

## NEWS RELEASE

# Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney  
General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## AG STRANGE ANNOUNCES ARREST OF SECOND FORMER STATE TROOPER ON FELONY THEFT AND ETHICS CHARGES

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Luther Strange announced the arrest today of another former state trooper for felony theft and ethics charges. Jonathan Dees, 49, of Spanish Fort, surrendered today at the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office. His arrest comes the day after another former state trooper and former custodian, both formerly of the Tuscaloosa State Trooper Post, also were arrested on felony theft and ethics charges. Dees had been assigned to the Mobile office of the Department of Public Safety.

Attorney General Strange's Office presented evidence to a Baldwin County grand jury on February 3, 2012, resulting in the indictment of Dees. Specifically, the indictment charges Dees with:

- Second-degree theft of gasoline valued at more than \$500, occurring and continuing between the approximate dates of July 2009 and January 2011;
- Intentional use of his official public position as an Alabama State Trooper for unlawful personal gain to himself or a family member, the gain being gasoline; and
- Intentional use of equipment facilities, time, materials, labor, or other public property under his discretion and control, being his State vehicle and gas, which had a material effect to his own private benefit.

No further information about the investigation or about the Dees' alleged crimes other than that stated in the indictment may be released at this time.

Second-degree theft is a class C felony, punishable by one year and a day, to 10 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$15,000. Use of official position for personal gain, a violation of the state ethics law, is a class B felony, with each count punishable by two to 20 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$30,000.

Attorney General Strange commended those involved in the cases, noting the Alabama Bureau of Investigation, Deputy Attorney General Mike Duffy and Assistant Attorney General Pete Smyczek of the Attorney General's Public Corruption and White Collar Crime Division.

*\*An indictment is merely an accusation. Defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.*



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