

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

December 10, 2009

Theft of Property - Mentone

Sheriff Jimmy Harris states as follows:

On December 9, 2009, Investigators Mitchell Dendy and Rene Ramos arrested William Clark Smith, 35, of Mentone, charged with Theft of Property 1st degree. Smith is suspected of stealing over \$3,700 in equipment from his employer after he was recently fired. Smith had worked for this employer, also of Mentone, for approximately 20 years. After receiving word that he had lost his job, Smith reportedly went to an area of land owned by the employer on County Rd. 631, where he stole a welder, generator, a riding lawnmower and a push lawnmower. Smith had given the riding lawnmower to his father, kept the push lawnmower, and was reportedly going to sell the welder and generator for scrap.

An initial report on the incident was taken by Mentone Police Chief Lamar Bray on December 8. On December 9, Chief Bray noticed a dump truck traveling in front of the Mentone Police Department carrying the items that were reported stolen the day before. Chief Bray requested assistance from the Sheriff's Office, at which time Investigators Dendy and Ramos responded.

All the stolen items were recovered. Officers had Smith return the items to the place they came from. He was then arrested and charged with Theft of Property 1st Degree, and transported to the DeKalb County Jail. He remains in jail at this time on \$15,000 bond.

