



NEWS RELEASE

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Hudgens: Macon Resident Pleads Guilty to 23 Counts of Insurance Fraud

Atlanta – Insurance Commissioner Ralph Hudgens announced that a Bibb County resident was sentenced for multiple counts of insurance fraud.

William Emerson Scruggs, 54, pled guilty to 23 counts of insurance fraud. Bibb County Superior Court sentenced Scruggs to three years confinement to be served with a separate federal incarceration and seventeen years of probation following the confinement. In addition, Scruggs must pay \$12,240 in restitution and perform 170 hours of community service.

The sentencing stems from a July 2014 investigation led by Hudgens' Fraud division that found Scruggs, who owned Diamond Auto Painting, aided former insurance adjuster Patrick Dixon with the generation of false auto repair claims. Dixon is awaiting trial.

"I'm glad that the court appreciated the severity of Mr. Scruggs' fraudulent actions. I agree with the sentence of confinement, probation, and, most importantly, restitution for the victims," Hudgens said.

If you have any questions, please call the Georgia Department of Insurance at (404)656-2070 or toll free at (800) 656- 2298.