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Court orders probation, community service, court fees and \$2,742.29 in restitution

By PAM MURANO

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(Nov. 18, 2004) Former Division 15 employee Lolita A. Hicks Dolliole-Crowder pled guilty, Nov. 16, to two counts of insurance fraud for filing a false claim for Workers' Compensation benefits.

Crowder, 50, of Palmdale, was arrested Dec. 30, 2003, on 16 counts of insurance fraud. The 23-year Metro employee had alleged that she was injured, Dec. 3, 2003, when she was physically assaulted and hit on the wrist by a bus passenger.

An investigation by the Metro Special Investigations Unit found that, while there was an argument with a passenger, Crowder was not physically assaulted. She was accused of faking the injury to collect \$3,000 in Worker's Comp benefits.

Crowder paid \$2,742.29 in restitution to Metro. She also will be required to complete 300 hours of community service, pay \$120 in court costs and will be on summary probation for a period of three years.

A sentencing hearing will be held April 13, 2005. At that hearing, the judge will determine whether to accept the plea based on her substantial completion of the community service agreement, her payment of the restitution and court costs and consideration of any acts that may affect her probationary status.

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