



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **HUDGENS: WARRANT ISSUED FOR SOUTH GA INSURANCE AGENT**

**Atlanta** – Insurance Commissioner Ralph Hudgens announced today that his Fraud Investigation Unit has issued an arrest warrant for a South Georgia insurance agent on six counts of felony insurance fraud and seven counts of identity fraud charges.

The arrest warrant, executed in cooperation with the Dodge County Sheriff's Department, alleges that David Marcus Jones, Jr., 50, of Douglas, Ga., submitted applications for insurance coverage for six employees of the Dodge County Tax Appraiser office without their knowledge or authority.

"Our investigation has determined that policies for disability, critical illness and life insurance were issued and employee salaries were deducted without their permission," Hudgens said. "Such actions constitute a violation of a trust between an agent and policyholder, a violation we take very seriously."

At the time the alleged crimes occurred, Jones was employed by Taylor Insurance Services in Valdosta, Ga., who is the Benefits Plans Servicing Agency for Dodge County. Jones allegedly used his position as an Employee Benefits Specialist to obtain the employee's personal information and submit the applications to American Heritage Life Insurance Company for commission.

Commissioner Hudgens urges anyone who believes they have been victims of insurance fraud to contact his office at 404-656-2070 or toll free at 800-656-2298.

Insurance fraud is a felony with a penalty of two to 10 years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$10,000.