

NEWS RELEASE

# Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **AG STRANGE ANNOUNCES INDICTMENT OF FORMER GOODWATER CITY CLERK FOR MULTIPLE COUNTS OF THEFT, POSSESSION OF A FORGED INSTRUMENT**

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Luther Strange announced the indictment of a former Goodwater City Clerk for multiple counts of theft and possession of a forged instrument.

Leslie Shardae Parker, 27, of Sylacauga, surrendered today at the Coosa County Jail and is being held on \$150,000 bond.

Attorney General Strange's Special Prosecutions Division presented evidence to a Coosa County grand jury, resulting in Parker's indictment on April 29. Specifically, the indictment charges Parker with three counts of first-degree theft of property – each in excess of \$2,500 – and with three counts of second-degree possession of a forged instrument.

Parker was previously arrested on December 17, 2015, on a related charge following a citizen complaint and subsequent investigation by the Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Division. That arrest warrant noted evidence that Parker manipulated the city's payroll to pay herself at least \$150,000 more than her salary, from 2013 until December 2015.

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

If convicted, Parker faces a maximum penalty of two to 20 years' imprisonment for each count of first-degree theft, which is a class B felony, and one year and one day to 10 years' imprisonment for each count of second-degree possession of a forged instrument, which is a class C felony.

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

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