

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG ANNOUNCES COLD CASE CONVICTION FOR ROBBERY IN 2006 IN CALHOUN COUNTY

(MONTGOMERY)-- Attorney General Luther Strange announced another significant cold case victory, with the conviction and sentencing of a man for a 2006 robbery in Calhoun County. Patrick O'Neal Warren pleaded guilty on December 2 in Calhoun County Circuit Court to first-degree robbery. He was sentenced to life in prison. Warren, 36, is of Birmingham.

Attorney General Strange's Office presented information to a Calhoun County grand jury resulting in Warren's indictment in March 2011. He has remained incarcerated in the Calhoun County Jail since his arrest.

Specifically, Warren pleaded guilty to attacking an Anniston woman at knifepoint on April 28, 2006 and then stealing her vehicle and money. Because Warren had two prior felony convictions, he was subject to Alabama's Habitual Offender Act and received the maximum sentence. Warren is also subject to provisions of the community notification law regarding sex offenders due to his pleading guilty to first-degree rape in 2001 in Jefferson County.

The Attorney General's Cold Case Unit is a project conducted in partnership with the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences, to investigate violent crimes that previously had been closed due to lack of investigative leads. This program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice. Valuable assistance was provided in the Warren case by the Anniston and Birmingham police departments.

Attorney General Strange commended those involved in bringing this case to a successful conclusion, noting in particular Assistant Attorneys General William Dill, Sonny Reagan and James Rutter, and Special Agents of the Attorney General's Investigations Division. He also thanked the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences and the Anniston and Birmingham Police Departments.

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