



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

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Insurance Cheat Sentenced to State Prison, Restitution in False Pit Bull Attacks

A Los Angeles man who received more than \$750,000 after falsely reporting that he and three family members had been maimed by a neighbor's pit bull pleaded guilty today to insurance fraud, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Amy Suehiro of the Fraud Interdiction Program said Charles Findley, 38, pleaded guilty to four counts of insurance fraud and admitted allegations that the loss exceeded \$100,000.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge David Horwitz immediately sentenced Findley to three years in state prison and ordered the defendant to pay \$466,541 to insurance companies Aflac, Colonial Life, Hartford and American General Life and Accident.

After obtaining accident and disability insurance for himself, his ex-wife and two children, Findley made 14 false claims of injury in order to obtain settlements from the companies. The loss attributed to Findley's sophisticated insurance fraud scheme is more than \$750,000, according to a sentencing memo submitted to the court by the prosecution.

The defendant falsely reported that, while holding a kitten, a neighbor's pit bull attacked him. Findley alleged that as a result of the attacks he had lost his arms, legs and eyes, the prosecutor said.

After filing various false claims for himself, the defendant went on to file multiple false claims for his then-wife and two children claiming that they too had lost limbs and eyes as a result of a pit bull attack. The claims were filed over a five year period during which the defendant manufactured his own medical records.

Findley was an 18-year employee of the Los Angeles Unified School District who served in a non-teaching capacity. The case was investigated by the California Department of Insurance.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.

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