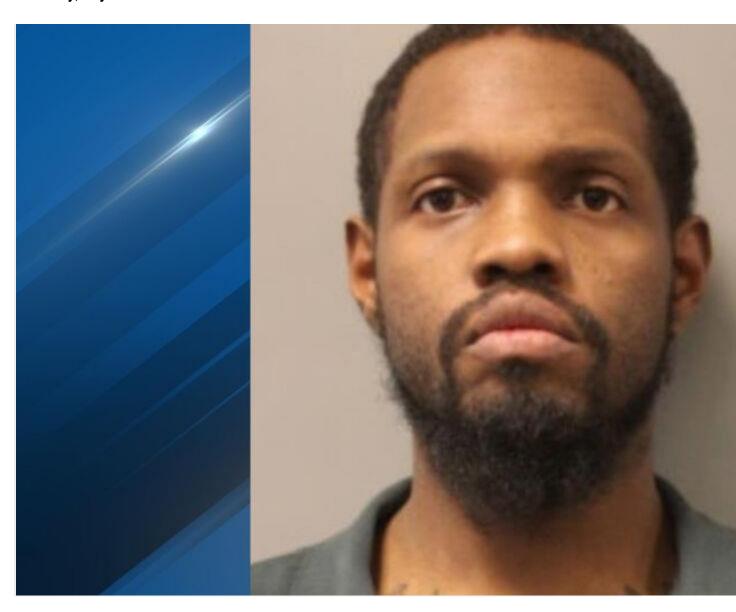


Police: Unemployed man nabbed using fake ID, checks to buy \$135,000 BMW

by KEVIN LEWIS | WJLA Staff
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SILVER SPRING, Md. (WJLA) — A Baltimore man could have driven away in a \$135,000 BMW 750 if not for a savvy car dealership employee who detected a pile of fraudulent documents, court records detail.

Deonte Dickens, 33, of Baltimore, is charged with seven criminal counts in the felony case, including attempted theft valued at more than \$100,000. It's an alleged crime that could send Dickens to prison for up to 88 years.

Around 3:50 p.m. on June 22, Dickens entered the BMW dealership at 3211 Automobile Boulevard in Silver Spring, Md. and stated his intent to purchase a 2022 BMW 750 for a price of \$135,523.

Dickens provided dealership staff with a treasure trove of fraudulent documents including a California driver's license, four M&T Bank checks, a credit report, and an insurance card, police allege.

Dickens completed most of the process to buy the car including forging a signature of [a California man], " police wrote in their statement of charges against Dickens. "Dickens attempted to make the final steps of purchasing the BMW through the financing section of the dealership which was when the dealership identified the documents he gave as fraudulent.

The dealership's sales director promptly called 911. As patrol units pulled up, Dickens was seen walking away from the building. He stopped to speak with officers and was quite candid.

[Officers] made contact with Dickens who admitted the California driver's license was fraudulent as well as the credit report, social security number and insurance information and that he was using it in attempt to buy the BMW, " the charges said.

Shortly after Dickens' arrest, Montgomery County authorities made contact with the Atherton Police Department in California. The San Francisco Bay area police agency explained that Dickens had stolen the identity of a man in their town. It is unclear how Dickens obtained documents linked to that man.



Deonte Dickens mugshot. (Photo: Montgomery County Police Department)

Three weeks before Montgomery County Police arrested Dickens at the BMW dealership, Prince George's County arrested the 33 year old for a list of crimes including manufacturing counterfeit currency and theft between \$25,000 and \$100,000. A Prince George's County judge released Dickens on a \$1,000 corporate bond, court records show.

According to court records, Dickens had been living along the 2400 block of Garrison Boulevard In Baltimore, near Leakin Park. He has one child and is unemployed, court documents further noted.

Montgomery County District Court Judge Holly Reed III denied bond for Dickens in the BMW case. In turn, he will remain incarcerated at the Montgomery County Correctional Facility in Clarksburg while awaiting trial.

Defense attorney Audrey Creighton is representing Dickens in the BMW case. Creighton did not return a phone call seeking comment. Dickens faces up to 88 years in prison and up to \$106,500 in fines.