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For Immediate Release

MATRIX EMPLOYEE CHARGED FOR CALLING IN FALSE BOMB THREAT

Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy has charged Lee Collins, 42 of Harrison Township in connection with phoning in a false bomb threat. On January 13, 2010 at approximately 8:46 a.m. Collins allegedly called in the threat at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit. The bomb threat caused the entire building to be searched; no bomb was found. An investigation by the Wayne County Sheriff's Department revealed Collins as the alleged source of the call.

At the time of the false bomb threat, Collins had a contractual relationship with Wayne County Child and Family Services and was employed by Matrix Human Services to work at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice. He worked in conjunction with the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office evaluating defendants for eligibility for substance abuse treatment and/or mental health treatment offered by community health service providers. He is currently on leave from his position.

Collins has been charged with two counts of False Bomb Threat, a felony which carries a 4 year maximum penalty. He has also been charged with Malicious Use of a Telephone, a misdemeanor which carries a 6 month penalty.

"This conduct is very disturbing and it will not be tolerated, especially by someone who works in the criminal justice system. This is far from a harmless prank," said Prosecutor Worthy. "It caused several law enforcement agencies to conduct a costly search of the building. Jurors, court workers, crime victims, not to mention the members of my office were affected. Thousands of dollars were lost and hundreds of people inconvenienced as a result this false bomb threat."

Collins is expected to be arraigned today at 1:00 p.m. in 36th District Court located at 421 Madison Avenue in Detroit.

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