



**KELLER J. BLACKBURN**  
*Athens County Prosecuting Attorney*

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**PRESS RELEASE**

From: Keller J. Blackburn, Athens County Prosecuting Attorney

Date: February 29, 2012 ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

Matthew Carlton Long, 29, currently incarcerated in the Southeastern Ohio Regional Jail, appeared before Judge L. Alan Goldsberry on February 28, 2012, and entered a plea of not guilty to an indictment charging Possession of Heroin and Tampering with Evidence. Prosecutor Blackburn reports that “on February 10, 2012, Long is accused of being in possession of 14 grams of heroin and subsequent to a traffic stop, asked his passenger to conceal the heroin on her person.” Judge Goldsberry set Long’s bond at \$35,000.00 cash or surety and scheduled a jury trial for April 17, 2012. This case was investigated by the Athens County Sheriff’s Narcotic Enforcement Team.

Melinda Johnson, 50, currently incarcerated in the Southeastern Ohio Regional Jail, appeared before Judge L. Alan Goldsberry on February 28, 2012, and entered a plea of not guilty to an indictment charging Burglary and Theft from the Elderly. Prosecutor Blackburn reports that “on December 20, 2011, Johnson is accused of taking the elderly woman, whom she was providing care for, out of her residence and informing her son, Jason Johnson, that the residence was unoccupied so that he could take items from the residence.” Judge Goldsberry set Johnson’s bond at \$25,000 with 10% allowed and scheduled a jury trial for April 17, 2012. This case was investigated by the Glouster Police Department.

Jason A. Johnson, 29, currently incarcerated in the Southeastern Ohio Regional Jail, appeared before Judge Michael Ward on February 28, 2012, and entered a plea of not guilty to an indictment charging Burglary and Theft from the Elderly. Prosecutor Blackburn reports that “on December 20, 2011, Johnson’s mother, Melinda Johnson is accused of taking the elderly woman, whom she was providing care for, out of her residence and informing her son, Jason Johnson, that the residence was unoccupied so that he could take items from the residence.” Judge Ward set Johnson’s bond at **\$2,500.00** cash or surety and scheduled a jury trial for May 8, 2012. This case was investigated by the Glouster Police Department.