

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG ANNOUNCES PRISON SENTENCES FOR BROTHERS CONVICTED OF FELONY DOG-FIGHTING IN AUTAUGA COUNTY

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Luther Strange announced that twin brothers have been sentenced to prison for felony dog-fighting convictions. An order was issued today by the Autauga County Circuit Court, sentencing Terrell McNeil, and Terrance McNeil, who are 29. Each was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment, which was suspended and split for them to serve each day of 26 months in prison, followed by three years of probation. In addition, each brother was fined \$1,000 and ordered to pay court costs.

Terrell and Terrance McNeil were arrested on September 24, 2008, in possession of 33 Pit Bull Terriers at their residence on Rodock Road in Prattville. Each was subsequently indicted, and on August 25, 2011, each pleaded guilty to one count of felony dog fighting. Terrance McNeil has a prior conviction for dog fighting in Escambia County, and each brother is charged with one subsequent charge of dog fighting that now is pending, also in Escambia County.

Law enforcement officers conducted a controlled buy to purchase fighting dogs from the brothers. The investigation revealed that they were involved in an extensive breeding, selling and fighting enterprise that included website marketing.

“This crime involves a deliberate cruelty and terrible abuse of animals that is deeply disturbing and that must not be tolerated,” said Attorney General Strange. “I am pleased that this case sends a message that in Alabama, the crime of dog fighting will be taken seriously and punished sternly.”

Attorney General Strange commended Assistant Attorney General Tina Hammonds of his Violent Crimes Division and special agents of his Investigations Division. He also thanked agencies that provided valuable assistance, noting in particular Autauga County Sheriff Herbie Johnson and his deputies and investigators, the Escambia County Sheriff’s Office, the Flomaton Police Department, the Atmore Police Department, the Wetumpka Police Department, the office of Autauga County District Attorney Randall Houston, the Montgomery County Humane Society, the Escambia County Humane Society and the Humane Society of the United States.



