

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG STRANGE ANNOUNCES FELONY INDICTMENT OF FORMER EUFAULA COURT MAGISTRATE

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Luther Strange announced the arrest today of Kimberly Kveta Smith, also known as Kimberly Smith Thomas, for three felonies: an ethics law violation; first-degree theft; and computer tampering. Smith, 40, of Eufaula, is a former Eufaula Municipal Court magistrate. She surrendered to agents with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's State Bureau of Investigation at the Barbour County Jail and has been released on a \$50,000 bond.

Attorney General Strange's Special Prosecutions Division presented evidence to a Barbour County grand jury on August 16, resulting in Smith's indictment* on August 17. Specifically, the indictment charges Smith with first-degree theft of more than \$2,500 from the City of Eufaula, felony violation of the state ethics law by using her public position for personal gain, and computer tampering.

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

If convicted, Smith faces a maximum penalty of two to 20 years for each of the three counts, which are class B felonies.

Attorney General Strange commended Assistant Attorney General Kyle Beckman of his Special Prosecutions Division and thanked the City of Eufaula, the State Bureau of Investigation, the Barbour County Sheriff's Office, and the Alabama Department of Examiners of Public Accounts.

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

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