



Everything Michigan

Woman charged with fraud for collecting money for family of dead 5-year-old boy

Published: Wednesday, August 18, 2010, 4:46 PM

Updated: Wednesday, August 18, 2010, 5:05 PM



David Harris | Flint Journal



Bobby J. Taylor

FLINT, Michigan — A 50-year-old Flint Township woman is charged with fraud for collecting money under false pretenses for the family of a **5-year-old who died in a fire last month**.

Bobby J. Taylor, a food service worker, obtained a \$50 check from an employee in the Genesee County administration building on Aug. 2. The woman said she was collecting money for the family of 5-year-old Kadric Johnson, who died in a fire July 20 at

Sunridge Apartments on Flushing Road in Flint Township. Police also are looking for her brother, who is believed to be Illinois. He will face the same charge.

Genesee County Sheriff Robert Pickell said the woman took the check and cashed it for her own use, buying cigarettes with the money.

"We see scams like this going on all over the city and county," Pickell said. "It just goes to show you that some of these people have no conscience. It takes a lot of guts."

The boy died when a stove caught fire, and spread quickly, destroying six townhomes and damaging two others at the apartment complex.

Pickell said it isn't clear if the woman collected more money.

She will be charged with fraud, obtaining a signature, which is a 10-year felony.

The woman currently is in the Genesee County Jail.

Pickell said this is a good example of people being careful to who they give money to. He said people can call the Genesee County Sheriff's Consumer Protection Division at (810) 257-3407 if they have any suspicions.

"When something tragic like this happens, people want to help," Pickell said.

Staff Writer Laura Misjack contributed to this report.

© 2010 MLive.com. All rights reserved.