



Misti Spacek

## CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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### **For Immediate Release to the Newton County News:**

The Newton County Grand Jury indicted Christy Noel Gilley, 32, of Newton on fourteen counts of Arson during their October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Gilley is accused of intentionally setting fire to twelve homes, one building, and one vehicle between July 2002 and June 2008.

A joint investigation conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Texas State Fire Marshal's Office resulted in the charges against Gilley.

The investigation began in May 2006 when Gilley's FEMA trailer was destroyed by fire. However, the investigation intensified and began focusing on Gilley as a suspect in June 2008 after her twelfth home burned. Thereafter, scores of ATF Special Agents descended on Newton County and conducted over thirty interviews of Newton residents during the investigation.

After the indictments were handed down, warrants for Gilley's arrest on the fourteen cases were issued. Gilley turned herself in to the Newton County Sheriff's Office on October 16, 2008.