

## **Former Sheriff's Office Lieutenant Arrested**

October 30, 2013

A former Lieutenant with the Sheriff's Office has been arrested by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation after an investigation into her actions just prior to her dismissal from the department.

Tammy Crawford, who served in the Office of Professional Standards as the department's accreditation manager, was terminated on August 28, 2013, after it became known that she had intentionally deleted a large amount of data from the department's computer database. Part of the deleted data had been backed up, but parts were totally lost and/or corrupted beyond use.

After the data was discovered deleted, the Sheriff's Office requested that the GBI conduct an independent investigation into the matter. As a result of that investigation, GBI Agents arrested Crawford on October 30, 2013 for Computer Trespass and Violation of Oath of Office, one count each. She is currently free on \$10,000 bond.

Crawford had been employed by the Sheriff's Office since 1989, serving first as a clerk and later as a jailer and patrol Deputy. She transferred to the Office of Professional Standards in 2006 to serve as the accreditation manager.

Statement from Sheriff Gerald Couch:

"The Hall County Sheriff's Office will not tolerate criminal behavior on the part of its employees, regardless of rank or position. This is a very unfortunate incident where an experienced employee made a choice and must deal with the consequence of that. It is disappointing to see this type of criminal activity perpetrated by any employee.

We must hold ourselves to a higher standard and demand accountability from our staff."

This case remains under investigation by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.