

MBI



**Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation (MBI)
Orange County Sheriff's Office Narcotics (OCSO)
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
U.S. Secret Service (USSS)**

MULTI-AGENCY MEDIA RELEASE

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Operation Family Affair

Arrests for RICO, Conspiracy to RICO, Conspiracy to Traffic in Cocaine and other offenses – 13 Defendants

The Orlando Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation, Orange County Sheriff's Office Narcotics, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Secret Service, and the Florida Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution announced that charges were filed against 13 men and women in Orange County, FL for charges including: Racketeering and Conspiracy To Commit Racketeering, Cocaine Trafficking, Conspiracy To Traffic in Cocaine, Uttering Forged Bills, Checks, Drafts, or Notes, Possessing Certain Forged Notes, Bills, Checks, or Drafts, Identity Theft, Grand Theft, and Conspiracy To Use A Scanning Device or Reencoder to Defraud.

The Defendants: Shawn Newsome, Jason Newsome, William Henry Kelly Jr., Hyienti Newell, Nicholas Anthony Stinson, Jonathen D. Stinson, Eric James Dagget, Walter Young, Javier Farias, and Robert Hardwick are alleged to have operated a sophisticated on-going criminal enterprise with 3 other yet to be arrested defendants. At the center of the investigation are Shawn Newsome, Jason Newsome, Nicholas Anthony Stinson, Javier Farias and Hyienti Newell.

Newell, a resident of New York State, is alleged to have provided the central Florida enterprise with credit card skimmers and computer programs used to collect innocent card users' information without their knowledge. Shawn and Jason Newsome are alleged to have employed individuals who worked in restaurants and other high traffic jobs, and paid them 25-50 dollars per card number that was skimmed or stolen from innocent patrons. Shawn Newsome and 2 defendants that are still being sought are alleged to have manufactured counterfeit money and uttered that counterfeit money to pay for goods and services as part of the organization's pattern of criminal activity.

The investigation began as a narcotics investigation of Shawn Newsome and other conspirators who are alleged to have actively conspired to traffic in over 400 grams of cocaine, often discussing the price and availability of multiple kilos of cocaine and its distribution throughout central Florida. One of the suppliers of the cocaine has been linked to an organization which imported and trafficked in hundreds of kilos of cocaine with street values estimated in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. During the investigation it was learned of the organization's foray into identity theft that included the manufacture of fraudulent identifications and passports being illegally distributed in New York and Florida, posing severe security threats. The hub of the enterprise, Shawn Newsome and Jason Newsome, are career criminals who used their knowledge and experiences from past law enforcement arrests in an attempt to avoid detection of the crimes charged.

The Orlando Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation, Orange County Sheriff's Office Narcotics, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Secret Service, and the Florida Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution spent 18 months investigating and confirming details regarding this enterprise. The evidence includes hundreds of hours of surveillance and examination of computer evidence seized during the execution of a search warrant on April 19, 2006.

The Defendants are charged with crimes including: Racketeering and Conspiracy To Commit Racketeering; Cocaine Trafficking; Conspiracy To Traffic in Cocaine; Uttering Forged Bills, Checks, Drafts, or Notes; Possessing Certain Forged Notes, Bills, Checks, or Drafts; Identity Theft; Grand Theft; and Conspiracy To Use A Scanning Device or Reencoder to Defraud.

Racketeering and Conspiracy To Commit Racketeering; Cocaine Trafficking and Conspiracy To Traffic in Cocaine are first degree felonies punishable by up to 30 years in prison with a 15 year minimum mandatory prison sentence for the Conspiracy to Traffic in Cocaine and a 250,000 fine. Uttering Forged Bills, Checks, Drafts, or Notes; Possessing Certain Forged Notes, Bills, Checks, or Drafts; Identity Theft; Grand Theft; and Conspiracy To Use A Scanning Device or Reencoder to Defraud are third degree felonies punishable by up to five years in prison.

Shawn Newsome, Jason Newsome, Hyienti Newell, Nicholas Anthony Stinson, Javier Farias, and Robert Hardwick will be held on 500,000 dollars bail. Jonathen Stinson, William Henry Kelly, Jr., and Walter Young will be held on 250,000 dollars bail. Eric Daggett will be held on 25,000 dollars bail. An information has been filed with the Clerk of the Orange County Ninth Judicial Circuit court, and the case has been assigned to Division 19.

With the assistance of the Orange County Sheriff's Office Fugitive Unit, 8 of the 13 suspects have been arrested. The list of the arrestees is attached.

If more information is needed, please call Lieutenant Carl Metzger, 407-836-9701 or Sandy Copes, Florida Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution, 850-414-3300.

The Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation is a multi-agency Narcotics, Vice and Organized Crime law enforcement task force assigned to Orange and Osceola Counties. The member agencies of MBI are the State Attorney of the Ninth Judicial Circuit; Sheriff of Orange County; Orlando Police Department; Winter Park Police Department; Apopka Police Department; Ocoee Police Department; Sheriff of Osceola County; Florida Department of Law Enforcement; Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco; U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration; U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation.