



Press Release

On 6-16/17-2010, The Tuscaloosa Sheriff's Office made several reports for impersonating a Peace Officer (13A-10-11) which is a Class C Felony.

In each instance the caller would identify himself as being a representative of the Tuscaloosa Co. Sheriff's Office and demanded the victim pay him money for unpaid traffic violations. The Tuscaloosa County Sheriff's office was able to identify the suspect, Stephen Jeffrey Austin, a White Male, 26 years of age. He has been charged with One Count of Extortion 1st Degree (13A-8-14) Class B Felony and Five Counts of Impersonating a Police Officer (13A-10-110) class C Felony. He is currently in the Tuscaloosa County Jail on the aforementioned charges. Total bond is \$105,000.

Additional charges may be forthcoming as the investigation continues. Anyone who may have been a victim of this crime is encouraged to contact their local law enforcement agency and to file a report.