

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG STRANGE ANNOUNCES ARREST OF ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY EMPLOYEE, OTHERS IN JEFFERSON COUNTY CHECK THEFT RING

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Luther Strange announced the arrest of a former employee of a Bessemer assisted living facility for her involvement in the stealing and cashing of checks belonging to residents. Deangela Teyonta Marshall, 28, of Birmingham was arrested on March 18, 2016. Additional defendants were arrested yesterday and another on March 22.

The Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) presented evidence to a Jefferson County grand jury resulting in an indictment* dated March 11 charging Marshall with 22 counts of criminal possession of a forged instrument in the second degree. It is alleged that Marshall, a resident care assistant (RCA) for Oaks on Parkwood Assisted Living Facility in Bessemer, stole checks from numerous residents and then distributed the checks to co-defendants to cash throughout the Birmingham area. It is further alleged the account information of one victim was used to create fake checks appearing to come from area churches. Eight residents of the Oaks on Parkwood facility were victims of the thefts and the amount stolen exceeds \$20,000.

The case was initiated when Noland Health Services, which owns the Oaks on Parkwood facility, contacted MFCU agents and advised that a resident was missing checks, two of which had been cashed. The Corporate Security Department of Regions Bank assisted with the investigation. Members of Noland Healthcare and Regions Corporate Security were instrumental in identifying both the victims and defendants and worked exhaustively with MFCU agents to develop the case.

There are 13 total defendants. Clarence George, 54, of Birmingham was arrested on April 5 and charged with 21 counts of criminal possession of a forged instrument in the second degree. Kimberly Yvonne Hurst, 54, of Hoover was arrested on April 5 and charged with three counts of criminal possession of a forged instrument in the second degree and theft of property in the second degree. Shaneka Nicole Scott, 35, of Birmingham was arrested on March 22 and charged with one count of criminal possession of a forged instrument in the second degree and one count of theft of property in the second degree. Other individuals allegedly involved have been charged, however, no other information may be released at this time.

Attorney General Strange commended his Medicaid Fraud Control Unit and thanked Noland Health Services and Regions Bank Corporate Security for their dedication to bringing these individuals to justice.

**An indictment is merely an accusation. Defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.*

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