

Georgia Bureau of Investigation

News Release

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For Immediate Release
July 6, 2015

Worth County Magistrate Court Clerk Arrested

Sylvester, GA. – The GBI arrested former Worth County Magistrate Court Clerk Tammy Hall Powell, 54, of Sylvester, GA, today charging her with Obstruction - Hindering Law Enforcement, and Violation of Oath of Office. Powell, who resigned from her position in June of this year, provided confidential information about a search warrant to her close friend, William Neal Gay, 61, also of Sylvester. Gay then provided the information to other individuals, jeopardizing an ongoing law enforcement investigation and the safety of the officers involved. Gay has been arrested and charged with Obstruction - Hindering Law Enforcement. He has also been charged with False Statements after lying to police officers.

This investigation began on June 16, when Tift Judicial Circuit District Attorney Paul Bowdon requested the GBI look into an allegation that confidential information was leaked from the Worth County Magistrate Court office.

Powell was booked into the Worth County Jail. Gay was booked into the Dougherty County Jail, which is the jurisdiction where he made the false statements.

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