



from a Home Depot on the day of his funeral. However, when the impostor attempted to make more purchases at a second Home Depot location, alert employees became suspicious of a man deliberately trying to max out his credit card. They reported him to a loss prevention officer who contacted Pratt's daughter. When the officer asked if



*Photo from Post Star*

Pratt was making these purchases, the daughter informed him that she was currently at her father's funeral. Police investigators in New York have now arrested 31-year-old Steven J. Calderon for the felonies of first and second degree identity theft after determining that he used the identity of the very recently deceased trooper to open up a Home Depot credit card with a \$5,000 limit. Upon searching Calderon's home, they also found fake identity documents, including a counterfeit Florida driver's license in Pratt's name but with Calderon's picture.

[Click here for the story](#)

## **Disturbance call reveals identity theft ring after suspect escapes in fraudulently purchased Audi**

Two Austin, Texas men face felony charges after local and federal law enforcement found them in possession of checks, credit cards, and personal information belonging to over 50 victims. The arrest of Michael Angelo Santiago, 29, and Thomas Michael Cornford, 24, stems from a disturbance call at an apartment they had "unofficially sub-leased." When police arrived on the scene, Santiago attacked an officer and fled by vehicle. Another officer noticed a box of blank check stock in plain view inside of the apartment. This led to a search warrant served by the Austin Police Department in conjunction with the U.S. Secret Service that revealed further evidence of theft and fraud, including counterfeit driver's licenses and mail, credit cards, and sensitive information belonging to other individuals. Some of the documents were traced to a stolen identity used to purchase an Audi that Santiago used to escape the scene. That victim told police he estimated "he has become aware of close to fifty separate applications for lines of credit" since the victimization. Police said they recovered at least 120 individual documents with personal identifying information belonging to at least 54 victims, two of which are confirmed as deceased. The number of victims will grow as the investigation continues, according to the affidavit in the case. The suspects were arrested and await trial.

[Click here for the story](#)

## **Fugitive child molester lived 18 years on the lam with fraudulent driver's licenses**

A fugitive wanted for kidnapping and sexual assault of a young girl in Indiana was able to hide from police for 18 years through the stolen identity of a dead 8 year old boy. Charles Hollin, 61, moved to Minnesota and then Oregon using the boy's name and worked at a Walmart Supercenter in Salem before being arrested by the FBI. The boy whose name he stole had been killed in a car accident in 1975.

Hollin now faces trial back in Indiana for the 1999 charge of kidnapping and sexual molestation of a 10-year-old girl whom, according to the affidavit of the case, he approached outside of a local girl's club and asked her to retrieve keys from his car before covering her mouth and shoving her into the vehicle. Hollin then drove to an isolated location in Jackson County, made the girl wear a stocking mask over her face and undress, and then assaulted her. He also threatened to kill her if she told anyone what happened before leaving her naked on a remote road.

Before Hollin fled the state under a new identity, he told coworkers and friends that he already had materials to disguise himself, including fake hair pieces, mustaches and other ways to conceal his identity, even boasting, "if you want to, and you know how, you can become someone else, just like that, real easy," according to the affidavit. Hollin was able to obtain the SSN, passport, and driver's licenses under the dead boy's name because on his death certificate, the box for Social Security number was left blank. He was successful until police began searching facial recognition databases. State DMV searches yielded nothing, however, as Oregon and Minnesota prohibited this type of search by law. Fortunately for investigators, Hollin had also applied for a U.S. passport in 2007 in order to travel to China under the boy's name and his photo was flagged when it matched. The application led to the deceased boy's name, which indicated he had applied for a Social Security card in 1988 at the age of 20, which is an uncommon occurrence. Further investigation showed that a driver's license in Indiana had also been issued in the boy's identity in 1999, just four months after Hollin's alleged crime. However, the state didn't have facial recognition back then and the state didn't allow for the technology to be applied on images from that time frame.

Hollin then used the boy's identity and driver's license to move to Minnesota and obtained another driver's license there in 2001. He moved again to Oregon in 2011 and obtained yet another driver's license under the boy's identity in 2011. Hollin now faces federal charges of interstate flight to avoid prosecution and identity theft as well as two counts of use of a deadly weapon and three counts of child molestation in the State of Indiana.

[Click here for the story](#)

## **18 year old using fake IDs discovers she was kidnapped as a baby**

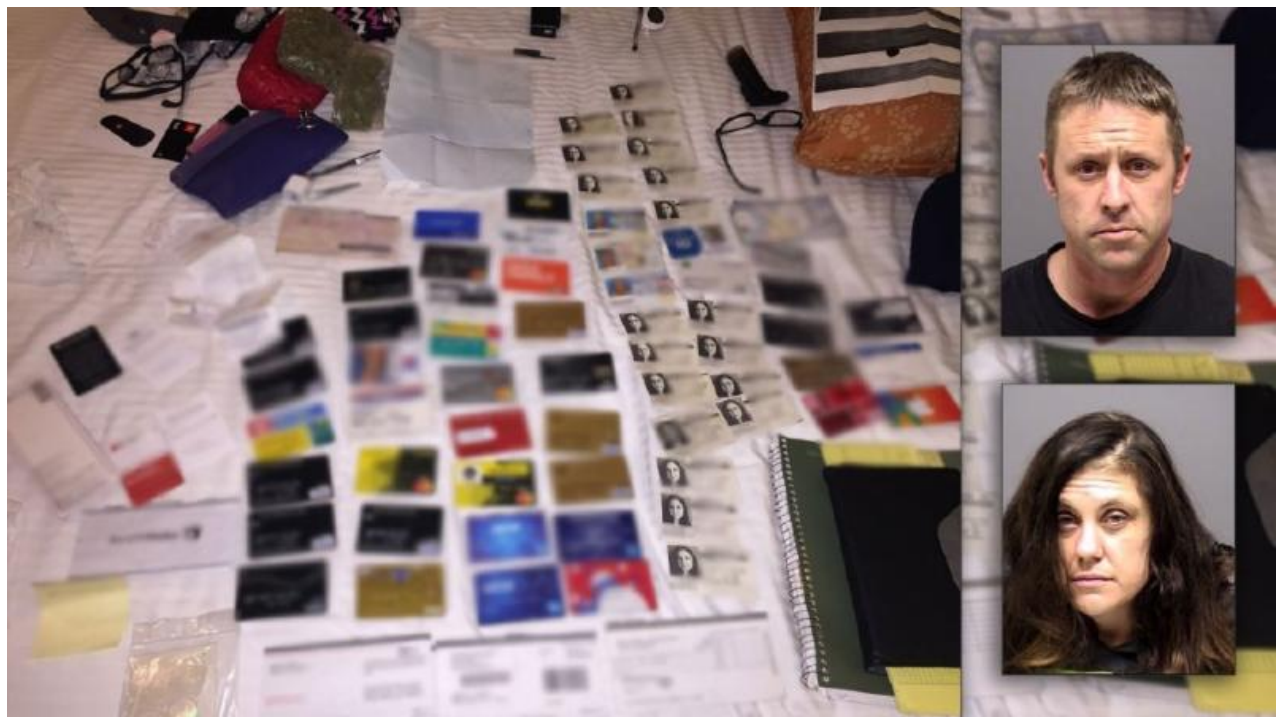
A young woman in South Carolina learned she was stolen as a baby and raised by the kidnapper for 18 years. Kamiyah Mobley had no idea the woman she called "mother" was actually an impostor at the Florida hospital where she was born,



posing as a nurse before kidnapping the hours-old infant. When Mobley turned 18 and started looking for jobs, she began to use a fraudulent Social Security card and birth certificate, provided by her kidnapper, Gloria Williams, who somehow convinced Mobley that the use of fraudulent documents was necessary. Somewhere along the way, the documents likely raised red flags. "We can't talk in too much detail, other than to tell you that we followed about 2,500 tips over the years on this case, and we received some at the end of last year -- really a series of tips at the end of last year -- that we were able to begin to build off of and that led us to South Carolina," a Jacksonville Sheriff said. The case is still under investigation but Williams is currently in custody and Mobley has been reunited with her birth mother.

[Click here for the story](#)

## Identity theft ring in Oregon broken up after routine traffic stop



*Photo from KATU of suspects Herbert and Coffman along with evidence of identity theft*

A traffic stop in the Oregon city of West Linn led to the arrest of two people accused of running an identity theft ring that claimed up to 300 local victims. When officers stopped Paul Arthur Herbert, 43, and Jennifer Lynn Coffman, 42, they found a number of items that indicated theft, which led to a search warrant of their Lakeshore Inn residence in Lake Oswego. There, police also found a number of forged driver's licenses and credit cards, as well as methamphetamine and stolen property, including luggage from Portland International Airport. The accused couple had been stealing identities from city residents and using them to obtain credit cards which they used to buy gift cards, according to police. They then sold these gift cards on the black market for cash and used them to pay for the hotel room where they were staying.

[Click here for the story](#)

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# Keeping IDentities Safe<sup>®</sup>

## In the NEWS

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### **Kentucky residents prepare for REAL ID enforcement, Keeping IDentities Safe comments**

The Kentucky New Era published an article warning its readers that Kentuckians had only twelve days left before facing REAL ID enforcement. That warning cautioned those planning to visit federal facilities and military bases, like Fort Campbell, that they will have to use other forms of identification after January 10. The article addressed what Kentucky has left to do to become compliant with the federal law and why it hasn't done it. A large problem, according to the Department of Homeland Security, is misinformation. Aaron Rodriguez of the Department's Office of Public Affairs said that the two biggest problems keeping Kentucky from complying with the law are rumors that implementation necessitates a national database and that the IDs contain microchips. The article cited Keeping IDentities Safe Policy Director Andrew Meehan addressing those rumors. Meehan explained that compliance does not require microchips on identification documents, only the machine-readable zone that already exists on the back of Kentucky driver's licenses. Regarding the national database, Meehan noted that the information exchange set up to facilitate REAL ID Act compliance is simply a "yes/no check so states can find out if a person already has a driver's license in another state."

[Click here for the story](#)

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### **U.S. Secret Service investigation yields arrest of employee at Alabama Revenue Department**

An Alabama Revenue Department employee in Jefferson County was arrested in December for trafficking stolen identities through the motor vehicles department. Members of a U.S. Secret Service Task Force arrested Tamiko Monique White on December 27 and charged her with issuing fraudulent driver's licenses and non-

driver ID cards for bribes. County Manager Tony Petelos said, "We are going to continue to cooperate with the investigating team who make the arrest, do what we can to strengthen our ability here to insure this doesn't happen in the future... We don't feel that there were any identities compromised here at the county." White was booked into the Jefferson County Jail.

[Click here for the story](#)

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## **Connecticut DMV says REAL ID upgrades will protect residents**

By the end of 2017, Connecticut DMV Commissioner Michael Bzdrya says his agency will have moved to a central issuance process for its driver's licenses and ID cards. The upgrades, according to Bzdrya, will help the state fight identity theft and fraud by producing IDs in a secure location that meets federal requirements. The location will safeguard and track production materials and printers, mitigating the risk of illicit manufacturing. This will cut down on time for all customers at Connecticut DMVs by allowing many residents to "skip a trip" by ordering online. However, Connecticut still has one of the most frequently counterfeited license in the country, largely targeted by China-based document mills. We commend the state for moving towards central issuance, but its documents need physical security upgrades.

[Click here for the story](#)

## **Gov. Bevin: Kentucky trying to secure an extension**

Governor Matt Bevin of Kentucky is in contact with the incoming Trump administration as well as the Department of Homeland Security regarding the state's REAL ID compliance status. In a video message posted on the Governor's Facebook page, Gov. Bevin says that his administration is trying to secure a short extension for Kentucky, similar to the one granted to Oklahoma. According to his statement, he is working with legislative leaders in the state to make sure that Kentucky's identity document issuance process moves forward.

[Click here for the video](#)

## **North Carolina DMV will issue REAL ID compliant licenses in February 2017**

North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory's "Driving Change" initiative has brought what NCDOT called a banner year for the state's Department of Motor Vehicles throughout 2016. The initiative not only brought about extended DMV hours, expanded online services, and improved customer service training, but will also usher in REAL ID compliance, beginning in February 2017. "This has been an exciting year for DMV as we worked to improve our customer service and decrease wait times at our offices," NC DMV Commissioner Kelly J. Thomas said.

[Click here for the NCDOT press release](#)

## **South Carolina secured an extension for REAL ID compliance**

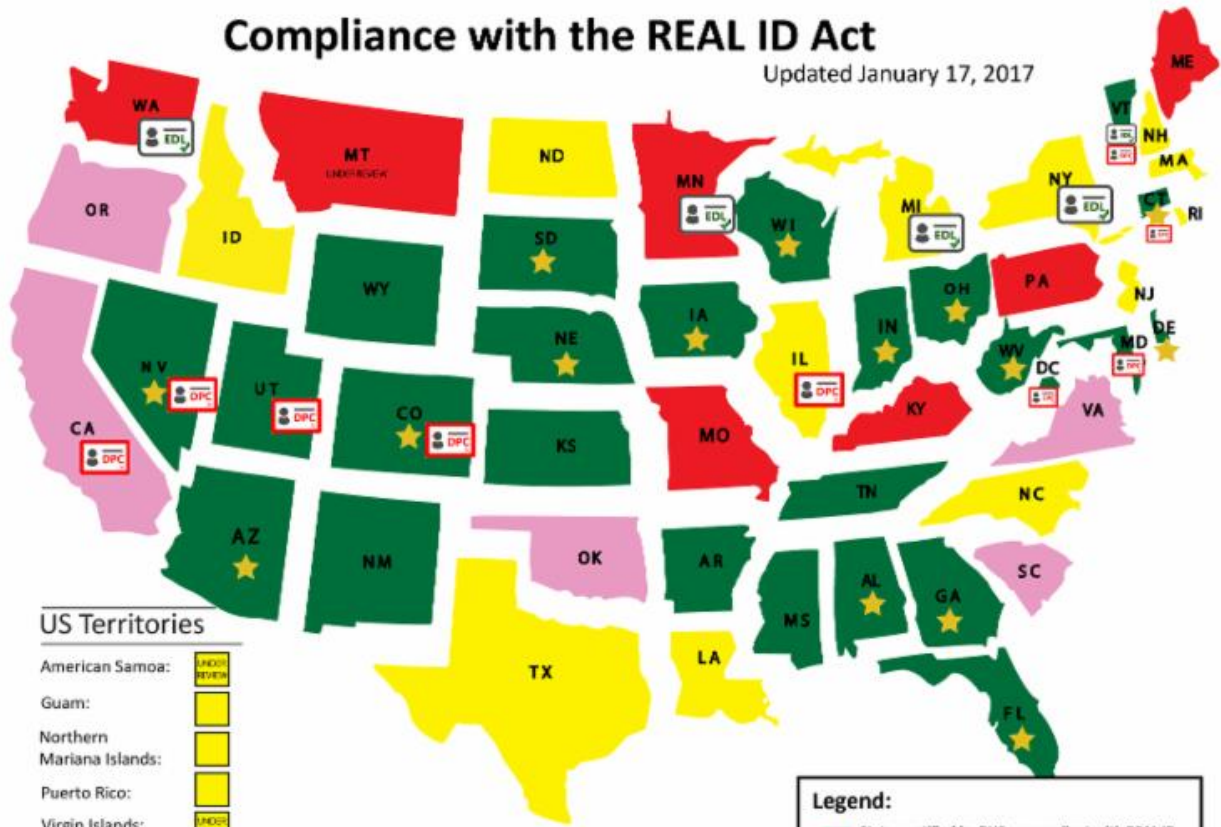
South Carolina will not face REAL ID enforcement for its driver's licenses and ID cards at military bases and federal facilities thanks to an extension granted by the Department of Homeland Security. South Carolina Senate Transportation Committee chairman Larry Grooms helped negotiate a deal that gives the state until June 6, 2017 to comply. State Senator Hugh Leatherman, S.C. Speaker of the House Jay Lucas, and the S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles were all instrumental in achieving the negotiated extension.

[Click here for the story](#)



# Compliance with the REAL ID Act

Updated January 17, 2017



## US Territories

- American Samoa:
- Guam:
- Northern Mariana Islands:
- Puerto Rico:
- Virgin Islands:

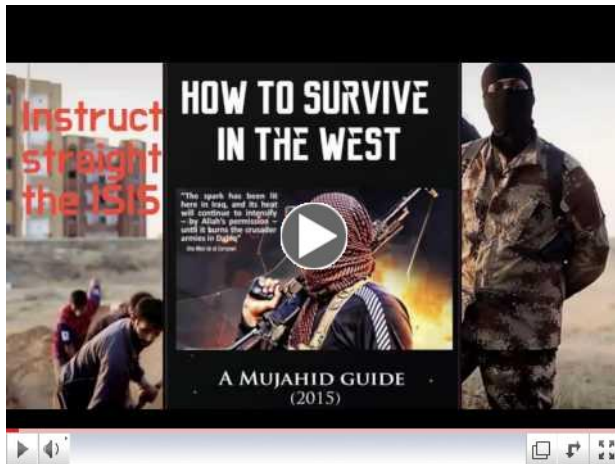
The federal REAL ID Act of 2005 is an anti-terrorism law aimed at making it more difficult for terrorists and criminals to hide their identities by fraudulently obtaining a driver's license. REAL ID prohibits federal agencies from accepting driver's licenses that do not meet certain standards set by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). There is current enforcement of the REAL ID Act at military bases and restricted federal buildings. States that have been granted extensions will have their statuses reviewed at the deadline.

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**Legend:**

- States certified by DHS as compliant with REAL ID that have the REAL ID Gold Star on their license
- States certified by DHS as compliant with REAL ID
- States with a time extension to comply with REAL ID lapsing on October 10, 2017
- States with a time extension to comply with REAL ID lapsing on June 6, 2017
- States not compliant with REAL ID whose residents are unable to use licenses for federal purposes
- States offering driving privilege cards or driving only cards to undocumented immigrants
- States that offer Enhanced Driver's Licenses (EDLs) and Enhanced Identification Cards (EIDs) that may be deemed acceptable by the Department of Homeland Security.

## Support Keeping IDentities Safe



See how we help keep IDs out of the hands of criminals and terrorists!



Check out our Keeping IDentities Safe



## Keeping IDentities Safe in the News:



### MAX BLUESTEIN IN THE DAILY CALLER

Fake IDs and the Truck Attack Threat



### ANDREW MEEHAN IN THE MORNING CALL

REAL ID warning signs in PA

## How are we fighting driver's license fraud?

- By raising awareness
  - By working with law enforcement
  - By helping states comply with REAL ID
  - By working with state legislators all over the country
  - By providing research
  - By working every day to protect your identity documents!
- We can only continue to do this with your support*



[Click here for more!](#)

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