

NEWS RELEASE

# Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## AG STRANGE ANNOUNCES ARREST OF MAN CHARGED WITH SEX CRIMES IN MADISON COUNTY

(MONTGOMERY) - Attorney General Luther Strange announced that a man already facing charges for alleged sex crimes in Elmore County has been arrested on similar charges in Madison County. John A. Astorga was arrested yesterday by the Alabama Bureau of Investigation on the new charges at his home in Wetumpka. He was taken to the Elmore County Jail, where he is being held pending his transfer to Madison County.

The Attorney General's Office presented evidence to a Madison County grand jury on December 3, resulting in Astorga's indictment\*. Specifically, the indictment charges Astorga with three counts of first-degree sexual abuse, a class C felony. The alleged crimes involve three separate victims. These new charges in Madison County are in addition to those brought in an Elmore County indictment last July, which also charges Astorga with three counts of first-degree sexual abuse involving three separate victims. The Attorney General's Office investigated and is prosecuting the cases in both counties.

If convicted, Astorga would face penalties of one year and one day to 10 years imprisonment for each count. In addition, he would be required to register as a convicted sex offender and to abide by community notification requirements of state law.

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

Attorney General Strange commended those involved in the case, noting in particular Assistant Attorney General Andrew Arrington of his Violent Crimes Division, Special Agent Susan Smith of his Investigations Division, and Special Agent Brooke Walker of the Alabama Bureau of Investigation.

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



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