




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NEWS RELEASE

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Date: Monday, January 22, 2018
Release No.: 18-010

Man Who Used Counterfeit Checks to Rent Beach Home and Purchase Vehicles Pleads Guilty

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that Cedric Ferrando Frierson (DOB 11/20/74), of Agoura Hills, pled guilty to 13 felonies, including 5 counts of identity theft, 7 counts of forgery, and 1 count of unlawfully taking a motor vehicle. Frierson also admitted a special allegation that he stole more than \$100,000 and that he had previously been convicted of similar felonies in Florida and Georgia. Cedrick Frierson is also known as Cedric Yearwood, Thomas Yearwood, Cedrick Yarwood, Sedrick Isaac, and Thomas Isaac. This matter was investigated by the Ventura County Sheriff's Office and the Oxnard Police Department.

In 2016 and 2017, Frierson passed bad checks at several locations in Ventura County. In the summer of 2016, he used fraudulent cashier's checks to rent a luxury home on the beach in Oxnard. He also obtained a loan from a real estate agent by posing as a wealthy potential customer. In addition, he used counterfeit cashier's checks to purchase two automobiles. When arrested, he paid the bail bond company with a \$10,000 counterfeit cashier's check.

Frierson's sentencing is set on February 16, 2018, at 9:00 a.m., in courtroom 12 of the Ventura Superior Court, County of Ventura. Frierson is expected to be sentenced to five years in state prison.

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The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is the public prosecutor for the county's 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 280 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and other professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.

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