

 [Click here to visit other RealCities sites](#)

 [ledgerenquirer.com - The ledgerenquirer home page](#)

 Go to your local news source

[Ledger-Enquirer](#)

 [newsbusinesssportsentertainmentlivingclassifieds](#)

[Help](#) [Contact Us](#) [Site Index](#) [Archives](#) [Place an Ad](#) [Newspaper Subscriptions](#)

Search

[Back to Home](#) > [News](#) >

Monday, Aug 12, 2002

[Shopping & Services](#)

Submit Query

Local

[Search the Archives](#)

Posted on Sat, May. 25, 2002

story:PUB_DESC

[Find a Job, a Car, an Apartment, a Home, and more...](#)

[News](#)

Pastor's case in hands of jury
Deliberations in molestation trial to resume Tuesday
BY JIM HOUSTON
Staff Writer

Not

[Breaking News](#)

After four days of testimony and lawyers' arguments, the child molestation case against the Rev. Wilmer D. Williams will remain without a verdict through the Memorial Day weekend, Muscogee Superior Court Judge Robert Johnston decided Friday.

GEORGIA WIRE UPDATE

[Columnists](#)

Updated Monday, Aug 12, 2002

[Local](#)

The jury of 10 men and two women deliberated two hours before Johnston sent them home shortly after 6 p.m., ordering them to resume their decision-making process at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday.

[Despite Bonds' heroics, Giants getting no closer to playoffs](#) - 08:22 PM EDT

[Nation](#)

For almost three hours Friday morning, the jury listened to at times fiery arguments from the prosecution and defense attorneys.

[Rome News-Tribune names new editor](#) - 05:56 PM EDT

[Obituaries](#)

Assistant District Attorney Stacey Jackson urged a verdict convicting the Tabernacle of Praise AOH Church bishop-elect of aggravated child molestation, sexual battery and two counts of child molestation involving teen-age boys who were members of Williams' congregation.

[SC man sought in three slayings in two states](#) - 05:36 PM EDT

[Politics](#)

Defense attorney Michael Garner was just as insistent that Williams should be acquitted of all charges, arguing that the state's case had brought "a wonderful man and his family to the brink of destruction."

[Charges filed, arrest warrants issued in alleged attack](#) - 05:29 PM EDT

[Weather](#)

"He didn't do this, but they're going to destroy him and his wife just to win a case," Garner told the jury, pointing to the table where Jackson and Assistant District Attorney Maggie Bagley awaited their opportunity to argue their points. "I'm amazed that they have brought this trash up here."

[Weird News](#)

Garner said Williams' witnesses had not only presented reasonable doubt about the state's case, they had exonerated the 64-year-old father of five girls and a boy.

"The evidence says the man is innocent," he said.

[World](#)

Not

Our Site Tools

[Weather](#)

[Columbus](#) 9670

[Local Events](#)

[Yellow Pages](#)

[Discussion Boards](#)

[Maps & Directions](#)

ALABAMA WIRE UPDATE

Updated Monday, Aug 12, 2002

[Qantas orders four Boeing 737 jets](#) -

Jackson said the state's witnesses proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the minister had molested one teen-ager from age 15 until he finally told his parents at age 17, including touching the teen's genitalia and having the boy commit oral sodomy. The incidents happened in the minister's homes and in motels during out-of-state trips in which Williams and the youth shared a motel room, he said.

The teen-ager's 16-year-old brother also was groped on the buttocks by the minister in the pastor's office moments before a church service began April 24, 2001, the prosecutor said.

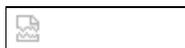
"They're not making it up because it happened," Jackson argued, adding that to believe the defense, jurors would have to believe the teen-agers' parents convinced their sons to lie about sexual activities that subject them to ridicule and shame. "What parent would put their children through something like this?"

"They're circling the wagons," Jackson said of the parishioners who testified for the defense, including those who said no groping occurred during the embrace they witnessed between the younger teen and Williams in the pastor's office.

Jackson said those witnesses had every opportunity to come forward during the year since Williams was arrested, but their stories were heard only when the defense began presenting its case this week.



[email this](#) | [print this](#)



08:17 PM EDT

[Baxley, Armistead disagree about releasing contributors early](#) - 07:07 PM EDT

[Alabama hoops schedule features top competition](#) - 06:06 PM EDT

[Hardy tapped to head Alabama's women's health efforts](#) - 06:05 PM EDT



Not Found

The requested URL /CSA/Williams1_/site=krsouth&proptype=krd_citwebprop=ledgereproduct=mld&subproduct=ledge size=tower&pos=right2&c1=news&c2=local&c3=none.htm was not found on this server.

Additionally, a 404 Not Found error was encountered while trying to use an ErrorDocument to handle the request.

Not

**FROM THE
NATION/WORLD
DESK**

**Updated Tuesday,
August 13, 2002**

- » [Free show tonight: Perseids meteor shower](#)
- » [Plans for Sept. 11; more special reports](#)

Not

[News](#) | [Business](#) | [Sports](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Living](#) | [Classifieds](#)

[Help](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Site Index](#) | [Archives](#) | [Place an Ad](#) | [Newspaper Subscriptions](#)

[About Ledger-Enquirer.com](#) | [About Realcities Network](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Press Center](#) | [Copyright](#)

[Breaking News](#)

[Columnists](#)

[Local](#)

[Nation](#)

[Obituaries](#)

[Politics](#)

[Weather](#)

[Weird News](#)

[World](#)

[Financial Markets](#)

[Industries](#)

[Personal Finance](#)

[Technology](#)

[Baseball](#)

[Basketball](#)

[Colleges](#)

[Columnists](#)

[Football](#)

[Golf](#)

[High School](#)

[Hockey](#)

[Motorsports](#)

[Other Sports](#)

[Outdoors](#)

[Women](#)

[Celebrities](#)

[Comics & Games](#)

[Horoscopes](#)

[Movies](#)

[Music](#)

[Columnists](#)

[Education](#)

[Food](#)

[Health](#)

[Home](#)

[Occasions](#)

[Travel](#)

[Automotive](#)

[Employment](#)

[Personals](#)

[Real Estate](#)