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For Immediate Release

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Insurance Commissioner and Attorney General Announce Indictments on Travis Powell and Richard Currie For Insurance Fraud

October 4, 2007-- Insurance Commissioner Roger A. Seigny and Attorney General Kelly A. Ayotte announced today the indictments of Travis Powell and Richard Currie for insurance fraud, under RSA 638:20.

Travis Powell, age 31, of Kensington, New Hampshire, was indicted on one count of Insurance Fraud, under RSA 638:20, on September 5, 2007 by the Rockingham County Grand Jury. The indictment alleges that on or about March 29, 2006, Powell purchased an automobile insurance policy with Progressive Northern Insurance Company (“Progressive”). The indictment further states that, pursuant to this insurance policy, Powell made a claim to Progressive for payment for damage to an air-condensing unit. Powell stated that the air-condensing unit was damaged when he slid into it with his truck on April 3rd or April 4th, according to the indictment. The indictment states that Powell provided this information to the claim adjuster in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Actually, according to the indictment, the accident occurred before Travis Powell applied for the insurance policy. Powell knew that his statement about the date of the accident was false, incomplete or misleading and that this information was material to his claim for payment for damage to the air-condensing unit, the indictment states. In providing this information, Powell’s purpose was to deceive or defraud Progressive, according to the indictment.

Richard Currie, age 37, of Brentwood, New Hampshire, was indicted on two counts of Insurance Fraud, under RSA 638:20, on September 5, 2007 by the Rockingham County Grand Jury. The indictments allege that Currie made claims to Progressive Northern Insurance Company (“Progressive”) and St. Paul Travelers (“Travelers”) for payment for repairs to two trucks. Both indictments allege that Currie told the insurance company investigators that the trucks had been flooded in Haverhill, Massachusetts after they were dropped off for repairs. Currie knew that this information was false, incomplete or misleading and that this information was material to his claims for payment for damage to the trucks, according to the indictments. In providing this information, Currie’s

purpose was to deceive or defraud Progressive and Travelers, the indictments state. According to the indictments, Currie met with the investigator for Progressive in Portsmouth, New Hampshire on or about June 2, 2006 and he met with the investigator for Travelers in Seabrook, New Hampshire on or about June 1, 2006.

The charges are Class A felonies, which carry a maximum penalty of 7 ½-15 years incarceration and a fine of \$4000 or an amount not to exceed double the amount of property gained in the commission of a felony. Powell and Currie are both scheduled to be arraigned on October 25, 2007 at the Rockingham Superior Court.

“Automobile insurance fraud increases the cost of insurance for all New Hampshire drivers. I applaud the efforts of the Insurance Department’s Fraud Unit and the Attorney General’s Office in prosecuting insurance fraud cases,” said Insurance Commissioner Seigny. Attorney General Ayotte said, “The Attorney General’s Office will actively investigate and vigorously prosecute automobile insurance fraud cases to deter persons from engaging in these offenses. Law abiding citizens should not have to pay extra for insurance because others defraud their insurance company.”

The indictments are the result of joint investigations conducted by the Attorney General’s Office and the Insurance Department Fraud Unit. Pursuant to RSA 417:23, the Fraud Unit was formed to investigate Insurance Fraud and other insurance-related criminal activity.

For further information contact Attorney Catherine Tucker at 271-7987.

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ABOUT THE NH INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

The first insurance regulator in the US, the NH Insurance Department was created in 1851 and charged with enforcing and administering New Hampshire’s insurance laws. The department, an agency of the executive branch of New Hampshire state government, conducts safety and soundness and market conduct examinations of licensees; licenses insurance companies, insurance producers and others; reviews premium rates and policy forms; provides assistance, information and referral services to New Hampshire insurance consumers; and administers the filing and collection of New Hampshire’s insurance premium tax. For more information, visit the New Hampshire Insurance Department’s web site at: www.nh.gov/insurance.