



## **Fayette County Sheriff's Office**

Wayne Hannah, Sheriff

**May 11, 2011**

### **Press Information Update**

**Investigator Brent Rowan – Public Information Officer**  
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On May 10, 2011 Fayette County Sheriff's Investigator's made an arrest in reference to several entering auto cases which have occurred at two Fayette County churches over the past several weeks. Investigator's have arrested Latoya Ellis, 31, of Atlanta who is currently being held in the Fayette County Jail. Criminal arrest warrants are pending relating to these cases.

Since April 17, 2011 Fayette County Sheriff's Investigator's have been investigating a series of eight (8) entering auto cases which have occurred at New Hope Baptist Church and Flat Creek Baptist Church during Sunday morning church services. Investigator's continued their efforts as additional entering auto reports were taken at the two churches on Sunday May 1 and May 8, 2011.

These cases involved Ellis entering into vehicles during church services and stealing items belonging to the victims. Some of the items stolen included credit cards which were later used at metro Atlanta stores by Ellis. Investigator's in these cases were able to obtain surveillance videos from stores where the stolen credit cards were used.

After a story appeared on WSBTV, a Lithonia resident called investigator's with a tip about the possible identity of the suspect he saw in the surveillance video. The tip proved to be crucial to solving this case and Ellis was later arrested near her home in Southwest Atlanta.

Investigator's are currently working with other metro Atlanta agencies about the possibility of similar crimes occurring in those jurisdictions. This case is still under investigation and additional arrests are expected.