

## **Agent who snatched 1.4M from Trust Account to serve up to 15 Years**

July 08

### **Brent Hilton will serve up to 15 years in prison and pay \$1.3 million in restitution**

On July 6, 2015 insurance agent Brent Hilton was sentenced to serve 1 to 15 years in prison and was taken into custody from the Third District Court in West Jordan. Hilton pled guilty to one count of “Pattern of Unlawful Activity” and four counts of “Unlawful Dealing with Property by a Fiduciary” — all second degree felonies.

Hilton was charged through the Utah Attorney General’s Office as a result of a lengthy investigation conducted by criminal investigators with the State of Utah Insurance Department Fraud Division and the State of Utah Tax Commission.

While working for Bennion Taylor Insurance Agency, Hilton admitted to improperly converting money from agency trust funds to his own personal use without the agency’s knowledge. No policy holders were affected.

Hilton was ordered to pay \$1,377,546 in restitution and \$3,000 toward the cost of the investigation to the Insurance Fraud Division. Hilton also agreed to pay \$154,389 to the Utah State Tax Commission for tax liability and assessments.

The Utah Insurance Department is also taking administrative action to revoke Hilton’s insurance producer license. As a result of Hilton’s conviction, he will not be allowed to work in the insurance industry again.

The Utah Insurance Department is a State agency. Its mandate is to regulate insurance marketed and sold in Utah. Currently more than 95,000 agents, agencies, and insurers are licensed; domestic insurers are audited to verify financial stability and compliance with insurance laws; administrative action is taken against licensees found to be in violation of insurance laws; calls from consumers with questions or complaints are taken; and licensees and consumers are educated regarding insurance.