

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG STRANGE ANNOUNCES INDICTMENT OF HAMILTON MAN FOR VIOLENT SEX CRIMES IN 2005 COLD CASE

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Luther Strange and Marion County District Attorney Jack Bostick announced the indictment* of a Hamilton man for violent sex crimes in a cold case. Johnathan L. Scott, 31, surrendered today at the Marion County Sheriff's Office and has been released from the Marion County Jail on \$50,000 bond.

Evidence was presented to a Marion County grand jury resulting in Scott's indictment on August 1. Scott is charged with first-degree rape, first-degree sodomy and first-degree burglary in connection with crimes committed in August of 2005 against a 16-year-old female who was attacked inside her home.

The charges against Scott are a result of an investigation by the Attorney General's Cold Case Unit. The Cold Case Unit is operated within the Attorney General's Office, in partnership with the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences, to investigate violent sexual crimes that previously had been closed due to lack of investigative leads. This program is funded by a grant from the U.S Department of Justice.

Attorney General Strange commended the Attorney General's Cold Case Unit and others involved in handling this case, noting in particular the Marion County District Attorney's Office, the Hamilton Police Department and the U.S. Marshal's Gulf Coast Regional Fugitive Task Force.

If convicted, Scott faces penalties of 10 years to life imprisonment for each count with which he is charged, all of which are class A felonies.

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

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