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KINGSLAND WOMAN CHARGED WITH
STEALING PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FROM ELDERLY

SAVANNAH, GA: Edmund A. Booth, Jr., United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today the return of a twelve-count indictment against Brandi Wiederman, age 48, of Kingsland, Georgia, as a result of her allegedly stealing prescription medications from elderly residents at a nursing home where Wiederman worked. The Defendant is charged with Obtaining Controlled Substances by Fraud in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 843, False Statements Relating to a Health Care Matter in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1035 and Aggravated Identity Theft in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1028A.

The indictment alleges that between January, 2007, and March, 2007, the Defendant was employed as the manager and director of the "Mews" assisted living facility in Kingsland. During that time, Wiederman allegedly filled Oxycontin and Hydrocodone prescriptions on behalf of the elderly residents and kept the medications for herself. If convicted, Wiederman faces a maximum statutory penalty of five years imprisonment on each False Statement count, four years imprisonment on each Controlled Substance Count, two years imprisonment on each Identity Theft count, a fine of up to \$250,000; and, a period of supervised release of up to three

(3) years. Booth stated that this Indictment “represents law enforcement’s efforts to combat drug offenses committed by those working in the health care field in the Southern District of Georgia. Further, this case is particularly important in light of the vulnerable victims who were allegedly targeted by the Defendant.”

Booth stressed that an indictment is only an accusation and is not evidence of guilt. The Defendant is entitled to a fair trial, during which it will be the Government’s burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Booth praised the efforts of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Health and Human Services Office of Investigation (HHS OIG) which led to the indictment.

The government is being represented by Assistant United States Attorney Brian McEvoy.