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Officer shoots former church security guard

COLLEGE PARK - Police shot and killed a man they say forced his way into a church, refused to leave and became combative.

The incident began Saturday night at World Changers Church International.

Security guards at the church called police when the man would not leave. When officers arrived, the man became violent and a Fulton County Police officer shot him after he reached for the officer's gun.

Authorities have identified the man as John Givens, who worked as a security guard at the church from October 2003 to June 2004.

Complete smoking ban is now in effect

ATHENS - The rules for smokers changed Monday when a controversial and complete local ban on smoking indoors in public places went into effect, replacing a partial local ban and a statewide ban.

Smoking is not allowed indoors in any public place at any time, with only a handful of exceptions such as private clubs, some employees-only smoking areas, designated hotel rooms and tobacco stores.

The ordinance also outlaws smoking in county parks.

Supporters of killer protest jail treatment

ATLANTA - Supporters of a former 1960s black militant jailed for killing a deputy rallied Monday to protest his treatment in prison.

About 50 family members, friends and activists said 61-year-old Jamil Al-Amin, once known as H. Rap Brown, is subjected to solitary confinement 23 hours a day and forced to submit to humiliating strip searches in front of female guards.

Mr. Al-Amin has been serving a life sentence without parole for the March 2002 shooting death of Fulton County Sheriff's Deputy Ricky Kinchen, 38. The Georgia Supreme Court denied his request to overturn his conviction in May 2004.

Officials said Mr. Al-Amin is under lockdown because of his security risk level.

Highway spending bill gives more to Georgia

ATLANTA - Georgia will get about \$286 million more a year in federal transportation money under the highway spending bill approved by Congress last week. Two of the state's leading politicians hailed the measure Monday as a huge step forward.

The six-year spending bill totals \$286.4 billion. Georgia's share is \$7.6 billion, a 29 percent

increase compared with the \$5.9 billion it received under the previous federal highway spending bill.

Long a "donor" state that has gotten back less than it paid in federal highway taxes, Georgia will move up a notch or two in the new spending bill.

Sen. Johnny Isakson said it will get back no less than 90.5 percent of the federal taxes it pays. In some years, Georgia's return on federal highway taxes has been as low as 86 percent, he said.

The bill is loaded with new highway and bridge projects, rail and bus facilities, and bike paths and recreational trails across the country, condemned by some watchdog groups as wasteful. Mr. Perdue called them "real projects that will make a difference in moving Georgians around."

- Edited from wire reports

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