

## **SCSO arrests employee for Medicaid fraud, theft - 11/21/2012**

SEMINOLE CO. (Nov. 21, 2012) - Investigators with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) yesterday arrested Syberina Wynn. Wynn, a civilian child protection investigator who worked off-duty as a counselor for Circle of Friends, a Medicaid provider, submitted false claims that resulted in reimbursement from the organization and Medicaid. Wynn also submitted false time sheets to SCSO and used Sheriff's Office property to submit the claims. Wynn was charged with scheme to defraud, grand theft, Medicaid fraud, and cheating.

SCSO began investigating the incident on Aug. 17 after an agency supervisor noticed improper activity by Wynn. Wynn was immediately placed on administrative leave. Investigators found that from Jan. 1 - Aug. 14, Wynn billed Circle of Friends for counseling she never provided. Wynn was expected to provide one hour of counseling one day a week for each client. Instead, Wynn typically saw multiple clients together in a one hour period, but billed for them separately. Wynn also saw clients on Sheriff's Office time and in her uniform, and collected compensation for the counseling while also on the clock as a Sheriff's Office employee.

During the eight month period, Wynn received \$7,655 in payments from Circle of Friends for counseling she conducted at the same time she was on duty. During the same period, she claimed and received \$6,753 in overtime from SCSO for her duties as a child protection investigator.

Wynn was booked in the John E. Polk Correctional Facility and her employment was terminated. Wynn has served as a child protection investigator with SCSO since she was hired in April 2008.