

Hartford resident pleads guilty to theft and forgery

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A Hartford man pleaded guilty Tuesday to 37 charges related to forgery and identity theft involving his home sitting business for the elderly, according to authorities.

George Raymond Gomes, 51, was sentenced to seven years in a state prison for the following charges, according to Dale County Assistant District Attorney Bill Filmore: two felony counts of possession of forged instruments, one felony count of identity theft and 34 misdemeanor counts of third-degree forgery.

Dale County District



George Gomes

Attorney Kirke Adams said the charges stemmed from incidents related to Gomes' Hartford business, We Care, which was a home sitting service for the elderly.

Adams said evidence showed Gomes forged a nurse's signature to obtain insurance reimbursements for clients and himself.

Adams said an investigation by both the Hartford Police Department and the Alabama Bureau of Investigation began after complaints about the business.

"Taking advantage of our elderly is something we take very seriously. I am very pleased with the work of our law enforcement in these cases," Adams said.

Gomes' attorney, Jeff Compton, could not be reached for comment as of 4:30 p.m. Tuesday.