

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 11, 2013

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AG ANNOUNCES ARREST OF FORMER STATE HOUSE EMPLOYEE FOR FAILING TO FILE TAX RETURNS AND PAY INCOME TAXES

(MONTGOMERY) -Attorney General Luther Strange announced the arrest yesterday of William Clay Covington, a former employee of the Alabama House of Representatives, for failure to file income tax returns and failure to pay income taxes. Covington, 41, surrendered yesterday afternoon to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office.

Attorney General Strange's Special Prosecutions Division presented evidence to a Montgomery County grand jury on Friday, April 5, resulting in Covington's indictment.*

Specifically, the indictment charges Covington with six counts of failing to pay income taxes on \$237,620.40 in wages from the State of Alabama and \$277,000.00 in other income from the Macon County Greyhound Park and the Jefferson County Racing Association. The indictment also charges Covington with four counts of failing to file an income tax return for 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009.

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

If convicted, Covington faces a maximum penalty of one year in jail and fine of \$25,000 for each of the ten counts in the indictment, as well as other financial penalties and interest on the unpaid taxes.

The Attorney General commended Assistant Attorney General Bill Lisenby, Jr. and Deputy Attorney General Mike Duffy of the Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Division, and Special Agent Madeline Lewis of the Alabama Department of Revenue's Investigations Division.

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

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