

NEWS RELEASE

Alabama Department of Public Safety

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Public Safety Announces Charges in Vandalism of Confederate Monument

State Troopers Charge Three Juveniles

MONTGOMERY — The Alabama Department of Public Safety has charged three juveniles in connection with the November defacing of the Confederate monument located on the grounds of the state Capitol, according to Col. J. Christopher Murphy, Public Safety director.

Murphy said Alabama state troopers have signed petitions charging each of the three with first-degree criminal mischief, a Class C felony. The three juveniles are all 17-year-olds from Montgomery.

Capitol Police officers discovered Nov. 11 that the monument, located on the north grounds of the Capitol, had been vandalized. The Protective Services Division of DPS, whose responsibilities include the Capitol complex, initiated a criminal investigation which led to the juveniles' arrest.

Gov. Bob Riley praised the work of investigators in resolving the case. "This was a senseless crime, and I applaud our investigators for their outstanding work," said Riley.

Murphy echoed the governor's remarks, calling the investigation "first-rate." He said Public Safety is working on the case in conjunction with the Montgomery County Juvenile Court.

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