

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG STRANGE ANNOUNCES FOURTH CONVICTION IN THEFT RING THAT STOLE FROM JEFFERSON COUNTY ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY RESIDENTS

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Luther Strange announced the conviction today of a Birmingham woman for her role in the theft of more than \$20,000 from the residents of a Bessemer assisted living facility. Shaneka Scott, 36, pleaded guilty to one count of criminal possession of a forged instrument in the second degree and one count of theft of property in the second degree, both class C felonies.

In March of 2016, the Attorney General’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit presented evidence to a Jefferson County grand jury that Deangela Marshall, an employee of Oaks on Parkwood Assisted Living Facility, stole checks from numerous residents of the facility and then distributed the checks to associates in the Birmingham area to cash the stolen checks. Marshall was indicted and pleaded guilty to 22 counts of criminal possession of a forged instrument in the second degree.

Eight residents of the Oaks on Parkwood facility were victims of the thefts, which totaled more than \$20,000. Altogether, 13 defendants were indicted* by the grand jury for their role in the scheme. As of now, seven have been arrested, four have pleaded guilty, and six have not yet been arrested.

Scott was convicted for her role in cashing one of the stolen checks. Because of prior convictions, she was sentenced to 10 years, split to serve three years in the state penitentiary.

“This defendant participated in a nefarious scheme to deprive vulnerable assisted living residents of their rightful money,” said Attorney General Strange. “I commend my Medicaid Fraud Control Unit for its skillful handling of this important matter, and thank the Noland Health Services for its diligence in discovering these crimes.”

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

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