

# Man pleads guilty in check-fraud case

## Others' IDs used to borrow, pay bills

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A 34-year-old Little Rock man pleaded guilty Wednesday in federal court to five charges accusing him of possessing counterfeit checks and using other peoples' names and Social Security numbers in 2012 to obtain cable television services and a \$6,000 loan.

Julian Calvin Dinnwiddie's jury trial on the charges was scheduled to begin Monday before U.S. District Judge Leon Holmes. Ambra S. Conway, who was set to be tried with him on a charge of aiding and abetting the manufacture of counterfeit checks, pleaded guilty last week. Both will be sentenced at a later date.

In April 2012, a woman who had worked as a service representative for the Social Security Administration office in West Memphis since 2009 admitted that, in 2011, she sold confidential information she obtained from the office's computers to Dinnwiddie, who wanted the information for criminal purposes.

A federal complaint noted that when Little Rock police arrested Dinnwiddie on June 28, 2011, in connection with crimes involving counterfeit checks, they found Social Security documents in his car that contained confidential information for about 85 people.

Fraud investigators traced the documents to the West Memphis office employee, Leeanna Brooke Morgan, and found that she had queried about 50 percent of the people whose names were on the documents. Morgan was sentenced in September 2012 to two years of probation and was ordered to pay nearly \$3,000 in restitution.

On Wednesday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Jana Harris told Holmes that Little Rock police responded on June 21, 2012, to a call from a Metropolitan National Bank branch in Little Rock about a woman who tried to cash a counterfeit \$2,000 check. Harris said police soon learned that

the check, which had been drawn on the account of a bank customer, was created by Dinnwiddie in his Little Rock apartment and that he had driven the woman to the bank to cash it.

Six days later, Harris said, the woman told Charles Briscoe, an agent with the Social Security office of inspector general, that Dinnwiddie was manufacturing counterfeit checks in the apartment he shared with Conway and that he had recruited her to help him when she met him while out walking three weeks earlier.

Harris noted that agents who later searched the apartment found counterfeit checks, all drawn on the account of a legitimate business, totaling more than \$70,000.

She said agents also found a Comcast bill for service at the apartment in the name of an elderly woman, whose Social Security number was found in a notebook in the apartment.

Dinnwiddie admitted that Harris' rendition of the facts was correct and also said he applied online for a \$6,000 loan from Lending Club using somebody else's name and Social Security number.

Holmes accepted Dinnwiddie's guilty pleas, but after hearing from Harris about Dinnwiddie's felony record and the fact that the 2012 crimes occurred while he was on probation for a similar offense, Holmes denied the defendant's request to go free until his sentencing.

Pulaski County Circuit Court documents show that Dinnwiddie was sentenced on Oct. 31, 2011, to five years' probation and fined \$1,000 on a forgery charge.

A federal probation officer told Holmes on Wednesday that Dinnwiddie's record includes numerous hot-check convictions, as well as convictions dating back several years for commercial burglary, residential burglary, theft, fraudulent use of a credit card and three counts of failing to appear in court.