State of Idaho DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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Canyon County man commits insurance fraud with fictitious golf club receipts

BOISE, ID – On October 22, 2019, David Gress appeared at the Canyon County District Court and was sentenced for insurance fraud.

On August 1, 2019, Mr. Gress pled guilty to one count of insurance fraud. He was sentenced by Judge George Southworth for insurance fraud in violation of Idaho Code 41-293(1)(c).

Mr. Gress submitted a fictitious receipt with a claim to Allstate for golf clubs he alleged were stolen from his garage. Due to a similar claim for stolen golf clubs submitted the year before, investigators with the Idaho Department of Insurance began looking into the matter.

"Insurance fraud is a felony and a major contributor to rising insurance prices for everyone especially consumers," said Director Dean Cameron. "A fraudulent claim may not seem like a big deal on the surface, but according to FBI estimates, insurance fraud costs the average American family between \$400 and \$700 per year in the form of insurance premiums."

Judge Southworth withheld judgment and placed Mr. Gress on two years of supervised probation. Mr. Gress was ordered to pay \$200 in court fees and \$518.47 in restitution fees, and he was ordered to complete 100 hours of community service with 60 hours suspended. Mr. Gress must complete 40 hours within 180 days. This order can be read in its entirety on the Department website.

About the Department of Insurance

The Idaho Department of Insurance has been regulating the business of insurance in Idaho since 1901. The mission of the Department is to serve and protect Idahoans by equitably, effectively and efficiently administering the Idaho Insurance Code and the International Fire Code. For more information, visit <u>doi.idaho.gov</u>.