



For More Information, contact:

Joy Patterson (334) 242-7491

Suzanne Webb (334) 242-7351

Jeff Sommer (334) 353-2199

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**AG ANNOUNCES ARREST OF BLOUNT COUNTY CONTRACTOR
FOR CRIMES ASSOCIATED WITH WORK AT RIVERCHASE CHURCH**

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Luther Strange announced the arrest today of a Blount County contractor for crimes associated with work for the Riverchase United Methodist Church. Chad Evans Huffstutler, 36, of Blountsville, does business as Huffstutler Contracting, LLC. Huffstutler surrendered today at the Shelby County Jail.

Attorney General Strange's Office presented evidence to a Shelby County grand jury resulting in Huffstutler's indictment* on May 9. Specifically, the indictment charges that Huffstutler committed the following crimes:

- One count of first-degree theft of property valued at more than \$2,500 from the Riverchase United Methodist Church;
- One count of first-degree theft by deception of property valued at more than \$2,500 from the Riverchase United Methodist Church; and
- Two counts of second-degree possession of a forged instrument, one of which was a performance bond and one of which was a payment bond.

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

If convicted, Huffstutler faces a maximum penalty of two to 20 years for each count of first-degree theft, which is a class B felony, and one to ten years for each count of second-degree possession of a forged instrument, which is a class C felony.

Attorney General Strange commended those involved in the investigation and prosecution of this case, noting in particular Assistant Attorney General Stephanie Billingslea of the Criminal Trials Division and Special Agents of the Attorney General's Investigations Division.

**An indictment is merely an accusation. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.*

