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DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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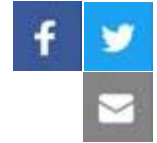
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Idaho Department of Insurance News Release

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Facebook Post Helps Lead to Insurance Fraud Conviction for Eastern Idaho Woman
Bingham County resident pleads guilty to purchasing an auto policy after an accident

BOISE, ID – A tip from a social media post helped lead to an insurance fraud conviction for a Bingham County resident. Danielle Collins was sentenced in Bingham County District Court last week after pleading guilty to one count of insurance fraud following an investigation conducted by the Idaho Department of Insurance.

In court proceedings, Collins admitted to purchasing car insurance after damaging her vehicle. She was placed on three years of supervised probation by Judge Darren B. Simpson and ordered to pay \$800 in fines, \$245 in court costs, \$500 to the Public Defender's office, and \$536 in restitution to the DOI. She also must complete 100 hours of community service.

Court records show Collins purchased an auto policy through Progressive Insurance on August 25, 2017. Three days later she submitted a claim for an accident in which her vehicle sustained damage to its front end and both driver's side tires. However, Progressive officials discovered a Facebook post dated days prior to the reported date of the accident and claim submission in which Collins asked her friends and followers, "Who gets not one but two flat tires?? Meeee!! The social media gaffe helped DOI investigators close the case against Collins.

"This is an example of how insurance fraud comes in all shapes and sizes," said Director Dean Cameron. "I'm proud of the work of our investigators because every case of fraud, no matter how big or small, adds up and becomes costly for all Idaho consumers."

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 doi.idaho.gov.

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