

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For More Information, contact:
Joy Patterson (334) 242-7491
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AG ANNOUNCES FELONY CONVICTION OF EX-ARMY NATIONAL GUARDSMAN FOR MISUSING GOVERNMENT CREDIT CARD

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Luther Strange announced the felony conviction of a former Alabama Army National Guardsman for unlawful use of a government credit card. William Earl McKinney, Jr., 39, of Wetumpka, had been a procurement officer in the Counterdrug Unit of the Alabama National Guard in Montgomery.

The investigation revealed that McKinney improperly used for personal gain the government purchase card he was assigned. During the time period covering August 2008 until May 2010, McKinney's unlawful purchases totaled approximately \$10,546.

McKinney pleaded guilty on February 21 in Elmore County Circuit Court to unlawful use of a credit card, a class C felony. A sentencing hearing is set for April 4, 2013, in Elmore County Circuit Court.

"It is a serious matter when someone abuses their position of trust to misuse taxpayers' money," said Attorney General Strange. "Our message to all is that public corruption must be fought so that Alabama citizens may have confidence on those who serve the public. We are committed to do so, and I am proud of the dedication of our Special Prosecutions Division in this important work."

Attorney General Strange commended Assistant Attorneys General Pete Smyczek and Bill Lisenby and Special Agents of the Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Division for their successful handling of this case.

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