

# **\* NEWS RELEASE \***

## **MARINA MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR IDENTITY THEFT AND USING DRUGS IN JAIL**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Shane Matthew Jones, age 24, a resident of Marina has been sentenced to 5 years and 4 months in the California Department of Corrections for acquiring the identifying information of over 10 people with the intent to defraud them and for later smoking a marijuana cigarette in jail with his bunkmates.

On April 5, 2017, a Monterey County resident reported to law enforcement that a personal check written out to Shane Jones was cashed against her account in the amount of \$900.00. The resident reported that she had no idea who Shane Jones was or how he was able to get her bank account information.

On April 14, 2017, officers found Jones inside of a hotel room in Seaside with laptop computers, misprinted checks, and a computer containing a check software program. A search of the USB drive of the computer revealed photographs of checks and electronic copies of billing statements for over a dozen people. The USB drive also contained instructions on how to fraudulently obtain instant credit using other people's information.

On May 27, 2017, while awaiting trial on his identity theft case, Jones was caught on Monterey County Jail surveillance video smoking a marijuana cigarette with his bunk mates.

On August 16, 2017, the Honorable Pamela L. Butler sentenced Jones to 5 years and 4 months in prison for his crimes. These cases were investigated by Deputy Mike Smith and Deputy Valiente of the Monterey County Sheriff's Office and Officer Greg Galin and Officer Kristofer Richardson of the Monterey Police Department.