

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



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AG STRANGE WELCOMES HART BACK TO AG OFFICE TO FIGHT PUBLIC CORRUPTION AND WHITE COLLAR CRIME

(MONTGOMERY) –Attorney General Luther Strange said the return this week of Matt Hart to the Attorney General’s Office marks another important step for his Public Corruption and White Collar Crime Division. For the first six years of his legal career, Hart worked for former Attorneys General Jeff Sessions and Bill Pryor. Hart’s next nine years involved a leadership role in fighting public corruption at the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Alabama. Back at the Attorney General’s Office now, Hart has been named as special prosecutor in the Public Corruption and White Collar Crime Division.

“Matt Hart is a dedicated and tough prosecutor with an exceptional career of bringing to justice government officials who betray the citizen’s trust by illegally abusing their public positions,” said Attorney General Strange. “I am confident that he will be a vital member of our public corruption team and I am excited about his contribution to the strong foundation we are building to protect the integrity of Alabama.”

In 1996, Miles Matthew Hart began working at the Attorney General’s Office as an assistant attorney general in the Criminal Trials Division, moving the next year to the Public Corruption and White Collar Crime Division that had been newly-created by then-Attorney General Bill Pryor. Serving in this division until 2002, he participated in the successful investigation and conviction of numerous corrupt officials and contractors, as well as prosecuting judicial misconduct on behalf of the Judicial Inquiry Commission.

During his tenure at the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Hart was director of the state and federal Joint Public Corruption Task Force for the Northern District of Alabama from 2003 to 2009, achieving nationally-recognized success in the prosecution of corruption at the highest levels of state government in Alabama. Hart conducted and supervised the grand jury investigation and prosecution of corruption matters in the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education, leading to guilty pleas and trial convictions of the former chancellor, several legislators, contractors and state employees. He conducted special grand jury investigations that contributed to the conviction of county commissioners in Jefferson County for activities related to sewer rehabilitation projects, and conducted and supervised the special grand jury investigation and prosecution of a



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former Birmingham mayor and others related to projects financed by Jefferson County. Serving as deputy criminal chief, and supervisor of the Public Corruption Section for the U.S. Attorney's Office from 2007 to 2009, Hart organized and implemented the U.S. Attorney's new corruption section. From 2009 until the present, he handled matters related to immigration and gang enforcement.

Prior to his work as a prosecutor, Hart served as a special forces and intelligence officer in the Alabama Army National Guard from 1980 to 2005. He graduated cum laude from the University of Alabama and earned his juris doctorate from the University of Alabama School of Law.

St. Clair County District Attorney Richard Minor, who represented the State of Alabama in the joint task force, commented: "I am pleased to hear that Attorney General Strange has hired Matt. His extraordinary record as a public corruption prosecutor and his commitment to public service will serve the citizens of Alabama well. As the former Director of the North Alabama Public Corruption Task Force, Matt's leadership led to the foundation for ethics reform. This hire reaffirms the Attorney General's pledge to root out public corruption at all levels of government in our state."