



## PRESS RELEASE

On March 15, 2011 at approximately 1724 hours a Elbert County Sheriff's Deputy observed a silver Nissan pickup traveling westbound on Highway 86 swerve into the double lined painted median and pass the vehicle in front of him in a reckless manner.

The Deputy contacted the driver, a white male who stated his driving privilege was revoked. Upon clearing through dispatch it was confirmed that the parties driving privileges were revoked with two active revocations.

It appeared to the Deputy that the driver was under the influence of drugs. He was detained for Driving Under Revocation and possible DUID. The party was then placed into custody and found to have a large sum of cash with him. During a routine search of the vehicle incident to arrest the Deputy located a handgun with the serial number ground off and defaced. The party was then transported to the Elbert County Detentions Facility.

The vehicle was seized and two dogs trained to detect narcotics were summoned to examine the vehicle, its contents and the sum of cash. Both dogs positively alerted to the presence of drugs on the cash, vehicle and vehicle contents.

The party has been charged with:

- 18-18-405 (1)(2)(I)(a) Unlawful distribution, manufacturing, dispensing or sale of a controlled substance schedule 1 F3
- 18-18-403.5 (1)(2)(b) Unlawful possession of a controlled substance schedule II F6
- 18-18-406 (8)(b)(III)(A) Offenses related to marijuana and marijuana concentrate F4
- 18-18-407 (1)f(II) Special Offender
- 18-12-103 Possession of a defaced firearm
- 42-2-206 (1)(b) Drove vehicle when license revoked as an habitual offender (reckless) F6
- 42-4-1301 (1)(a)(f) Driving under the influence of drugs
- 42-4-1401 (1) Reckless Driving

Sheriff Heap said that the Office has taken a very proactive approach in dealing with drugs and drug dealers in Elbert County. The Sheriff's Office continues to actively pursue, arrest and jail those individuals who traffic narcotics in the County.