

## Lowndes Couple Arrested for Mobile Meth Lab

Lowndes Couple Arrested for Mobile Meth Lab On August 9, 2013 at 11:45 pm, while on patrol on Hwy 376, Sheriff Courson got behind a 2010 Chrysler Town & Country van. Sheriff Courson attempted to make a traffic stop for failure to maintain lane as the van turned left on J Frank Culpepper Rd. The van did not immediately yield to the blue lights. Sheriff Courson noticed the passenger threw an object from the passenger side of the vehicle. After initiating the siren the van finally yielded to the side of the road. As Sheriff Courson approached to talk to the driver he noticed the strong chemical odor of indicative of methamphetamine manufacture emanating from the vehicle. The driver whom was identified as Katherine Carroll, 29 of Valdosta and the passenger's husband Christopher Carroll, 34 of Valdosta appeared to be very nervous. After explaining to the driver the reason for the immediate concern of an active methamphetamine lab in the vehicle Sheriff Courson was able to obtain consent from the driver to search the vehicle. Both driver and passenger were removed from the vehicle and the search of the vehicle revealed the presence of a one-pot methamphetamine lab also known as a "shake and bake" lab. In the backseat of the van a cooler was located containing all of the remaining elements needed in the manufacturing process. Further investigation revealed that the couple was actually in the manufacturing process as they were driving down the road. The couple was taken into custody where a syringe was removed from the passenger, which contained suspected methamphetamine. Narcotics agents from the Lowndes County Sheriffs Office assisted deputies of Echols County Sheriff's Office in dismantling the lab. A hazardous material company was contacted to come obtain and transport the lab. The van was towed from the scene. The driver was charged with misdemeanor failure to maintain lane, felony possession of methamphetamine, felony manufacture of methamphetamine, and felony possession of tools used in the commission of a crime. The passenger was charged with felony possession of methamphetamine, felony manufacture of methamphetamine and felony possession of tools used in the commission of a crime.