

Update: Hilton trial to take place in January

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12:45 p.m.

Judge Terry Lewis set a new date this morning for the Gary Michael Hilton murder trial.

The trial will begin Jan. 31, 2011.

“We have been arguing over trial dates. We originally wanted a trial set for sooner,” said Georgia Cappleman, the assistant state attorney.

Cappleman said the state first pushed for a July or November trial date, but the defense argued against this.

Hilton was indicted on charges of first degree murder for the suspected killing of Crawfordville resident, Cheryl Dunlap in 2007.

Jury selection is to begin on Jan. 21.

Ines Suber, Hilton’s attorney said the number of witnesses in the case has reached 100, and the potential witnesses is nearly 400.

Hilton’s next appearance in court is October 22 for the case management hearing.