

## INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

- State of Georgia -

## **NEWS RELEASE**

John F. King

Commissioner of Insurance Safety Fire Commissioner Industrial Loan Commissioner

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## FULTON COUNTY WOMAN ENTERS GUILTY PLEA

**ATLANTA** – On November 22, Gwendolyn Renee Spear, 40, of Atlanta, Georgia, pleaded guilty in Fulton County Superior Court to one count of Forgery in the First Degree, one count of Insurance Fraud, and one count of Theft by Deception.

After an investigation into an insurance claim she made, Spear was arrested in June of 2018 by agents in the Criminal Investigations Division at the Office of the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner. She was booked into Fulton County Jail on June 19, 2018, but was later released after posting a \$9,000 bond.

"This individual made false statements during the filing of a claim to her insurance company. She filed the claim and then collected payment for damages to her car that previously existed," said Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King. "She also submitted fictitious medical bills in an attempt to receive payment for injuries that did not occur during the accident."

Spear was sentenced to three years of probation for the Forgery charge and five years of probation each for the Insurance Fraud and Theft by Deception charges, all to be served concurrently. She was also ordered to pay \$3,927.00 in restitution to Travelers Insurance.

To report suspected insurance fraud, contact the Georgia Department of Insurance at 800-656-2298. Callers can choose to remain anonymous.

