



DIFS *ource*

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATIVE AND FORENSIC SERVICES

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 11 November 2018

[Newsletter Archive](#)

Welcome to CFO Jimmy Patronis' DIFSsource

CFO Jimmy Patronis' Division of Investigative and Forensic Service brings to you the DIFSsource. Here you will find the latest news, announcements and developments of the Division for the great State of Florida regarding acts of fraud, arson and the misuses of state funds. We are proud of the Divisions' efforts in safeguarding Florida business and resident's hard-earned assets. This newsletter serves to acknowledge the work that is done by our staff and to inform the public of our ongoing activities across the state.

NEWS OF INTEREST

[Announcements](#)

[Press Releases](#)

[Arrests](#)

[Publications](#)

REPORT CRIME NOW

[Insurance Fraud](#)

[Suspected Arson](#)

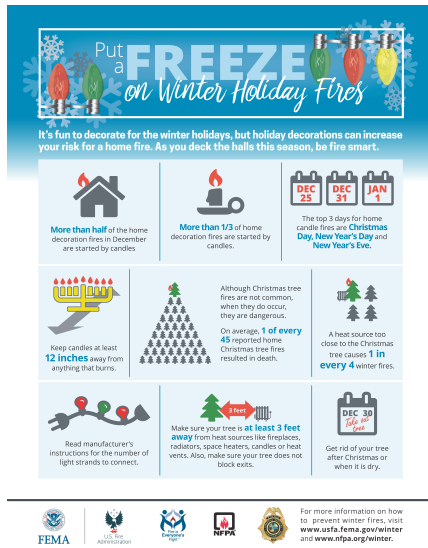
OTHER LINKS OF INTEREST

[DIFS Home Page](#)

[Department of Financial Services](#)

[State Fire Marshal](#)

Division of Investigative and Forensic Services Wishes You And Yours A Happy and Safe Holiday Season



As we enter into the Winter Season, DIFS would like to remind everyone to exercise safe holiday practices during the Holiday Season.

Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can easily burn.

Place Christmas trees at least 3 feet away from any possible heat source.

Do not block any exit with a Christmas tree, even if it is an exit not frequently used.

Read manufacturer's instructions on lights regarding the maximum number of lights that can be connected with each other.

If any light strands are frayed or internal wiring exposed, throw the strand away as it is a safety hazard and may spark a fire.

When cooking, do not leave any heating source unattended.

From the DIFS' Family to yours, Happy Holidays!

[Read More](#)

Workers' Compensation

Insurance Agent and Agency Services

DIFS Organizational Chart

STAY CONNECTED



Announcements

DIFS Would like to Recognize:



Detective Murray McDonald on his retirement. Det. McDonald has been with the Bureau of Fire, Arson & Explosives Investigations since May of 1989 serving the Daytona field office.

Lieutenant Anthony Stafford on his retirement. Lt. Stafford has been with the Bureau of Fire, Arson & Explosives Investigations since November of 1998 serving the West Palm Beach field office.

DIFS Would like to Congratulate:

CIA Fayson Smith on his recent graduation from the Florida Law Enforcement Analyst Academy. The course was a culmination of an intensive six week program comprised of a curriculum in intelligence analysis, data management and crime pattern analysis.

Detective James Gardner on receiving the Florida Workers' Compensation Fraud Task Force 2018 Law Enforcement Investigator of the Year award. Det. Gardner was recognized for his tireless efforts and due diligence in working the Summit fraud cases within the Jacksonville area. Of those cases, there have already been three individuals arrested for fraudulent crimes with at least one additional arrest pending.

Detective Jason Clark on receiving the Florida Workers' Compensation Fraud Task Force 2018 Law Enforcement Investigator of the Year award. Det. Clark was recognized for his tireless efforts and due diligence in working multiple major investigations. Det. Clark's first major case in the Jacksonville area was a staged accident ring where he personally made 104 of the 400 arrests associated to the cases.

[Read all DIFS Announcements](#)

DIFS In The News

Former Marlins pitcher gets 4 years for insurance fraud

featured on: [AP News](#)

35 unlicensed contractors arrested in undercover sting operation in Pinellas County

featured on: [ABC Action News/ Tampa Bay Newspapers](#)

Sober-home operator submits fake insurance claims

featured on: [Palm Beach Post](#)

Jacksonville principal accused of insurance fraud

featured on: [News4Jax](#)

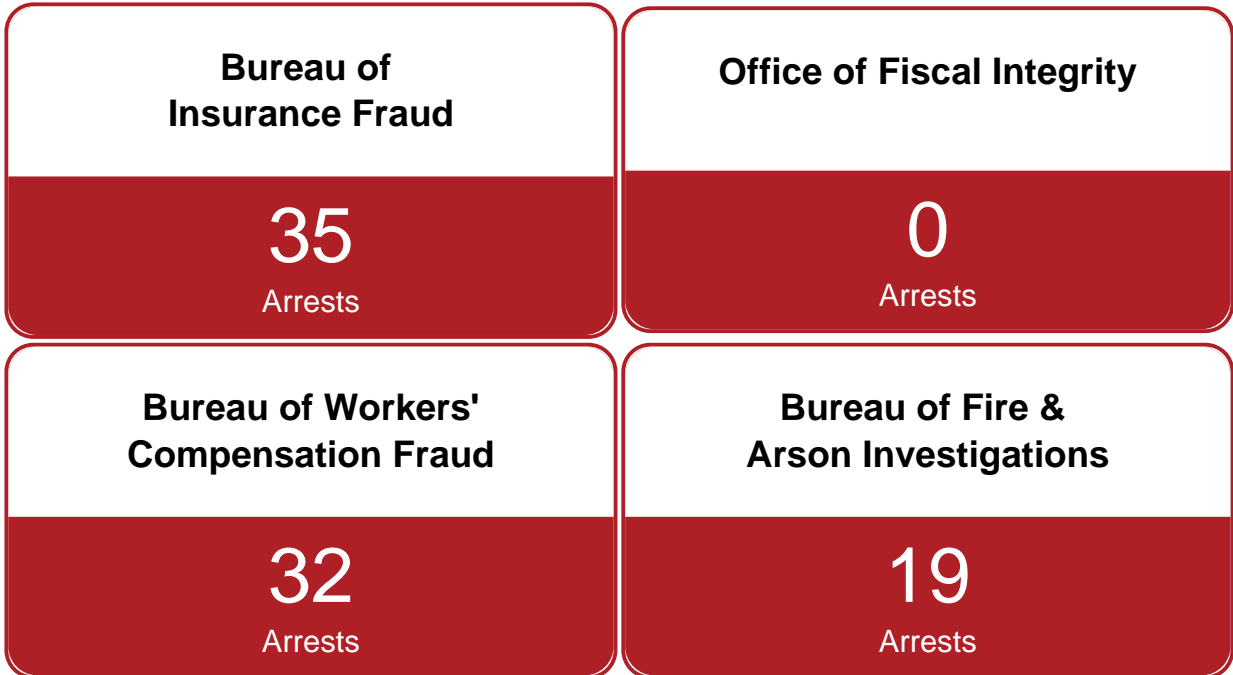


[Read all of the DIFS Press Releases](#)

November Arrest Stats



DIFS' law enforcement Bureaus have arrested the following for criminal behaviors



*Numbers reflect arrest counts provided at time of publish.

[View Full Arrest Report](#)

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you for reading and subscribing to the DIFSource. This is the Division of Investigative and Forensic Services' monthly newsletter highlighting some of our goings-on around the great state of Florida. If you have any comments, please send us an email by clicking the email icon below. We look forward to hearing from you and receiving your input.

Sincerely,

Leighton "Lance" Tomkins

DIFS, Public Information Officer

INSURANCE HELPLINE 1-800-378-0445

If you suspect an insurance scheme, you can report it safely, easily and anonymously in most cases. Help lower the cost we **ALL** pay for fraud.

REWARD OFFERED:

Up to **\$25,000** for information leading to the conviction of persons committing complex and organized insurance crimes.



INSURANCE FRAUD MOST WANTED

Click **HERE** to see the CFO's Most Wanted list.