



## Equipment Theft Alert

### Rental Fraud Search for Victims - South East States

*National Equipment Register is forwarding the below request from the Tennessee Highway Patrol Criminal Investigations Division for victims of a serial heavy equipment rental fraud perpetrator.*

*Please review and forward this important information.*

#### **Search for Victims**

The Tennessee Highway Patrol Criminal Investigations Division (THP-CID) in partnership with the National Equipment Register (NER) was successful in the identification and apprehension of an individual responsible for over \$300,000 of heavy equipment rental theft over the last several months in the South East United States.

THP-CID were alerted to rental theft in Tennessee where a subject used a fraudulent identity to rent heavy equipment and subsequently didn't return it. THP-CID requested assistance from NER in preparing an alert to law enforcement and rental agencies.

The alert proved beneficial as several other thefts were identified with the same method of operation and same person. The investigation now spans 5 states and several different jurisdictions. THP-CID in conjunction with the FBI anticipate federal prosecution in the case.

The suspect was identified by his photo on the fraudulent driver license presented during the rentals. The perpetrator was determined to be Richard Hooker from North Carolina. Hooker was apprehended and is currently in custody on theft from a rental agency charge in North Carolina.

THP-CID has requested that any law enforcement agency or rental agency that has been victimized by Richard Hooker or an alias to contact Trooper Billy Collins (423) 298 5756.

The following are aliases used by Hooker in the commission of the thefts. See the following pages for images of the false ID's.

**Randy Lee Rickard**

**Jacob Wayne Southern**

**Conner Dee Price**

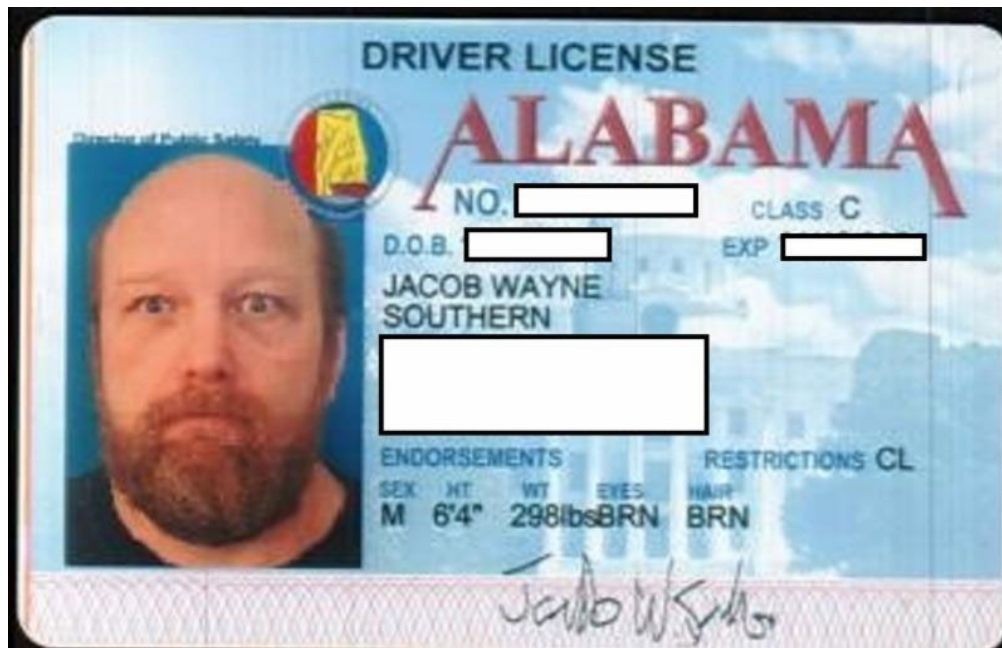
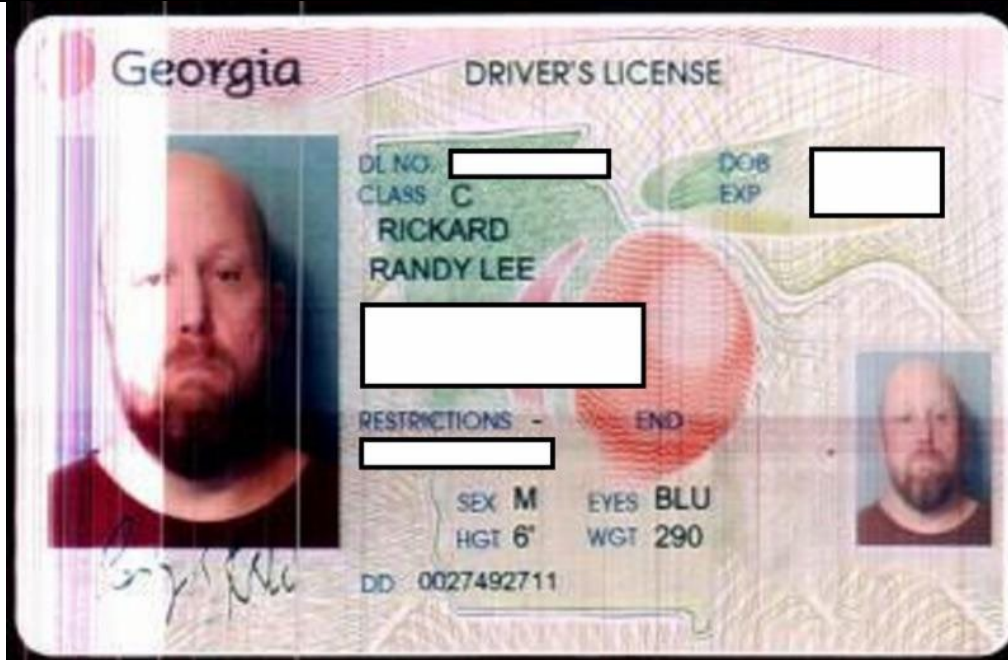
**Ronald Jay Fulp**

Hooker may have used additional, yet unknown aliases.



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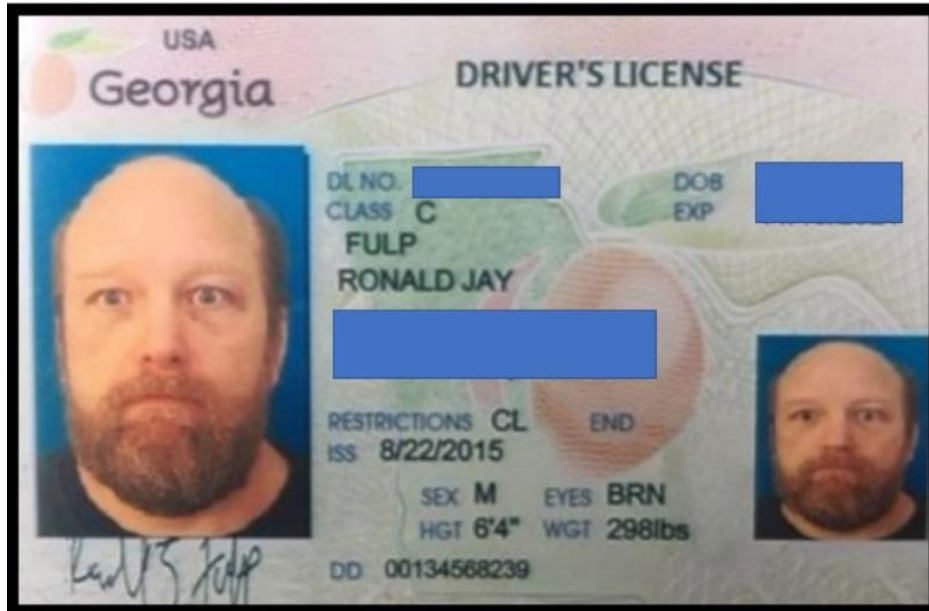
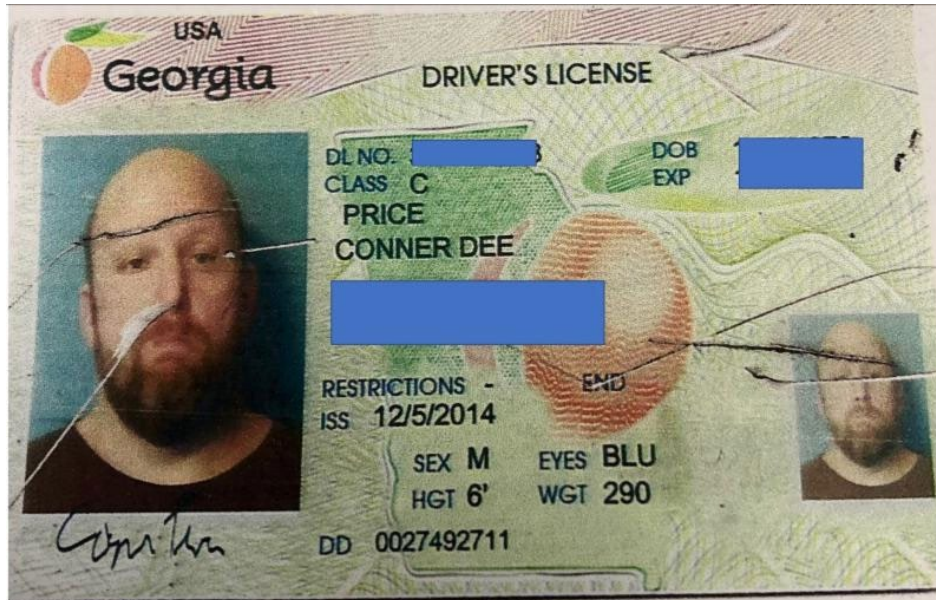
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**Law Enforcement** - For access to NER's equipment ownership registration and theft records, and for machine identification assistance, call NICB: **800-447-6282**. For online access, see For online access, click "[Log in](#)" at [www.ner.net](http://www.ner.net)

Register to receive NER's email alerts at: [www.ner.net/theft-alerts.html](http://www.ner.net/theft-alerts.html)