State of Idaho DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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Twin Falls man sentenced for "crash and buy"

BOISE, ID – On Monday, August 10, 2020, Riley Presher of Twin Falls was sentenced for insurance fraud in violation of Idaho Code 41-293.

On December 15, 2017, Mr. Presher purchased insurance and filed a claim for an accident he stated occurred that same day. When the Investigations Division with the Idaho Department of Insurance was asked to look into this claim and Mr. Presher was interviewed, he admitted to DOI Investigators he did not have insurance on the day the accident happened on December 14, 2017 when he backed his truck into his friend's vehicle. On August 31, 2018, Mr. Presher admitted to misrepresenting the collision date and time to Sentry Insurance in the hopes to offset the cost from the damage he caused to his friend's vehicle. In May 2020, Mr. Presher pleaded guilty to insurance fraud.

"Insurance fraud costs the average American family between \$400 and \$700 every year in the form of increased insurance premiums," said Director Dean Cameron. "I am proud of our Investigations Division for their hard work and diligence in following up with this case."

On August 10, 2020 at the Jerome County Courthouse, Fifth District Court Judge Rosemary Emory sentenced Mr. Presher to a unified sentence of five years in prison. Judge Emory then suspended the sentence and placed Mr. Presher on five years of supervised probation. Mr. Presher was ordered by the court to serve 120 days of jail time with options and 150 hours of community service. In addition to the 150 hours of community service, Judge Emory gave Mr. Presher the option of serving an additional 150 hours community service in lieu of the 120 days jail time in consideration of the Covid-19 situation. Mr. Presher was ordered to pay a \$750 fine and court costs. He will also pay \$1,260 in restitution to the Idaho Department of Insurance and \$1,943 to Sentry Insurance. Judge Emory ordered 30 days of discretionary jail time to be used by Presher's probation officer. The Office of the Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Unit prosecuted this case.

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, please visit us at <u>doi.idaho.gov</u> or email us at <u>consumeraffiars@doi.idaho.gov</u>.

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