



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 28, 2017

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REGISTERED NURSE IMPOSTOR ARRESTED FOR IDENTITY THEFT

More identity theft victims are being sought

SACRAMENTO – A West Hollywood man was arrested Monday, June 26 on suspicion of identity theft after he was found impersonating a registered nurse.

The Investigation and Enforcement Unit – Central Valley Field Office of the California Department of Consumer Affairs' (DCA) Division of Investigation (DOI) arrested Jeremy Daniel Griffin, following the investigation of a complaint that he was representing himself as a registered nurse.

Griffin was scheduled to begin working as a registered nurse at Saint Louise Regional Hospital in Gilroy on June 26. He was hired after using the name of a real registered nurse. During the hiring process, he presented falsified documents in that nurse's name to Aya Healthcare, a travel nursing company. Aya Healthcare became suspicious after reviewing the documents.

Griffin was interviewed by DOI investigators early Monday morning after he arrived at the facility for his shift. At that time, his true identity was learned. Griffin does not hold a license as a registered nurse in California. He previously held a license as a licensed vocational nurse.

This is not the first time Griffin has misrepresented himself. In 2014, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians revoked Griffin's license because of his criminal convictions for receiving stolen property and burglary. The burglary conviction stemmed from a case in which Griffin allegedly used the identity of a registered nurse to gain employment at a medical facility in Marina Del Rey, where he then stole property belonging to a doctor at that facility. Griffin initially faced charges that included identity theft and false personation, but he ultimately pleaded no contest to one felony count of burglary in Los Angeles Superior Court.

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DOI Supervising Investigator James Ackley said that he applauded the efforts made by Aya Healthcare and Saint Louise Regional Hospital, as it was due to the diligent background check and attention to detail on the part of Aya Healthcare, along with the cooperation and assistance of the staff at St. Louise Regional Hospital that DOI was able to successfully investigate and intervene in this situation. The quick actions of Aya Healthcare and Saint Louise Regional Hospital resulted in the immediate protection of their patients.

Griffin's bail is set at \$86,000 and he is scheduled for arraignment in the Santa Clara Superior Court on June 28, 2017.

Investigators believe that there may be more victims of Griffin's identity theft and false personation in the communities between Santa Clara and Los Angeles counties. If you suspect that you may be a victim of these crimes, or if you believe that you previously hired Griffin, please contact Lead Investigator Rod Spaulding at the Division of Investigation's Central Valley Field Office at (559) 244-5658.

ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC

TECHNICIANS: The Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians' (BVNPT) mission is to protect the public and advance quality nursing and psychiatric services to Californians. Public protection is paramount to BVNPT and its highest priority in exercising its licensing, regulatory and disciplinary functions. For information on how to file a complaint, or for information about BVNPT, visit us at www.bvnpt.ca.gov.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS: The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) promotes and protects the interests of California consumers while ensuring a competent and fair marketplace. DCA helps consumers learn how to protect themselves from unscrupulous and unqualified individuals. The department also protects professionals (licensees) from unfair competition by unlicensed practitioners. Consumers can file complaints against licensees by contacting DCA at (800) 952-5210. Consumers can also file a complaint online at www.dca.ca.gov.

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