

Arkansas Insurance Department

NEWS RELEASE

*Allen Kerr
Insurance Commissioner*



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Guilty Plea For Staged Crash Involving U-Haul Rental

Kerr: AID will continue crackdown on this type of insurance fraud

LITTLE ROCK – Arkansas Insurance Commissioner Allen Kerr today released the following statement following the sentencing of a Jonesboro woman to five years probation, court costs and restitution for her role in a staged automobile accident in 2014 involving a U-Haul rental:

“These types of cases are becoming more and more prevalent, and the result will always be the same: a conviction for insurance fraud. Using a commercial rental vehicle to stage an accident may seem like a victimless crime, but it puts all Arkansas motorists in danger and penalizes all of us through higher insurance premiums. The Arkansas Insurance Department will continue to crackdown on this type of fraud.”

Jennifer Haggins, 31 of Jonesboro, entered a plea of guilty to one count of Fraudulent Insurance Acts (D felony) and one count of Criminal Mischief (D felony) on June 29 in Craighead County Circuit Court.

On May 24, 2014, Haggins rented a truck from the U-Haul store located at 1700 Red Wolf Drive in Jonesboro, purchasing the extra insurance offered on the U-Haul during the rental process. Haggins was involved in an automobile accident with another vehicle. The accident resulted in damage to both vehicles in the combined amount of \$4,554.35. On the same day, she filed an insurance claim alleging bodily injury as a result of the accident. Upon investigation, it was found that the accident was staged.

Haggins was sentenced to five years of probation, court costs of \$540, and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$4,554.35 at the rate of \$100 per month.

Kerr reminds Arkansans that Act 695 of 2017 extends the statute of limitations for insurance fraud (Class D felony) involving a motor vehicle purposely used to cause and accident to five years from the previous three years.

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