



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: July 30, 2012

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ATTORNEY GENERAL MASTO ANNOUNCES INDICTMENT OF WOMAN ACCUSED OF THEFT OF \$19,400 WHILE EMPLOYED AT NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE

*Defendant Pocketed Cash From Breast Implant Scheme Which Took Advantage of
Military Insurance to Help Those With Breast Cancer*

Las Vegas, NV – Nevada Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto announced the indictment of Shanita Flax, 31, of Las Vegas, on 18 counts of theft and one count of attempted theft.

“Our office takes seriously any efforts to defraud citizens of Nevada and any branch of the government,” said Masto. “That this scheme targeted military personnel and made use of government insurance for cancer patients makes this egregious crime even more sinister.”

From 2008- to September 2010, Flax worked as a civilian contractor in the plastic surgery department at Mike O’Callaghan Federal Hospital located at Nellis Air Force Base. Since the hospital is a military institution, its patients consist entirely of military personnel, retired military personnel or their dependents.

One of Flax’s duties at the hospital was to discuss pricing with females who were considering undergoing breast augmentation procedures. If the procedure is for breast reconstruction following breast cancer or an occupational injury, the surgery is completely covered by the patient’s government issued insurance. If the procedure is for cosmetic reasons, the patient is required to pay for both the procedure and the actual breast implants.

As detailed in the indictment, Flax would request cash from the patients to pay for the implants, keep the cash and order the implants through the government supply chain as though they were for a cancer patient. Through this method the indictment alleges she was able to obtain \$9,200 from the victims and defraud the United States Air Force out of an additional \$10,200.

"Nellis Air Force Base has traditionally had a very close working relationship with the Nevada Attorney General's office," said 99th Air Base Wing commander, Col. Barry Cornish. "In this particular case, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations detachment here worked with state investigators from the insurance fraud division for nearly two years to bring to justice someone who was clearly defrauding our Airmen and their families. I am proud of the teamwork involved on all sides to protect our military men and women and their families, as well as to ensure criminals are apprehended and prosecuted."

The indictment is a culmination of a joint investigation by the United States Air Force Office of Special Investigations and the Fraud Unit of the Nevada Attorney General's Office, and was prosecuted by Senior Deputy Attorney General Brian Williams.

If you are a victim in this case contact Nellis Air Force Office of Special Investigations at 702-652-3433.

Read the criminal indictment by visiting: <http://bit.ly/FlaxIndictment>



FLAX, SHANITA

(Photo courtesy of Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department)

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IND
CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO
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FILED

JUL 27 12 16 PM '12

Ann D. Schuman
CLERK OF THE COURT

DISTRICT COURT
CLARK COUNTY, STATE OF NEVADA

STATE OF NEVADA,
Plaintiff,
v.
SHANITA RENE FLAX ID #2794312,
Defendant.

Case No.: C-12-283063-1
Dept. No.: VIII

CRIMINAL INDICTMENT

STATE OF NEVADA
COUNTY OF CLARK

The Defendant above named, SHANITA RENE FLAX, is accused by the Clark County Grand Jury of the Crimes of THEFT, 9 Counts (Category C Felony - NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3)), THEFT, 9 Counts (Category C Felony - NRS 205.0832(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3)), and ATTEMPT THEFT, 1 Count (Category D Felony - NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, NRS 205.0835(3), and NRS 193.330(1)(a)(4)):

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COUNT ONE

THEFT

(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3))

Defendant, FLAX, on or about April 13, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly obtain real, personal or intangible property or the services of another person, valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), by a material misrepresentation with intent to deprive that person of the property or services, : Defendant, while working as a civilian contractor in the Nellis Air Force base medical center, obtained \$900.00 by personal check from Mary Sawser by misrepresenting to Sawser that she needed to pay Defendant the money directly to obtain implants at a reduced rate for Sawser's forthcoming cosmetic surgery.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT TWO

THEFT

(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3))

Defendant, FLAX, on or about April 13, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in, or without authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another person entrusted to him or her or placed in his or her possession for a limited, authorized period of determined or prescribed duration or for a limited use, and such property was valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), : Defendant did obtain implants for use in the cosmetic surgery of Mary Sawser by misrepresenting that the surgery was medically necessary and using a United States government credit card to pay \$800.00 for the implants while also keeping the money given to Defendant by Sawser to supposedly pay for the implants.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT THREE

THEFT

(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3))

Defendant, FLAX, on or about April 28, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly obtain real, personal or intangible property or the services of another person, valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), by a material misrepresentation with intent to deprive that person of the property or services, : Defendant, while working as a civilian contractor in the Nellis Air Force base medical center, obtained \$1,800.00 in cash from Ashley Cash by misrepresenting to Cash that she needed to pay Defendant the money directly to obtain implants at a reduced rate for Cash's forthcoming cosmetic surgery.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT FOUR

THEFT

(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3))

Defendant, FLAX, on or about April 28, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in, or without authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another person entrusted to him or her or placed in his or her possession for a limited, authorized period of determined or prescribed duration or for a limited use, and such property was valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), to wit: Defendant did obtain implants for use in the cosmetic surgery of Ashley Cash by misrepresenting that the surgery was medically necessary and using a United States government credit card to pay \$1,800.00 for the implants while also keeping the money given to Defendant by Cash to supposedly pay for the implants.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

1 **COUNT FIVE**
2 **THEFT**
3 **(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833,**
4 **and NRS 205.0835(3))**

5 Defendant, FLAX, on or about July 20, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of
6 Nevada, did knowingly obtain real, personal or intangible property or the services of another
7 person, valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less
8 TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), by a material misrepresentation with intent
9 to deprive that person of the property or services, to wit: Defendant, while working as a civilian
10 contractor in the Nellis Air Force base medical center, obtained \$1,800.00 in cash from Anita
11 Myer by misrepresenting to Myer that she needed to pay Defendant the money directly to obtain
12 implants at a reduced rate for Myer's forthcoming cosmetic surgery.

13 All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of
14 NRS 205.032(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

15 **COUNT SIX**
16 **THEFT**
17 **(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(b), NRS 205.0833,**
18 **and NRS 205.0835(3))**

19 Defendant, FLAX, on or about July 20, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of
20 Nevada, did knowingly convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in, or without
21 authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another
22 person entrusted to him or her or placed in his or her possession for a limited, authorized period
23 of determined or prescribed duration or for a limited use, and such property was valued at more
24 than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED
25 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), to wit: Defendant did obtain implants for use in the cosmetic surgery of
26 Anita Myer by misrepresenting that the surgery was medically necessary and using a United
27 States government credit card to pay \$1,800.00 for the implants while also keeping the money
28 given to Defendant by Myer to supposedly pay for the implants.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of
NRS 205.032(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT SEVEN
THEFT

**(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833,
and NRS 205.0835(3))**

Defendant, FLAX, on or about November 6, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly obtain real, personal or intangible property or the services of another person, valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), by a material misrepresentation with intent to deprive that person of the property or services, to wit: Defendant, while working as a civilian contractor in the Nellis Air Force base medical center, obtained \$800.00 in cash from Gwenn Haden by misrepresenting to Haden that she needed to pay Defendant the money directly to obtain implants at a reduced rate for Haden's forthcoming cosmetic surgery.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT EIGHT
THEFT

**(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(b), NRS 205.0833,
and NRS 205.0835(3))**

Defendant, FLAX, on or about November 6, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in, or without authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another person entrusted to him or her or placed in his or her possession for a limited, authorized period of determined or prescribed duration or for a limited use, and such property was valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), to wit: Defendant did obtain implants for use in the cosmetic surgery of Gwenn Haden by misrepresenting that the surgery was medically necessary and using a United States government account to pay \$800.00 for the implants while also keeping the money given to Defendant by Haden to supposedly pay for the implants.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT NINE

THEFT

(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3))

Defendant, FLAX, on or about November 6, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly obtain real, personal or intangible property or the services of another person, valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), by a material misrepresentation with intent to deprive that person of the property or services, to wit: Defendant, while working as a civilian contractor in the Nellis Air Force base medical center, obtained \$800.00 in cash from Elsie Vera-Nieves by misrepresenting to Vera-Nieves that she needed to pay Defendant the money directly to obtain implants at a reduced rate for Vera-Nieves' forthcoming cosmetic surgery.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT TEN

THEFT

(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3))

Defendant, FLAX, on or about November 6, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in, or without authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another person entrusted to him or her or placed in his or her possession for a limited, authorized period of determined or prescribed duration or for a limited use, and such property was valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), to wit: Defendant did obtain implants for use in the cosmetic surgery of Elsie Vera-Nieves by misrepresenting that the surgery was medically necessary and using a United States government account to pay \$800.00 for the implants while also keeping the money given to Defendant by Vera-Nieves to supposedly pay for the implants.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT ELEVEN
THEFT

(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833,
and NRS 205.0835(3))

Defendant, FLAX, on or about December 18, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly obtain real, personal or intangible property or the services of another person, valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), by a material misrepresentation with intent to deprive that person of the property or services, to wit: Defendant, while working as a civilian contractor in the Nellis Air Force base medical center, obtained \$800.00 in cash from Stephanie Poling by misrepresenting to Poling she needed to pay Defendant the money directly to obtain implants at a reduced rate for Poling's forthcoming cosmetic surgery.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT TWELVE
THEFT

(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(b), NRS 205.0833,
and NRS 205.0835(3))

Defendant, FLAX, on or about December 18, 2009, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in, or without authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another person entrusted to him or her or placed in his or her possession for a limited, authorized period of determined or prescribed duration or for a limited use, and such property was valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less than TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), to wit: Defendant did obtain implants for use in the cosmetic surgery of Stephanie Poling by misrepresenting that the surgery was medically necessary and using a United States government credit card to pay \$800.00 for the implants while also keeping the money given to Defendant by Poling to supposedly pay for the implants.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

1 COUNT THIRTEEN

2 THEFT

3 (A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833,
4 and NRS 205.0835(3))

5 Defendant, FLAX, on or about February 12, 2010, within the County of Clark, in the State
6 of Nevada, did knowingly obtain real, personal or intangible property or the services of another
7 person, valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less
8 TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), by a material misrepresentation with intent
9 to deprive that person of the property or services, to wit: Defendant, while working as a civilian
10 contractor in the Nellis Air Force base medical center, obtained \$800.00 in cash from Stephanie
11 Blevins/Pileggi by misrepresenting to Blevins she needed to pay Defendant the money directly to
12 obtain implants at a reduced rate for Blevins' forthcoming cosmetic surgery.

13 All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of
14 NRS 205.032(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

15 COUNT FOURTEEN

16 THEFT

17 (A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(b), NRS 205.0833,
18 and NRS 205.0835(3))

19 Defendant, FLAX, on or about February 12, 2010, within the County of Clark, in the State
20 of Nevada, did knowingly convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in, or without
21 authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another
22 person entrusted to him or her or placed in his or her possession for a limited, authorized period
23 of determined or prescribed duration or for a limited use, and such property was valued at more
24 than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED
25 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), to wit: Defendant did obtain implants for use in the cosmetic surgery of
26 Stephanie Blevins by misrepresenting that the surgery was medically necessary and using a
27 United States government credit card to pay \$800.00 for the implants while also keeping the
28 money given to Defendant by Blevins/Pileggi to supposedly pay for the implants.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of
NRS 205.032(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

Attorney General's Office
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COUNT FIFTEEN

THEFT

(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3))

Defendant, FLAX, on or about March 19, 2010, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly obtain real, personal or intangible property or the services of another person, valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), by a material misrepresentation with intent to deprive that person of the property or services, to wit: Defendant, while working as a civilian contractor in the Nellis Air Force base medical center, obtained \$800.00 in cash from Ileathear Cabral-Maxwell by misrepresenting to Cabral-Maxwell she needed to pay Defendant the money directly to obtain implants at a reduced rate for Cabral-Maxwell's forthcoming cosmetic surgery.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT SIXTEEN

THEFT

(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3))

Defendant, FLAX, on or about March 19, 2010, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in, or without authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another person entrusted to him or her or placed in his or her possession for a limited, authorized period of determined or prescribed duration or for a limited use, and such property was valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), to wit: Defendant did obtain implants for use in the cosmetic surgery of Ileathear Cabral-Maxwell by misrepresenting that the surgery was medically necessary and using a United States government credit card to pay \$1,800.00 for the implants while also keeping the money given to Defendant by Cabral-Maxwell to supposedly pay for the implants.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT SEVENTEEN
THEFT

**(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833,
and NRS 205.0835(3))**

Defendant, FLAX, on or about July 23, 2010, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly obtain real, personal or intangible property or the services of another person, valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), by a material misrepresentation with intent to deprive that person of the property or services, to wit: Defendant, while working as a civilian contractor in the Nellis Air Force base medical center, obtained approximately \$700.00 in cash from Traci Wilmoth by misrepresenting to Wilmoth she needed to pay Defendant the money directly to obtain implants at a reduced rate for Wilmoth's forthcoming cosmetic surgery.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS-205.032(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

COUNT EIGHTEEN
THEFT

**(A Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(b), NRS 205.0833,
and NRS 205.0835(3))**

Defendant, FLAX, on or about July 23, 2010, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in, or without authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another person entrusted to him or her or placed in his or her possession for a limited, authorized period of determined or prescribed duration or for a limited use, and such property was valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), to wit: Defendant did obtain implants for use in the cosmetic surgery of Traci Wilmoth by misrepresenting that the surgery was medically necessary and using a United States government credit card to pay \$800.00 for the implants while also keeping the money given to Defendant by Wilmoth to supposedly pay for the implants.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT, a Category C Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(b), NRS 205.0833, and NRS 205.0835(3).

**COUNT NINETEEN
ATTEMPT THEFT**

**(A Category D Felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c), NRS 205.0833,
NRS 205.0835(3), and NRS 193.330(1)(a)(4))**

Defendant, FLAX, on or about September 7, 2010, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did knowingly attempt to obtain real, personal or intangible property or the services of another person, valued at more than TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) but less TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00), by a material misrepresentation with intent to deprive that person of the property or services, to wit: Defendant, while working as a civilian contractor in the Nellis Air Force base medical center, attempted to obtain \$1,000.00 in cash from Kelly Boyd by misrepresenting to Boyd she needed to pay Defendant the money directly to obtain implants at a reduced rate for Boyd's forthcoming cosmetic surgery.

All of which constitutes the crime of ATTEMPT THEFT, a Category D Felony in violation of NRS 205.032(1)(c), NRS 205.0833, NRS 205.0835(3), and NRS 193.330(1)(a)(4).

All of which is contrary to the form, force, and effect of the statutes in such cases made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Nevada.

DATED this 26th day of July, 2012.

CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO
Attorney General

By:



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ENDORSEMENT: A True Bill

By:


Foreperson, Clark County Grand Jury