**HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFF DEPUTY ARRESTED AND CHARGED**

*Other Possible Victims Urged to Call*

**The Harris County District Attorney’s Office** announced today that Harris County Sheriff Deputy Christopher Ellis was arrested while working his patrol shift Monday evening and is charged with two counts of‘possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver.’

The 34 year old Ellis is currently in the Harris County jail in lieu of a 60 thousand dollar bond for each charge. Ellis is scheduled to make his first appearance in the 179th State District Court Wednesday morning.

The investigation into Christopher Ellis began after information was received that the deputy was stealing narcotics from drug dealers while on duty and then turning around and selling the drugs to make a profit.

The investigation into Ellis’ alleged wrongdoings was directed by the Harris County Sheriff’s Office and included members of the Harris County District Attorney’s Office, the Texas Rangers, and the Houston Police Department.

“The investigation was carried out perfectly by all the agencies involved and the arrest went smoothly,” Assistant District Attorney Terese Buess said. The Public Integrity Division Chief added, “Police officers take a solemn oath to uphold the law and protect the public. When a violation of that trust happens it damages the credibility of the good men and women who work hard to honor their duty as peace officers. Officers who violate the public trust by doing criminal acts will not be tolerated and Christopher Ellis will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.” District Attorney Devon Anderson said, “I commend the Harris County Sheriff’s Office for promptly contacting us and working diligently to bring Deputy Ellis to justice.”

Ellis was arrested near Beltway 8 and Highway 249 after selling cocaine, marijuana, Loricet tablets, and Soma tablets to an undercover officer for $1000. If convicted he could be sentenced to life or 99 years in prison and up to a $10,000 fine.

Based on evidence recovered, the DA’s office strongly believes there are others who have been victimized by Ellis and strongly urges those with information to call the Internal Affairs Division of the Harris County Sheriff’s Office at (713) 755-6517**.** The investigation is ongoing**.**