

SHOCKER!

Local Lawyer Indicted for Burglary of Employee's Home

Prosecutors silent on rumors of fraud and embezzlement

*By Ed Gilbert
Staff Reporter*

The Thompson County grand jury shocked the courthouse crowd yesterday, indicting Marshall City attorney Connie Cutter for burglary and possession of stolen property. The burglary was reported last June. The victim? Cutter's employee.

The grand jury charged that Cutter invaded the home of Lake Kennedy Federation staffer Pat Siewert to steal a prized collectible, a JAMBLAS final concert prized souvenir. Cutter is the Associate Director and general counsel of the Federation.

The JAMBLAS concert memento, a stuffed animal valued at up to \$5,000, was the first of 2000 issued to ticket-holders attending the July 14, 2007 event here. Cutter is an acknowledged collector of JAMBLAS collectibles.

JAMBLAS was the rock band that lost its three electrifying singers in a plane crash three years ago, a day before the group was scheduled to give its "final concert."

Cutter, usually a one-person talkathon, snapped, "No comment," when called for an interview.

Meanwhile, the rumor-mill still grinds away. Apparently the prosecutor's office is still piecing together a possible fraud case against Cutter and the Lake Kennedy Federation. The case may be referred to federal prosecutors. No one in the Thompson State's Attorney's office is willing to comment. Stay tuned.

Also stolen in that June 2009 burglary was a laptop computer containing files of financial records of the Lake Kennedy Federation. Perhaps not so coincidentally, all the Lake Kennedy Federation's electronic and paper files were taken or destroyed in a burglary of its offices the same night. At the time, according to reliable sources, the Thompson County grand jury was issuing subpoenas in connection with its investigation of the Federation and its principle officers, Connie and Casey Cutter. None of the stolen records or computers has ever been recovered.