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## Serial Gold Coast fraudster jailed in Victoria for scamming wannabe entertainers

Shannon Deery & Alexandria Utting, Gold Coast Bulletin February 14, 2017 7:42am

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ABOUT five years ago, convicted conwoman Courtnie Thomas was living the high life in a luxury Gold Coast pad funded by a scam.

This morning she woke up in a Victorian jail after pleading guilty to scamming thousands of dollars from would-be children's entertainers.

On the run since May 2015, Thomas, who also goes under the names Courtney Elice and Courtney Glover, claimed she defrauded the entertainers of more than \$25,000 to fund her bikie brother's legal fees.



Courtney Glover, aka Courtnie Thomas, leaves Southport Court.

At the end of her four-month sentence, Thomas will be extradited back to the Gold Coast to face 73 fraud charges related to separate scams she allegedly ran in Queensland.

Queensland police allege she fleeced victims by charging membership and taking deposits for children's parties that never eventuated.

Thomas was picked up by Victorian police this month after a wild chase on foot.

She yesterday pleaded guilty to using her company, Princess Party Time, to organise interviews with aspiring kids' entertainers, only to steal their identities.

She then took out loans in their names and transferred the ill-gotten gains to her own bank accounts, netting more than \$25,000.





Courtney Glover, aka Courtnie Thomas, leaves Southport Court.

Her lawyer, George Balot, told the Melbourne Magistrates Court yesterday that Thomas sent the money to a Queensland law firm to fund legal fees for her brother. Jake Glover is on bail for unrelated grievous bodily harm charges.

Thomas was facing a maximum term of five years imprisonment.

Magistrate Charlie Rozencwajg said he may have placed her on a Community Corrections Order if she wasn't facing more charges and extradition.

In 2012, a consumer alert warned people not to get involved with Gold Coast talent agency Fenwick Actors Models Pty Ltd, operated by Thomas and another relative. Former clients and employees alleged the company had made false and misleading claims.

The pair also allegedly ran Australian Baby Shows, an unregistered business promising shadowy modelling contracts that allegedly failed to pay suppliers and advertised donations to SIDS and Kids.

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