

2014

ANNUAL REPORT



NICK COX
STATEWIDE PROSECUTOR

STATEWIDE PROSECUTION OFFICES



OVERVIEW OF THE OFFICE OF STATEWIDE PROSECUTION IN 2014

The Office of Statewide Prosecution (OSP) had another solid year in 2014. We have seen significant increases in prosecutions involving human trafficking and crimes against children, burglary, illegal gaming and wiretap investigations. With the reduction in pill mills and the unscrupulous clinics, we have focused more of our narcotics attention towards heroin, methamphetamines and cocaine, and narcotics cases represent the largest numbers of OSP prosecutions. Likewise we have continued to increase our efforts in the battle against synthetic drugs, as well as working closely with the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit to increase the number of fraud prosecutions.

The increased successes we have seen over the past 4 years are attributable to an outstanding team of professionals within this office. OSP has enjoyed a great deal of success in attracting high quality, experienced attorneys and staff.

Since Attorney General Bondi took office in 2011, the OSP has seen a steady increase in the numbers of cases filed and defendants charged in circuit courts throughout the State of Florida. Just this past year of 2014 we increased our criminal case filings/charges 30% over the numbers we had in 2013, which was also an increase from the preceding two years. 270 criminal cases were filed in 2014 charging 577 defendants. And it is important to remember that these cases generally represent sophisticated defendants, criminal organizations, and complex criminal cases. OSP lawyers have been very productive.

Additionally, our office has been successful in addressing our office priorities, as

determined with the direction and advice of the Attorney General. From 2013 to 2014, pending cases for our criminal priorities have remained high or jumped dramatically:

- Human trafficking cases have increased over 60%, and the number of charged defendants increased eightfold, from 23 to 179;
- Gang RICO cases increased 10%, and the number of pending defendants increased slightly;
- Despite the reduction in pill mills, we continue to work hard on difficult prescription narcotics cases, with another slight increase in cases pending, and approximately 10% increase in defendants to 472. The dedicated pill prosecutors the Attorney General and legislature secured for us have been most effective;
- Wiretap applications and orders sought by OSP have climbed dramatically to 104 in 2014, an over 300% increase. OSP has become one of the go-to agencies for wire cases, which has greatly enhanced our work and relationships with the DEA and other federal agencies;
- Retail theft and cargo theft cases have increased over 40%, with the number of defendants climbing from 107 in 2013 to 179 in 2014;
- And the effort to increase Medicaid Fraud Prosecutions, with a continuing close working relationship with the Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, has been very successful. Medicaid Fraud pending cases have risen from 42 in 2010, to 70 in 2014, with 237 defendants charged and pending disposition in 2014.

On the back side, OSP has also continually seen a rise in the disposition of criminal cases every year since 2011. In 2014, OSP

attorneys disposed of 267 criminal cases, a 16.6% increase over 2013. In 2014 our attorneys and the courts recovered over \$16,000,000 (sixteen million) in criminal restitution, over \$1.2 million in law enforcement investigative costs and over \$852,000 in costs of prosecution.

But even more impressive is the conviction rates of our office. In 2014 OSP prosecutors and staff convicted **96%** of the defendants whose cases were disposed of. This is a most impressive number and represents the incredible efforts of our attorneys and staff, but also of the manner in which this office handles its prosecutions. Given that our cases are typically long term investigations of complex criminal matters, we involve ourselves in these cases from the very beginning of the investigation. Doing so allows us to assist law enforcement not only in making the best case possible, but also one that will be persuasive to judges and juries.

OSP continues to focus on fulfilling our duties in Florida Statutes Chapter 16 to attack multi-circuit criminal organizations, but we have also continued to work closely with our State Attorney and Federal counterparts. We routinely assist State Attorneys with their initiatives such as crimes against children and gangs. For instance, in Polk County, Florida, we have teamed with State Attorney Jerry Hill to prosecute many cases involving internet sexual predators who entice young children into sex and travel to meet them. In Manatee County, we have long worked closely with State Attorney Ed Brodsky battling violent gangs, and we have seen a great deal of success with them in curbing the tide of gang activity in that county. We have also continued to assist many State Attorneys investigating and prosecuting violations of Florida's gaming laws. And finally, we have worked closely with United

States Attorneys on cases involving human trafficking and crimes of violence.

Some of our work in 2014 will be highlighted in the following pages. These articles were authored again by some of our Assistant Statewide Prosecutors who have special experience in these areas. Hopefully these will give you an example and more insight into the work we are doing in OSP.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

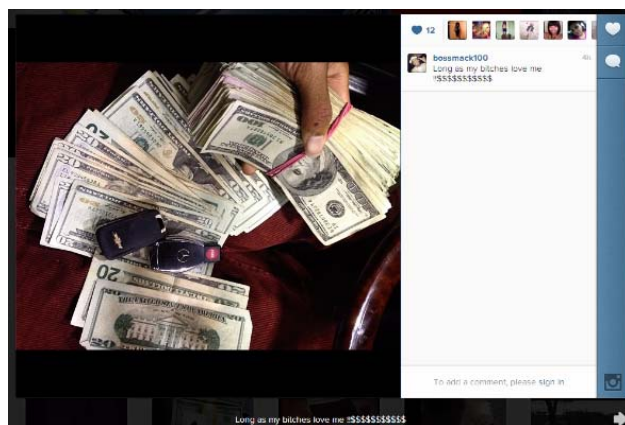


The influx of Human trafficking investigations continue to increase as the Attorney General's Instant Message to Instant Nightmare Awareness Initiative begins to impact our communities. The OSP continues to partner with the community and law enforcement agencies across the State to raise awareness surrounding this insidious crime. OSP actively participates in this endeavor by speaking at various conferences and workshops including the Annual Central Florida Anti-Human Trafficking Joint Conference, the Annual Florida Intelligence Unit Training Workshop, and the Florida Gang Investigators Association Annual Training Workshop regarding the challenges of successfully investigating and prosecuting human trafficking cases. OSP prosecutors continue to partner with law enforcement agencies to assist with investigative subpoenas, warrants, pen orders, mobile tracking devices, and wire taps.

The year 2014 saw some important legislative amendments. Florida Statue

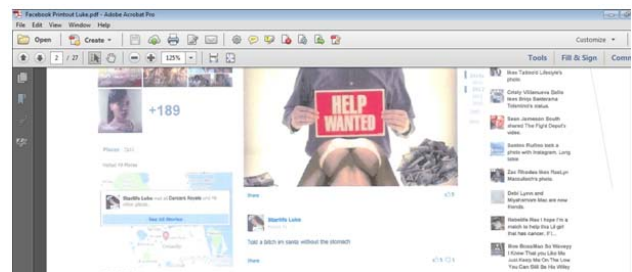
775.15, removed the statute of limitations for human trafficking violations, a vital component to successful prosecutions because human traffickers routinely swap or sell their victims. Florida Statute 787.06 increased penalties relating to the trafficking of children and created new penalties for traffickers who permanently brand their victim(s). Tattooing or branding is very common among sex traffickers. Additionally, Florida Statute 796.05 increased penalties for those who derive support from the proceeds of prostitution.

In Pinellas County, the OSP charged five people with human trafficking alleging that 60-year-old Robert Earl Wyche of Largo was recruiting women for the purposes of prostituting them. The women were often recruited while in custody by Co-Defendant, Alexandra Kovarick. Investigating agencies determined that Wyche and Kovarick recruited women and offered them shelter and drugs in exchange for them engaging in prostitution. Wyche would threaten the women if they wanted to leave; he took the proceeds they made in prostitution, and used physical force against them if they did not comply with his "rules."



In Orange County, the OSP charged a 25-year-old Davenport man and an 18-year-old Sanford woman with human sex-trafficking

after they arranged for a minor girl to have sex with more than 10 men in one day. Jose Alcedes Ojeda and Kristi Lynn Haney both pled guilty to trafficking the juvenile runaway. The victim's father called police, saying he saw an online prostitution advertisement featuring his daughter. Haney and Ojeda required the minor victim to go through a "training process" in which she listened in on several calls from potential customers. Seminole County deputy sheriffs found the ad on backpage.com, which said the girl was 19 and had photos of her in "provocative poses and clothing." She gave all the money to Ojeda, and Haney told her to say, "Here you go, daddy" after she handed it over.



Also in Orange County, the OSP charged three men, Richard Rawls, 75, James King, 50, and Wilbert Shaver, 49 with human trafficking for commercial sexual activity, human trafficking for labor and services, and deriving support from the proceeds of prostitution. Rawls forced the women who worked for him to bow down when he walked in the room. Rawls was recruiting female prisoners from Lowell Correctional Institution, a state prison for women in Ocala. He would send money to their commissary accounts in his efforts to woo them. Once they were released from prison, he would pick them up and bring them to any one of his houses where he would drug them, beat them, then force them into prostitution.

Additionally, the OSP had tremendous success in human trafficking trials. In Pinellas County, Peter Kitt was sentenced to 30 years after being found guilty at trial of Racketeering and Conspiracy to Racketeer. Kitt, a self-confessed pimp, was accused of rounding up women at strip clubs and other places and ensnaring them into his illegal enterprise. He would drive the women, many of them drug-addicted, to cheap hotels in Clearwater, Largo and Tampa, supplying them with drugs and customers for prostitution. At the time of his arrest, police said Kitt and Shawn Franklin were forcing 16 women, all between the ages of 21 and 25, into prostitution. Kitt started operating in 2000, and told police that at one point he had 40 women working for him. Shawn Franklin and Holly Cannarelli, both of whom pleaded guilty to the same charges testified at Kitt's trial.

After a week in trial, Theron Akeem Luke, 25, was found guilty of racketeering and sentenced to 8 years in prison followed by probation. Luke and five co-defendants were charged by the OSP following an investigation prompted by a complaint from a prostitute claiming she was beaten, raped, and forced into prostitution. The investigation revealed Luke was working collaboratively with two other pimps and their three bottom girls. The group used Backpage.com and Facebook to recruit prostitutes; they shared transportation, hotel rooms, and other incidental costs associated with the illegal prostitution ring.

Lastly, OSP continues to partner with non-governmental entities in their efforts to eradicate Human Trafficking. We recognize "it takes a village". The special needs essential to rescuing and rehabilitating human trafficking victims including medical care, mental health counseling, and basic necessities such as food and shelter might



become an insurmountable obstacle were it not for our community partners.

~ Diane Checchio, ASP

PILL MILLS

2014 saw a continued effort by OSP towards its' initiative in combatting pharmaceutical drug "pill-mill" prosecutions. The OSP continued to target physicians, pharmacists, clinic owners and financiers, while expanding the scope of its' efforts against prescription drug diversion at all levels. 2014 saw new investigations of individual medical office and pharmacy employees trading in stolen and fraudulent prescriptions, as well as drug-trafficking organizations responsible for sponsoring doctor-shoppers, filling Florida-issued narcotic prescriptions out-of-state, and resale of diverted narcotic medications.



OSP initiated numerous new prescription drug (narcotics) investigations, involving multiple targets throughout the year. With the addition of two new "Pill" prosecutors which were made possible through the efforts of Attorney General Bondi, these specifically designated prosecutors have been able to tackle these investigations head on. This is significant in that these cases present unique challenges, requiring specialized knowledge and technique not only from the prosecution, but the investigators as well.



The OSP has worked closely to develop relationships and cooperation with The Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Homeland Security, The United States Postal Service and many local law enforcement agencies. These relationships and ability to focus on the specific issues, have allowed the State to meet the challenges that these cases present head-on.



Not only is the OSP focused upon diversion related to pharmaceutical drugs, but our efforts continue to focus upon traditional (non-narcotic) pharmaceutical drug diverters as well. These cases follow the movement of pharmaceutical drugs which are often obtained through fraudulent means from the Medicaid/Medicare system. The tainted drugs are then moved through unregulated channels of commerce until they eventually find their way back into the market and into the hands of unsuspecting consumers. Through the dedicated efforts of our state and local law enforcement partners, numerous new targets were identified in 2014. Through this continued focus by the OSP and their law enforcement partners, numerous defendants have received sentences including prison time, in addition to these cases leading to significant seizures of currency and property.

OSP also responded to the rising threat of synthetic drugs with new investigations targeting numerous individuals. These investigations not only involve suspects importing precursor



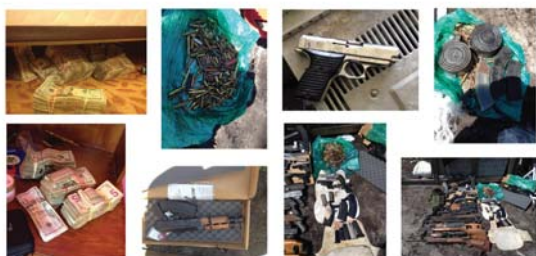
materials used for the manufacture of synthetics, but also include the sale and distribution of the actual synthetic drug itself throughout the State.

OSP will continue to remain at the forefront of these issues in 2015, with many

challenges on the horizon, but significant experience and resources to bring to bear.

~ Nickolaus “Hunter” Davis, ASP

TRADITIONAL NARCOTICS



The OSP continues its partnership with federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in investigating and prosecuting those criminal organizations involved in bringing illicit narcotics into this state for distribution in our communities. With the success of the fight against pill mills and pharmaceutical drug abuse, the state has seen an increase in heroin related deaths and the OSP is responding by working with law enforcement

partners to put an end to this alarming trend utilizing all of the investigative and legislative tools at its disposal. For example, in April prosecutors with OSP convicted a Tampa man at trial for his role in a

conspiracy to traffic in \$27,000 worth of heroin. In that case, Jose Albino Rodriguez was found guilty of both conspiring to traffic in heroin and trafficking in heroin and



sentenced to 25 years in state prison and assessed a \$500,000 fine.



Similarly, Florida is seeing an increase in methamphetamine trafficking and OSP is on the frontlines of that fight as well. OSP, along with many law enforcement agencies throughout Florida, is seeing a shift from clandestine methamphetamine laboratories in the state producing relatively small amounts of poor quality methamphetamine to industrial size laboratories in Mexico producing large quantities of high quality methamphetamine which is then smuggled into Florida for distribution upon our streets. OSP is working with federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to combat these increased instances of large quantities of high quality methamphetamine from Mexico being brought into Florida for distribution.



A primary example of such an instance was the arrest and conviction of Maria Concepcion Ontiveros Lopez. Ontiveros Lopez was arrested in March of 2014 after she and her coconspirators arranged for a shipment of 44 pounds of high quality methamphetamine to be brought into Florida after being manufactured in Mexico. The methamphetamine for which Ontiveros Lopez facilitated the distribution had a street value in excess of \$1.3 million. Also seized as part of the investigation and prosecution of Ontiveros Lopez' organization was large quantities of cash and firearms. Ontiveros Lopez was successfully prosecuted for her role in the organization and was sentenced to 27 years in state prison and assessed a \$250,000 fine. The OSP will continue to relentlessly pursue those individuals and organizations involved in the importation and distribution of heroin, methamphetamine and cocaine in Florida. OSP, along with our law enforcement partners, will continue to use tools such as electronic surveillance and the interception of communications to dismantle entire distribution networks put in place by these criminal organizations, and, upon convictions, will seek lengthy prison sentences for those most culpable.

~ David Gillespie, ASP

PROSECUTORIAL INITIATIVE **MERGES WITH** **MONEY LAUNDERING** **INVESTIGATION TEAM**



Since 2011, the OSP and the North Florida High Intensity Drug Trafficking Program (NF HIDTA) have successfully partnered in a unique-in-the-nation Prosecutorial Initiative. However in 2014, the Prosecutorial Initiative merged with the Cash and Asset Seizure Team to form a new initiative, the Prosecutorial Initiative/ Cash Asset Seizure Team ("PI/CAST"), led by the Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution, with the expressed mission to provide case development assistance to all NF HIDTA Initiatives in the pursuit of effective legal process necessary to pursue, disrupt and dismantle major drug trafficking organizations (DTO's), money laundering organizations (MLO's), and to provide case development assistance in the pursuit of the identification and lawful seizure of the assets of major drug trafficking organizations. The ultimate goal of the PI/CAST Initiative is to provide case support and assistance in producing effective legal process necessary to disrupt and dismantle major DTO's and MLO's in Florida. The agency members of the PI/CAST Initiative include the Office of Statewide Prosecution, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, the Nassau County

Sheriff's Office, the Florida National Guard Counterdrug Program, Homeland Security and the Florida Department of Financial Services.

The PI/CAST Initiative has established and continues great relations with numerous State Attorneys' Office throughout the State, providing assistance to investigators and prosecutors in the areas of the lawful use of technology surveillance and the seizure of the proceeds of specified unlawful activity. Partnership with the NF HIDTA provides OSP with an excellent source of well developed, complex cases for prosecution of organized crime affecting the State of Florida. Additionally, this partnership continues to provide opportunities for the OSP and the Attorney General's Office of Florida to participate in national drug strategy and policy making. In August of 2014, two Assistant Statewide Prosecutors were selected by the three Florida HIDTAs to represent Florida in the National Methamphetamine & Pharmaceuticals Initiative (NMPI) strategy session in Reno, Nevada. The purpose of the meeting was to bring together representatives from the across the nation to report on trends of these dangerous drugs and to share best practices. Representatives from forty-nine states participated.

There are currently 28 HIDTAs (which include counties located in 46 states, as well as in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia), each a federally funded law enforcement coalition coordinating, combining and leveraging the resources and capabilities of federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to fight drug trafficking and drug-related crime including money laundering. There are three HIDTAs in Florida: North Florida HIDTA, Central Florida HIDTA, and South Florida HIDTA. The NF HIDTA successfully integrates 40 federal, State and local law enforcement agencies in a ten county foot print, which includes Alachua, Baker, Columbia, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, and St Johns Counties. The Bureau Chief of the Jacksonville Bureau of the Office of Statewide Prosecution serves as a member of the NF HIDTA Executive Board. The OSP partnership with NF HIDTA directly promotes and fulfills the stated and intended directive of Florida Statutes Section 16.56(1)(C), for OSP to, "Upon request, cooperate with and assist state attorneys and state and local law enforcement officials in their efforts against organized crimes."

~ Shannon MacGillis, Special Counsel



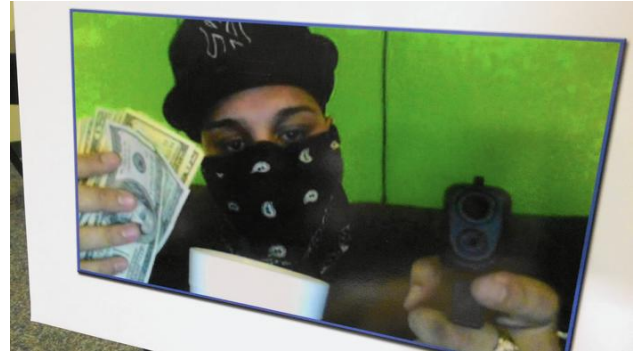
WAR ON GANGS



The OSP's commitment to tackle Florida's growing gang problem and fight gang violence remains a top priority for the office. Through partnerships with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), Sheriff's Offices, Police Departments, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and State Attorney's Offices, OSP has continued efforts to identify, investigate, prosecute and dismantle the most violent criminal gangs in Florida. Combined successes have resulted in numerous arrests and convictions throughout the state, causing a significant decrease in violent crime in affected areas and making Florida communities safer places to work and live.

A major initiative this year focused on gangs infesting Plant City in Hillsborough County, where prosecutions utilizing the state's Racketeering (RICO) laws have proven to be a valuable legal tool in addressing the gangs' pattern of criminal activity. Eleven members of the "Norte 14" criminal gang, arrested back in June 2013, were all successfully prosecuted and held

accountable for their crimes. While nine of those defendants chose to enter guilty pleas, two defendants exercised their right to a trial.



In March of 2014, twelve members of the "SUR 13" criminal gang, Norte 14's arch rival, were arrested. This case is ongoing in the Hillsborough Circuit Court, with a trial expected to take place sometime in 2015. The arrest and conviction of both SUR 13 and Norte 14 gang members, spanning three generations, has resulted in a significant decrease in gang activity and relief to the Plant City community.

The prosecution also continued for twenty four members of the "Mohawk Boys," an Orlando based gang affiliated with the Bloods who trafficked in drugs and committed robberies to fund their music aspirations. Twenty defendants have entered pleas to racketeering offenses and only four defendants remain with trials expected to take place in mid-2015.

Agents executed arrest warrants and search warrants on seven different locations simultaneously. Fourteen people were arrested, trafficking amounts of heroin, and other drugs, as well as forty nine firearms were recovered as a result of the warrants. Assets of approximately \$160,000 in cash, and several vehicles were also seized.

As gang members wage war on Florida communities, the OSP continues to respond in force with its law enforcement partners, proactively developing strategies to combat the evolving problems. Each case requires the commitment of the entire office operating under a “team based” approach, and working countless hours to ensure successful prosecutions. Through its successful prosecutions, the OSP has sent a strong message to members and associates of criminal gangs in the State of Florida. OSP’s efforts to hold them accountable for their crimes will continue to be a top priority.

~ Diane Croff, Chief ASP

GENERAL FRAUD



Perhaps the most unfortunately enduring of all criminal realms, fraud continued to be an area of significant focus by the Attorney General’s Office in 2014. In combating crimes which are limited only by the creativity of their perpetrators, the OSP and its law enforcement partners undertake expansive, long term investigations to bring justice to victims who frequently feel they have no hope of being helped, or who have been fed the canard that their’s is simply a civil matter.

In 2014, one high profile case out of the Orlando office proved otherwise and emerged as one of the year’s highlights. Dubbed the ‘Playboy Con Man’ by local media, a Kissimmee man solicited

exclusively female investors he met on dating websites to invest in his purported musical recording business, all under the guise of developing a romantic relationship. Through continued harassment and intimidation, he obtained well over one million dollars from multiple dozens of women, a significant portion of which was spent in any of various casinos around the country. Following a week-long trial in December, he was found Guilty of Grand Theft and sentenced to twenty years in prison. The Office of Financial Regulation later presented Assistant Statewide Prosecutor Robert Finkbeiner with its Distinguished Service Award for securing the conviction.

In addition to investor fraud, Florida’s still-uncertain housing market was another fertile basis for scams. A September trial, also in Orlando, led to the conviction of a man who preyed on people from an array of situations—including first time buyer, financially strapped single mother, and investment property owner, among others—with promises of obtaining homes. Through lies, forged bank records, and abuse of trust, this individual spent hundreds of thousands of dollars of victim money maintaining his own lifestyle. He received a sentence of ten years in prison.

Throughout the State, other cases and investigations included retail theft rings, an array of document frauds, bogus merchant accounts, phony land deals, and the persistent problem of time share fraud in its many manifestations. Also, as it has since the statute’s inception in 1999, the Office continues to have frequent involvement with a myriad of Identity Theft cases.

~ Robert Finkbeiner, ASP

MEDICAID FRAUD



Criminal Medicaid Fraud cases have continued to see increased scrutiny and attention by the OSP and the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU). MFCU utilizes the resources of OSP as has been done in the past, but also continues to cross-designate MFCU Assistant Attorneys General to prosecute these matters. This has proven a very good relationship, and utilization of both OAG and OSP resources are maximized. This has resulted in less duplication of effort in moving the cases from MFCU to another prosecutor, more significant criminal prosecutions being brought, and more appropriate dispositions of these matters.

The director of the MFCU and the Statewide Prosecutor have built a strong working relationship over the past 3 years that has resulted in a significant increase in communication between the MFCU and OSP. There has been an increase in the hiring of former prosecutors by the MFCU. As a result, MFCU has utilized that experience base to follow cases through prosecution. Since MFCU attorneys work cases from very early on in the fraud investigation, it simply makes sense to cross-swear them as Assistant Statewide Prosecutors and have them follow any cases they wish through the criminal justice system. A process is in place to review the

credentials of the attorney before being cross-sworn, as well as to provide OSP supervision for that lawyer. Supervision continues to be exercised criminally by the OSP Bureau Chief, Deputy Statewide Prosecutor, or the Statewide Prosecutor.

In the two years prior to the current administration employing this effort, MFCU cases were prosecuted routinely. However, since the start of this method and relationship with MFCU, the office has seen an increase in MFCU pending cases every year, and the numbers of pending MFCU cases continue to increase every year.

Even more notable is that the quality of these cases appears to be improving as well. Instead of making simple theft or fraud cases, MFCU is seeing larger scale cases being investigated and prosecuted. In addition, many times what started as a fraud case turns into a health care or abuse prosecution. The office has had numerous instances where the MFCU lawyers started with a simple overbilling or double billing investigation, but then discovered elder abuse or neglect of a disabled adult. But overall, the cases appear to be greater in scope and extent of the fraudulent activity. Charges are often upgraded at filing, and sentencing is often impacted. What may historically end up as a diversionary or probation sentence now sees greater scrutiny. Criminal forfeitures are a key component of the sentence as is restitution and the office has seen greater financial recoveries for the program. In summary, empowering the MFCU attorneys to pursue their own cases criminally is working.

One example of such a case is the Improving Together Case. In this case the out of central Florida, the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit along with the Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Florida Department

of Law Enforcement arrested an Orange County resident for \$3 million in Medicaid fraud, racketeering, and identity theft. Janie Vittini, owner of Improving Together, Inc., billed the Medicaid program for more than \$3 million for services that were never provided. Vittini then used Medicaid funds to purchase luxury vehicles, trips, and jewelry, including Cadillac Escalades, Ducati Superbike, a seven-person Carnival cruise, a trip to Cozumel, Mexico, and more than \$175,000 of Luis Vuitton products.

Between 2012 and 2013, Vittini billed Medicaid more than \$3 million for services provided to Medicaid recipients with mental health needs, which were never rendered. Vittini obtained Medicaid recipient numbers by enticing Medicaid recipients to complete applications for services in exchange for gift cards.

Vittini was adjudicated guilty of Racketeering and Identity Theft, and was sentenced to 37.2 months in prison, followed by 8 years of probation. She was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$86,000.

Forfeitures and recoveries in this case totaled approximately \$1.2 million.

~James D. Varnado, Director
Medicaid Fraud Control Unit

CONCLUSION

The OSP will continue to fight for our priorities in 2015. With the continued attention brought to the issue of human trafficking by the Attorney General and others, we anticipate to see a rise in those cases and hopefully can continue to try and bring more attention to labor trafficking. Narcotics are very much on the rise, and so is the violence that tends to come with drugs, and we will continue to respond to any law enforcement efforts and requests for assistance on these cases. Theft and fraud, including Medicaid will continue to be part of our base of operation, and we hope to see even more Medicaid cases again this coming year.

The Office of Statewide Prosecution has truly had a very successful 2014. But we have also seen a great deal of success since 2011. Prosecutions have been steadily on the rise, conviction rates have remained very high, and this office has continued to enjoy excellent relationships with our state and federal prosecution counterparts and law enforcement agencies.

As the Statewide Prosecutor, I attribute this to one thing.... a top notch group of ethical and professional lawyers and staff who work hard, are highly skilled and are offended by crime. That is the reason for our success!

Nick Cox
Statewide Prosecutor

Appendix

Below is a list of the Assistant Statewide Prosecutors assigned to each Office as of December 31, 2014.

Jacksonville	Orlando	Tampa	Ft. Myers	Ft. Lauderdale	Miami	West Palm Beach
Kelly Eckley Office Chief	John Roman Office Chief	Diane Croff Office Chief	Michael-Anthony Pica Office Chief	Julie Hogan Deputy Statewide Prosecutor		
Kelsey Bledsoe	Diane Checchio	Laura Anne Rose	Audra Thomas- Eth	Oscar Gelpi Special Counsel	Stephen ImMasche	Stephanie Tew
Shannon MacGillis	Robert Finkbeiner	Paul Dontenville		Kathleen George	Jeremy Franker	Lawonda Athouriste
John Wethington	David Gillespie	John Maceluch		Jessica Dobbins	Shireen Brueggeman	
	Nicole Pegues	Julie Sercus		Margery Lexa	Nickolaus "Hunter" Davis	
	Jim Schneider General Counsel	Joseph Spataro		Priscilla Prado		
	Lisa Acharekar	Kelly McKnight		Dayna Baskette		
	Brent Riggle	Michael Williams		Jeremy Scott		
	Jeffrey Stone	Diana Bock				
	Gary Malak	Jessica Goodwin- Costello				

Below is a list of support staff assigned to each Office as of December 31, 2014.

Tallahassee	Jacksonville	Orlando	Tampa	Ft. Myers	Ft. Lauderdale	Miami	West Palm Beach
Tammy Wade Executive Director	Christopher Floyd Criminal Financial Specialist	Sherrie Elmahmoud Criminal Financial Analyst	Delores Funes Sr. Criminal Financial Analyst	Dawn Andrews Executive Secretary	Barbara Goodson Senior Criminal Financial Analyst	Georgina Clinche Senior Executive Secretary	Lisa Cushman Administrative Assistant
	Connie Bland Senior Executive Secretary	Amy Romero Administrative Assistant	Virginia Caswell Administrative Assistant		Thelma Alvarado Research Associate	Barbara Rodriguez, Executive Secretary	
		Matisha Pittman, Executive Secretary	Debra Kersting Executive Secretary		Omarelis Jimenez Executive Secretary		
		Angelica Geremia Executive Secretary	Michele Stano Executive Secretary		Rhonda Greene Executive Secretary		



ATTORNEY GENERAL
PAM BOND
FLORIDA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL