He was a graduate assistant after having a role as an intern. The school said he had left the program this year.

Rambo, a former athletic standout for the Seminole County Indians was an All-American safety at Georgia, where he started three of his four years. He was drafted by the National Football League's (NFL) Washington Redskins in 2013 and played with the Miami Dolphins before ending his NFL career with the Buffalo Bills in the 2017 preseason.



Joseph Castleberry wins academic awards at Troy University

Joseph D. Castleberry, a Troy University student from Donalsonville, recently earned several academic honors for his work during the 2019-20 academic year.

Castleberry, who studies at TROY's Dothan, Alabama campus, received the Outstanding Student Award in History at the Dothan Campus Honors Colloquium on April 4.

Previously, he received the Outstanding Student Award from the Alabama Society Daughters of the American Colonists on Feb. 28, after being nominated by his history professors.

Castleberry recently became a member of Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society for History, the preeminent history honor society

in the U.S. Castleberry's major is history education with a concentration in European/Asian/African history. Until he completes his degree in Spring 2021, he will continue to work as a substitute teacher at Seminole County Middle/High School.

"Joseph's innate abilities and intelligence combined with his teaching experience and maturity make him a superior student," said Dr. Martin Olliff, professor of history at TROY's Dothan Campus. "He strives to understand historical methods and concepts, and succeeds at depths usually achieved only by experienced graduate students. He is an asset to class, whether he's the student or the teacher."

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Trip is two years old. He is the son of Rob and Erica Blackburn of Donalsonville.

Tyler is eighteen years old, Anna is fifteen and Sara is nine. They are the children of Walter and Cheryl Belisle of Donalsonville.

Jacob and Austin are the sons of Robyn and Richard Herring of Iron City. Jacob is fourteen years old and Austin is eight.

Photos provided by Interpress Studios.

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