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Police arrest two in elder abuse case

By *Cathy Dausman*

On Sept. 28 Moraga and Orinda police, assisted by the U.S. Marshal's Service Fugitive Task Force, announced a second arrest made in a Lamorinda elder abuse case affecting residents of Aegis Living in Moraga and Orinda Senior Village. Police charged Shawn Morris, 30, and Antoinique Bryant, 29, both of Richmond with elder abuse, burglary, fraud and identity theft. The pair has been identified as being involved in similar elder abuse cases in Concord, Berkeley and Marin County.

The investigation began in late August when Moraga Police received reports that checks, credit cards and debit cards had been stolen from Aegis residents' private living spaces. Witnesses reported a female suspect dressed in a nursing uniform inside the Aegis facility during the thefts; the suspect was not employed there. Checks were cashed and credit and debit cards were used at various locations throughout Contra Costa County, as well as in Southern California and Nevada. Officers working with Orinda police discovered a similar theft had occurred against one elderly Orinda Senior Village resident.

Morris was arrested after police found property and evidence during a search of his residence. Bryant was arrested Sept. 26 and booked into Contra Costa County Jail in Martinez on a \$655,000 warrant.

The Contra Costa County District Attorney's office filed a total of 27 felony and misdemeanor charges against both Bryant and Morris. Anyone with information about these cases is asked to contact Moraga Police Detective Kevin Mooney at (925) 888-7056.

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