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Bureau of Motor Vehicles

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CUYAHOGA COUNTY GRAND JURY INDICTS CLEVELAND MAN AFTER JOINT INVESTIGATION

COLUMBUS – A Cleveland man who stole the identity of a Michigan resident and then committed a series of crimes using the Michigan resident's identifiers was indicted on felony charges today by a Cuyahoga County grand jury.

Donte D. Harris, 28, was indicted on four counts of forgery, four counts of uttering, four counts of tampering with records and one count of identity fraud following an investigation by BMV Investigations and Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) police.

In January, a CMHA search of Harris' residence on Pythias Avenue in Cleveland turned up a photocopy of an Ohio ID Card in the name of a man who lives in Farmington Hills, Mich. The photograph on the card was Harris'. A subsequent investigation by BMV Investigator Aaron Fulton found that Harris, using the Michigan resident's stolen birth certificate, Social Security Card and bank statement, obtained Ohio ID Cards in 2009 and 2010. He then committed at least six crimes in Cleveland under his new identity, including drug possession, driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and driving under suspension.

Harris is scheduled to be arraigned on the charges on July 11 at 8:30 a.m.

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