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Court Date Set for Former Bus Operator Charged with Insurance Fraud

By PAM MURANO

(Nov. 8, 2005) Former Metro Bus Operator Demita Carter is scheduled to appear in Los Angeles Superior Court, Dec. 5. She is charged with two counts of insurance fraud and one count of presenting a fraudulent claim.

Arrested Nov. 1, Carter was booked at Century Station Jail where bail was set at \$30,000. She was arraigned Nov. 2 and pleaded not guilty.

According to investigators, Carter told witnesses the day before a disciplinary hearing that she could not be terminated if she was off on Workers' Compensation Leave.

As she entered the hearing room for her disciplinary hearing, she allegedly pretended to trip over the foot of an attendee in the hearing room and claimed an injury to her leg.

Witnesses told investigators that Carter did not actually trip and fall and that she had previously told them that she intended to file a Workers' Compensation claim to avoid termination on the disciplinary issue. Carter was terminated following the hearing.

Although the warrant for Carter's arrest was issued Aug. 2, the Department of Insurance had been unable to locate her to serve the warrant.

Metro's Special Investigations Unit investigators located her new address and place of employment. Transit Services Bureau detectives served the warrant and made the arrest.