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Local Nurse and Accomplice Face Lengthy State Prison Sentences for Identity Thefts



Emmett Woods



Suzette Guzman-Moore

ALBANY, NY- District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that EMMETT WOODS, 25, of Albany, and SUZETTE GUZMAN-MOORE, 45, of Albany, have both pleaded guilty for their roles in stealing the identities of multiple patients at Albany Medical Center.

WOODS pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree, a Class E Felony, (1) Count of Identity Theft in the Second Degree, a Class E Felony, and (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a Class D Felony, before the Honorable Stephen Herrick in Albany County Court this morning.

On June 6, 2014, GUZMAN-MOORE pleaded guilty to (3) Counts of Identity Theft in the Second Degree, all Class E Felonies, and (1) Count of Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree, a Class E Felony, before the Honorable Stephen Herrick in Albany County Court.

Between May 1, 2013 and May 7, 2014, GUZMAN-MOORE, while employed as a Licensed Practical Nurse at Albany Medical Center, unlawfully stole the identities of several patients who were being treated at the hospital. After GUZMAN-MOORE stole the identities of the patients, she and WOODS then applied for multiple credit cards and made purchases throughout the Capital Region using the stolen identities.

GUZMAN-MOORE faces up to 5 to 15 years when sentenced on July 24, 2014. In addition, she must surrender her nursing license. WOODS faces 7 ½ to 15 years in State Prison when sentenced on August 25, 2014. Both defendants remain in custody at the Albany County Correctional Facility to await sentencing.

“This case not only illustrates the importance of regularly checking bank statements and other personal financial documents to ensure ones’ identity has not been stolen, but also the lengths that some will go to exploit the vulnerability of others. Ms. Guzman-Moore betrayed her sworn duty as a nurse and caregiver and stole the identities of the patients under her care, which was aided by Mr. Woods. Another important lesson I want the residents of Albany County to take away from this case is that the presumption of innocence is not only extended to those accused of committing a crime, but also to those who are questioned by members of law enforcement during an investigation. The investigation into both defendants’ criminal conduct led investigators to Garland Brothers Funeral Home, which was widely publicized in the local and regional media. The owners and employees of the funeral home cooperated fully with investigators and not only committed no crimes, but were victims as well. I also want to thank Albany Medical Center for their full cooperation in this case and for taking steps to ensure the protection of confidential information of their patients,” commented District Attorney Soares.

Financial Crimes Unit Bureau Chief Daniel Lynch is handling the prosecution of both cases.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh (518) 275-4710.

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