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Press Release

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ARREST MADE IN DPS BREATH TEST CONTRACTOR CASE

District Attorney Kenneth Magidson states that Deetrice Wallace has been arrested and charged in conjunction with reports of false inspections of DPS-owned intoxilyzer instruments. These instruments are used in cases in which a driver is suspected of driving while intoxicated through the introduction of alcohol into the body. Intoxilyzers are designed to quantify the exact alcohol concentration that remains in a person's breath after drinking alcoholic beverages.

The Texas Department of Public Safety reports that Wallace was hired as an independent contractor, and she was responsible for maintaining and certifying instruments for eight local police departments, including Clute, Friendswood, Galveston, League City, Pearland, Seabrook, South Houston, and Webster.

Hundreds of cases are being re-examined to determine if tainted or unreliable evidence led to the arrest or conviction of suspects.

Wallace has been charged with the offense of Tampering with a Governmental Record, a state jail felony, which exposes her to a range of punishment of 6 months to 2 years in the state jail and up to a \$10,000 fine. She will appear in the 182nd District Court. The District Attorney states that additional charges may be forthcoming.

Kenneth Magidson states, "Our first and foremost goal is to ensure that justice is done. We will take any appropriate action necessary in the interests of justice. Cases will be carefully reviewed to determine their proper disposition." END