

# Caretaker of disabled woman faces charges of identity theft, fraud

The Associated Press

Published: Oct 19, 2008 12:18AM

<http://www.registerguard.com/csp/cms/sites/web/news/1154421-35/story.csp>

PORTLAND — Alexander Hughes had been living with and caring for a disabled 62-year-old woman with a brain injury for about a year until Sept. 28, when he left the house telling her he was going to pick up her medications.

But Hughes didn't return and now faces a 49-count criminal indictment accusing him of using the woman's ATM card a dozen times to withdraw more than \$600 during a two-day drug binge.

Hughes, 47, faces felony charges including aggravated identity theft, criminal mistreatment and fraudulent use of a credit card. He pleaded not guilty and has a Nov. 26 court date.

Hughes told investigators he went on a two-day binge, buying and smoking crack, according to a probable cause affidavit.