

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Alabama Department of Public Safety

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### **Troopers Seize Cocaine, Arrest Texas Man Following Traffic Stop**

Tuesday, July 17, at 5 p.m. a Tuscaloosa-area state trooper stopped a 1998 Freightliner tractor for a traffic violation on I-59 northbound at the 62 mile marker. The trooper obtained consent to search the vehicle and located approximately 14 kilos of cocaine with an estimated street value of \$1.4 million hidden in the tractor.

The driver of the vehicle, Juan Deana, 46, of San Antonio, Texas, was arrested on charges of trafficking in cocaine and placed in the Tuscaloosa County Jail. Assisting in the investigation and arrest were the ABI Division of the Department of Public Safety, West Alabama Drug Task Force and the Tuscaloosa County Sheriff's Office.

“A large quantity of illegal drugs was removed from our streets and communities as a result of this enforcement action,” said Col. Chris Murphy, Public Safety director. “I am proud of the commitment and dedication of Alabama’s state troopers. Their efforts in traffic enforcement and detection of other illegal activity are invaluable to our mission of protecting the public’s safety.”

July 18, 2007



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