

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

April 14, 2009

Looting in Tornado Ruins

Sheriff Jimmy Harris states as follows:

On April 13, on Estate Drive in Sylvania, a concerned citizen called the Sheriff's Office reporting a looter in the Country Estates Subdivision. Deputy Van Douglas and Sylvania Police Department Officers responded to the area. Further investigation resulted in the arrest of Mark Daniel Gilbert, 42, of Sylvania. Gilbert, who was also a resident of the trailer park, was reportedly stealing household items from his neighbor's residence, which had been destroyed by the tornado. He was arrested and charged with Theft of Property 3rd Degree. Gilbert was transported to the DeKalb County Detention Center and later released on \$500 bond.

Sylvania Mayor Mitchell Dendy said, "This is one among the many reasons that we provided the level of security for the period of time that we did, because we knew this type of thing could happen."

Sheriff Harris said, "The security presence at the scene was obviously necessary to protect the citizens and their property from this type of activity."

