

Onondaga County Sheriff's Office News

Kevin E. Walsh

Sheriff



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Woman Fakes Cancer Diagnosis

Town of Onondaga, New York – Onondaga County Sheriff Kevin E. Walsh reports that a Town of Onondaga woman is facing charges that she lied about having cancer as part of a scam to make money. Sheriff Detectives arrested Brigid A. Corcoran (31) of St. John Drive in the Town of Onondaga, after an investigation into the alleged scam was discovered to be a hoax.

Detectives received information from a concerned relative that Corcoran had possibly fabricated her diagnosis to have a benefit in her name which she raise thousands of dollars. Corcoran claimed to be diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, which is cancer of the lymphoid tissue. Corcoran even shaved her head to keep up the pretence of having the illness and went as far as placing a device on her chest that resembled a chemotherapy port to give the appearance and impression that she was receiving chemotherapy treatments.

On July 25th, a large fundraiser benefit was thrown at Damon's Banquet Hall in Cicero on Corcoran's behalf. This fundraiser drew a crowd of people from the community to include friends, relatives, neighbors and people whom she did not even know, all in support of her battling this illness and to help raise money to pay for her chemotherapy treatments and medical bills.

After Detectives began investigating Corcoran they found no physical evidence of her being treated for cancer, and no medical evidence that would suggest she was diagnosed with cancer. When Detectives confronted Corcoran and questioned her about the discrepancy, she confessed. Corcoran admitted to faking the diagnosis and claimed it was all done for attention.

Corcoran was subsequently charged with Grand Larceny in the 4th degree and Scheme to Defraud in the 1st Degree, both felonies. Corcoran was released on an appearance ticket and is scheduled to appear in the Town of Cicero Court on September 7th to answer to the charges.

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