



# NEWS RELEASE

**RALPH HUDGENS**  
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE  
SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER  
INDUSTRIAL LOAN COMMISSIONER

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## **HUDGENS: SEVEN SUSPECTS ARRESTED IN BIBB COUNTY FOR STAGING AUTO COLLISION**

**Atlanta** - Insurance Commissioner Ralph Hudgens announced today that seven suspects have been charged with one felony count each of insurance fraud for allegedly staging an automobile accident in Bibb County.

An investigation by Hudgens' Fraud Division revealed that on September 5, 2013, Kokeythia B. Glover, 23, Stephanie James, 41, Alicia Bell, 43, Erion Phillips, 22, Marcus Pertillo, 29, Kentaurus Taylor, 26 and Bernard Taylor, 56, planned and participated in a staged automobile accident in Macon, Georgia.

The staged accident, which occurred at the intersection of Patterson Street, and Birch Street, between James' 1998 BMW 325i and Glover's rented Ford U-Haul truck resulted in more than \$8,000 in fraudulent claims being paid by two insurance companies.

"Insurance fraud is a serious crime that can cost Georgians millions of dollars each year in the form of higher premiums," Commissioner Hudgens said. "I will continue to make combating fraud one of my highest priorities."

All seven suspects have turned themselves in at the Bibb County Sheriff's office, Hudgens said. Both Glover and James are also charged with one count each of false reporting of a crime. The cases against all seven will be prosecuted by the Bibb County District Attorney's Office.

The Georgia Department of Insurance investigates various forms of fraud in insurance, including health, life, auto, property and workers' compensation insurance. Anyone with information about this case or another possible fraud scheme should call the department's consumer hotline at 1-800-656-2298.