



NEWS RELEASE

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HUDGENS' FRAUD UNIT ARREST FORMER AGENT; TAKES ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION AGAINST HIS WIFE

Atlanta - Insurance Commissioner Ralph Hudgens announced today that a former Camden County insurance agent has been arrested and charged with multiple misdemeanors.

Arrested today was James Shores, 53. Shores is charged with 3-counts of soliciting or negotiating insurance without a license. He was transported to Camden County jail and is awaiting a bond hearing.

"Our investigation revealed that James Shores, an unlicensed individual, was working in these agencies as a licensed insurance agent," Hudgens said. "It is also our belief that Shores was conducting numerous insurance transactions in violation of Georgia law. I am shutting these agencies down in the best interest of the public."

Shores, who has a history of administrative actions against him by the Insurance Department was placed on probation in 1994 for a period of 2 years. Then, in 1998, the Department revoked his license based on his criminal history and license suspension in the state of Florida

Special Fraud Agents with Hudgens' office also conducted a search warrant today in conjunction with the issuance of cease and desist orders and license revocations today against Shores' wife, insurance agent Bonnie Shores and their agencies, The Shores Agency and 1-800-We-Insure for participating in fraudulent activities.

In the order, Hudgens' staff alleges that Bonnie Shores allowed her husband James to solicit and negotiate insurance transactions in Georgia without a license.

The order further states that the licenses of both agencies are revoked, Bonnie's insurance license is revoked, and that she and James must cease all forms of insurance transactions in the State of Georgia.

The Shores have ten days to request a hearing before the Commissioner to contest these orders.

Commissioner Hudgens would like to thank the Saint Marys Police Department for assisting with the arrest and search warrant.