



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney*  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Thursday, June 25, 2009**

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**TELFAIR COUNTY SHERIFF SENTENCED TO**  
**36 MONTHS IMPRISONMENT ON CORRUPTION CHARGES**

**Augusta, Georgia:** Edmund A. Booth, Jr., United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced that **Jimmie W. Williamson**, age 48, the former Sheriff of Telfair County, Georgia, was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Dublin, Georgia, before U.S. District Judge Dudley H. Bowen, Jr. to 36 months imprisonment.

Booth noted that Williamson was charged by a criminal Information in December 2008 with devising a scheme to deprive the citizens of Telfair County of his honest services as their Sheriff from approximately 2004 to the present through a variety of corrupt activities, including:

- the embezzlement of fine and bond money paid by individuals arrested in Telfair County for his own personal use instead of properly sending such money to the Telfair County courts;
- the acceptance of bribes from individuals arrested in Telfair County in exchange for reducing or dismissing the pending charges against them; and
- the improper purchase of items for his own personal use with funds belonging to and for the exclusive use of the Sheriff's Department.

Williamson pled guilty to those charges in January 2009.

Booth stated that the Court sentenced Williamson on those convictions to 36 months imprisonment, followed by 3 years of supervised release. While on supervised release, Williamson will be required to perform 150 hours of community service. Booth further

commented that Williamson was also ordered to pay restitution of the embezzled fine and bond money to the Telfair County courts.

The investigation involved the cooperative efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. The government is represented by Assistant United States Attorney R. Brian Tanner.

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