Healthcare Worker Arrested for Stealing from Nursing Home Residents

Arrested Suspect: Keona S. Stephens, DOB 05/15/1992 of 5523 18th Way South, St. Petersburg (booking photo attached)

On 11/24/14, the Department received a call from an elderly resident of the Allegro Nursing Facility, located at 4650 54th Avenue South. She reported that while she slept, someone pried her diamond ring off of her finger.

While officers were investigating that incident, it was determined there were several other residents of the facility who also had their jewelry stolen while they slept. The total estimated loss of jewelry was valued at over $21,000.

The investigation revealed that the jewelry had been pawned by the suspect Stephens. Stephens had been employed at the nursing facility for approximately 3 weeks working as a Med Tech, assisting residents with daily activities. The thefts appeared to have been occurring since 11/18/2014.

When interviewed by detectives, Stephens admitted taking and pawning the stolen jewelry. She is currently charged with four counts of theft from a person 65 years of age or older and one count of grand theft.