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Attorney General Steve Marshall Announces Arrest of Shelby County Woman on Charges of Theft from Nursing Home Residents

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Steve Marshall announced today the arrest of Paige Taylor Smith on charges that she stole from residents of a Shelby County nursing home while she was employed as the facility’s business office manager.

Smith, 57, a resident of Alabaster, is charged with two counts of theft of property first degree, a class B felony.

The Attorney General’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit investigated the case after the facility reported the theft to the Alabama Department of Public Health. The charges against Smith allege that she initiated unauthorized electronic withdrawals from the victims’ checking accounts in an amount over \$2,500 to pay the lease on her personal residence. In addition, Smith is alleged to have used the victims’ debit cards for unauthorized ATM cash withdrawals at various locations in an amount exceeding \$2,500.

Smith was arrested on warrants* brought by agents of the Attorney General’s Office after surrendering at the Shelby County Detention Center where she is being held on bonds totaling \$60,000.

No further information about the investigation or about Smith’s alleged crimes other than that stated in the warrants may be released at this time.

Theft of property first degree is punishable by imprisonment from two to 20 years and a fine of not more than \$30,000.

The Alabama Medicaid Fraud Control Unit operates on an annual grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service’s Office of Inspector General that provides 75 percent of the Unit’s funding.

**An arrest warrant is merely an accusation. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.*

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