

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG ANNOUNCES INDICTMENT OF FORMER PRATTVILLE POLICEMAN

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Luther Strange announced the indictment of a former Prattville police officer on charges of theft, impersonating a peace officer, extortion and possession of a controlled substance. John Wayne McDaniel Jr., 46, of Prattville, was previously arrested and released on bond. He was notified and served with the indictment on July 27.

Attorney General Strange's Criminal Trials Division presented evidence to an Autauga County grand jury, resulting in McDaniel's indictment* on July 24. Specifically, the indictment charges McDaniel with:

- One count of second-degree theft of ambien from a pharmacy;
- One count of unlawful possession of ambien;
- Two counts of second-degree extortion by obtaining money by means of a threat; and
- Two counts of falsely claiming to be an officer of the Prattville Police Department to the victims of the extortion charges.

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

If convicted, McDaniel faces a maximum penalty of one to 10 years for each of the six counts, which all are class C felonies.

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

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