NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 6, 2018

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Attorney General Steve Marshall Announces Sentencing of Former Health Department Employee to Suspended Ten Year Sentence for Felony Ethics Violation

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Steve Marshall announced the sentencing of a former employee of the Alabama Department of Public Health for using her official position for personal gain. Judge John Rochester sentenced Yoskio Denise Givner, 32, of Montgomery, to a suspended sentence of 10 years of imprisonment and placed her on four years of supervised probation. Givner pleaded guilty to the felony ethics violation on June 13, 2018.

The Court also ordered Givner to pay court costs as determined by the Circuit Clerk, attorney's fees, a fine of \$2,000, and to pay \$15,010.54 in restitution to the State of Alabama. Payment of all fines, fees, costs, and restitution associated with the case within four years is a condition of Givner's probation.

Givner used her former position as an administrative assistant for the Alabama Department of Public Health to falsify travel vouchers, forging her supervisor's name on documents requesting payment for per diem and mileage she did not earn because she did not travel. Between October 2013 and August 2016, Givner used this scheme to steal more than \$15,000 from the State of Alabama.

"Public employees are entrusted to conduct themselves in the service of the people of Alabama with integrity and honor, and when that trust is violated as it was by this defendant, I am committed to prosecute those who use their positions for illegal personal gain," said Attorney General Marshall.

He thanked the Alabama Department of Public Health for its vigilance in reviewing the illegal vouchers and its assistance in the investigation and prosecution of this case. He commended Assistant Attorney General Peggy Rossmanith and Special Agents of the Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Division for their outstanding work to achieve this conviction.

