NEWS RELEASE

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FRAUD UNIT MAKES THREE ARRESTS

Atlanta – Investigators in the Fraud Unit at the Georgia Department of Insurance have made three arrests in the past week.

“Every time the citizens of Georgia write a check for an insurance premium, they are paying for insurance fraud. That is why combating fraud is one of my number one priorities. Criminals should not make a living at the expense of hard-working Georgians,” said Insurance Commissioner Jim Beck.

The following individuals, who are innocent until proven guilty, were arrested by Fraud Unit investigators in the past week:

- Michael Simpson, 54, of Lawrenceville, GA – Arrested on 02/06 in Gwinnett County
  - 1 Count of Insurance Fraud
  - **Detail:** Simpson is accused of altering medical records after an auto accident that occurred in April of 2016. After he was determined not at-fault, he filed a property damage and bodily injury claim with GEICO, the at-fault driver’s company. Simpson ordered an MRI and submitted medical records showing a torn meniscus. After the legitimate records were obtained, it was found that an MRI was not ordered and torn meniscus was never diagnosed.

- Marcus Kentoya Johnson, 39, of Milledgeville, GA – Arrested on 02/08 in Bibb County
  - 2 Counts of Insurance Fraud
  - 1 Count of Forgery
  - 5 Counts of Identity Fraud
  - **Detail:** Johnson is accused of staging slip and fall accidents. He would enter various businesses, claim he slipped and was injured, then would use fictitious names to file claims in an attempt to hide his identity and any sort of pattern.

- Anthony Bernard Crosby, 55, of Atlanta, GA – Arrested on 02/12 in Fulton County
  - 2 Counts of Insurance Fraud
  - 2 Counts of Forgery
  - 2 Counts of Theft by Conversion
  - **Detail:** Crosby is accused of forging the declaration of insurance pages for two clients. Furthermore, he is accused of forging the signatures for the above stated clients to change the premium amounts and increase the amount of funds, which he then directed the clients to deposit the funds via wire transfer into his personal bank account in the name of a fictitious company he started. The arrest was made at 5:30 A.M. with the assistance of The Fulton County Marshalls office.

Insurance fraud is a felony punishable by imprisonment for two to ten years, or by a fine of up to $10,000.00, or both. To report suspected fraud, contact the Georgia Department of Insurance Fraud Unit at 800-656-2298. Callers may remain anonymous.

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