

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG ANNOUNCES FELONY CONVICTION OF FORMER ACJIC INVESTIGATOR

(MONTGOMERY)-- Attorney General Luther Strange announced the conviction of former ACJIC Chief Agent Dennis Bodine for improperly accessing confidential law enforcement information. On Monday, Bodine, 63, of Foley pleaded guilty in Baldwin County Circuit Court to one count of obtaining criminal offender record information under false pretenses, an unclassified felony, related to his unauthorized use of the Law Enforcement Tactical System ("LETS") after he was no longer employed with the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center.

"This case is a sad example of someone misusing an important law enforcement investigative tool, but luckily, state agents caught it quickly," said Attorney General Strange. "Our message to all is that the people of this state can rest assured that we will aggressively prosecute those who violate the privacy of Alabama citizens by misusing confidential law enforcement information."

The Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center referred this case to the Attorney General's Office after discovering the possible LETS misuse by a former employee. The State's evidence against Bodine included documents and testimony showing that he used what he believed to be an unmonitored web portal to gain access to LETS to obtain the criminal records of numerous individuals.

As per the plea agreement, Bodine pleaded guilty to one count of obtaining criminal offender record information under false pretenses, an unclassified felony, and was sentenced to six months imprisonment, which was suspended for 6 months of probation. Bodine also agreed to pay a \$5,000 fine within 10 days, as well as court costs and \$50 to the Crime Victims Compensation Fund.

The Attorney General commended Assistant Attorneys General Pete Smyczek and Bill Lisenby of the Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Division, Litigation Support Paralegal Lucie Welch of his Executive Division, and Special Agents from his Investigations Division, for their successful handling of this case.

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