



Attorney General Marshall Announces Arrest of Butler County Juvenile Probation Officer Terry Van Lewis for Sex Crimes Against Juveniles

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Steve Marshall announced the arrest today of Butler County Juvenile Probation Officer Terry Van Lewis for one charge of first-degree rape and two charges of first-degree sexual abuse. Lewis, 63, of Montgomery, surrendered at the Butler County Jail and his bond was set at a total of \$300,000.

Attorney General Marshall's Criminal Trials Division presented evidence to a Butler County grand jury on March 12 resulting in Lewis' indictments on March 13. Specifically, one indictment charges that Lewis engaged in sexual intercourse with a member of the opposite sex by forcible compulsion, first-degree rape. The two remaining indictments charge that Lewis subjected another person to sexual contact by forcible compulsion. The victims in the cases were juveniles who were under his supervision at the time. The approximate dates of the alleged offenses range from 1994 until 1999.

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

If convicted, Lewis faces a maximum penalty of life in prison and a \$60,000 fine for the first-degree rape charge, which is a class A felony. For each charge of first-degree sexual abuse, Lewis faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$15,000 fine. First-degree sexual abuse is a class C felony.

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

--30--

