

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG STRANGE ANNOUNCES THEFT SENTENCING OF FORMER CONECUH COURT REFERRAL OFFICIAL

Commends Public Corruption and White Collar Crime Division

(MONTGOMERY)— Attorney General Luther Strange today announced the sentencing of a Conecuh County woman who was former director of a local court referral agency. Daphne Boley, 34, of Evergreen, pleaded guilty on April 4 to first-degree theft of property, a class B felony.

She was sentenced yesterday in Conecuh County Court to five years imprisonment, which was suspended for a term of five years probation, and ordered to pay restitution to the Alabama Administrative Office of Courts in the amount of \$59, 983. The Attorney General's Office had recommended a sentence of ten years, and opposed the probation.

"This office remains firm in our stand to protect the integrity of our state and local governments and to prosecute those who abuse the public trust to steal taxpayers' funds," said Attorney General Strange. "I am proud of the continuing commitment and excellent work by those in the Attorney General's Public Corruption and White Collar Crime Division as well as in our Investigations Division. "

Boley was previously employed as director of Southwest Alabama Court Referral, a private agency that contracted with the State of Alabama. In that capacity, Boley collected monitoring fees from various clients, which by state law were required to be forwarded to the State Comptroller's Office. Rather than remitting the funds to the State, Boley used this money for her own personal and business expenses. Prosecutors estimate that Boley stole more than \$60,000 from the State of Alabama.

The matter was referred to the Attorney General's Office following a complaint from the Administrative Office of Courts. Attorney General Strange thanked the AOC for its vigilance in referring the case, and commended his Investigations Division and his Public Corruption and White Collar Crime Division, noting in particular Assistant Attorneys General Ben Baxley and Pete Smyczek.

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