

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG STRANGE ANNOUNCES THAT COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS UPHOLDS FELONY ETHICS CONVICTIONS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

(MONTGOMERY) - Attorney General Luther Strange announced that the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals on Friday upheld the felony ethics convictions of Dr. Deann K. Stone, the former Director of Federal Programs for the State Department of Education, and her husband, Dave Stone, a former employee of Information Transport Solutions. Both are from Wetumpka. The Stones were convicted in October of 2015 in Montgomery County Circuit Court.

Evidence was presented at trial showing that, with the help of her husband Dave, Deann Stone took actions to manipulate the grant process to ensure that school districts that had agreements with Dave Stone's employer received millions of dollars in federal grant money.

"This case should send a strong message to those who are entrusted to serve the public," said Attorney General Strange. "We want those who would abuse the authority of their position to know that the Office of Attorney General is committed to holding them accountable."

The case was prosecuted at trial by the Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Division. The Stones were convicted by a jury, and ultimately sentenced to serve six months imprisonment followed by four years of supervised probation. They subsequently sought to have their guilty verdicts reversed on appeal.

The Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Section handled the case during the appeals process, arguing for the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals to affirm the convictions. The Court did so in a decision issued on Friday, August 5.

Attorney General Strange commended Assistant Attorney General Audrey Jordan of the Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Section for her successful work in the appeal of this case, and Assistant Attorney General Bill Lisenby for his prosecution of the matter.

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