



DIFS *ource*

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATIVE AND FORENSIC SERVICES

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 9 September 2018

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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

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Public Service Reminder on Kerosene Heaters



Portable kerosene-fired space heaters have been heating living spaces for many decades and it is important to remain safe when operating them.

Common ways a fire can occur from improper use of your kerosene heaters:

1. **Combustibles.** Objects that are too close have the potential to be ignited. The combustion of an ignitable liquid in the heaters generates a significant amount of heat that is intended to be transferred into the space.
2. **Tip-over.** Usually the heater has a mechanism designed and shuts the heater down if it is tipped over. However, flames may persist for a short time and some kerosene may spill from the unit causing the flames to spread.
3. **Wrong Fuel.** Kerosene heaters are designed to burn low-volatility fuels such as kerosene. They are not designed to burn high-volatility fuels such as gasoline. Flames may be higher with the use of gasoline causing a wider range of heat to be emitted.

With proper use and following the directions presented with your Kerosene Heaters, you can keep your home and family safe.

[Read More](#)

Workers' Compensation

Insurance Agent and Agency Services

DIFS Organizational Chart

STAY
CONNECTED



Announcements



DIFS Would like to Recognize:

Detective Jan Cary on his retirement. Det. Cary has been with the Bureau of Workers' Compensation Fraud since May of 2008 serving the Orlando field office.

Detective Tim Burkee on his retirement. Det. Burkee has been with the Bureau of Workers' Compensation Fraud since July of 2009 serving the Tampa field office.

Detective Billy Brantley on his retirement. Det. Brantley has been with the Bureau of Insurance Fraud since June of 2009 serving the Tampa field office.

DIFS Would like to Congratulate:

Chief Evangelina Brooks on her recent graduation from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy. The course was a culmination of an intensive 10-week long program comprised of coursework in intelligence theory, terrorism and terrorist mindsets, management science, law, behavioral science, law enforcement communication and forensic science.

[Read all DIFS Announcements](#)

DIFS in the News



3 individuals and Corporation plead guilty to multi-million dollar health care fraud and money laundering scheme

featured on: [US Department of Justice](#)

2 children killed in Putnam County electrical house fire

featured on: [Action News Jax](#) / [First Coast News](#)

Seminole County man poses as an insurance agent after hurricane Irma pocketing thousands in premiums

featured on: [WFTV9](#)

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

September Arrest Stats



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

**Bureau of
Insurance Fraud**

46

Arrests

Office of Fiscal Integrity

0

Arrests

**Bureau of Workers'
Compensation Fraud**

16

Arrests

**Bureau of Fire &
Arson Investigations**

18

Arrests

*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.