



September 30, 2010

INVESTIGATION LEADS TO COUNTERFEITING CHARGES

The owner and operator of an on-line advertising website faces multiple charges following an investigation launched by the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office. 45-year old Christopher James Coletti of 9100 Baytowne Wharf Boulevard, Apartment 554 in south Walton County is charged with creating counterfeit checks, possession of instruments for forging bills, and prohibited acts against a financial institution.

The Walton County Sheriff's Office, assisted by the OCSO and the Florida Department of Financial Regulation's Bureau of Investigations, executed a search warrant at Coletti's residence on September 22nd. Investigators located computer equipment and printer paper consistent with counterfeit checks seized in the case.

Investigators say Coletti, owner of "DoItGulfCoast.com", an on-line advertising website, would recruit clients for his business, then later use their banking information to create counterfeit checks to pay employees or bills.

Okaloosa County deputies began investigating Coletti's business practices after developing information from a former employee who was also a victim. So far they have identified at least two dozen additional victims across Okaloosa, Escambia, Santa Rosa, Walton, and Bay Counties. Active investigations in multiple jurisdictions continue at this time and additional charges are possible. The total amount of money involved is still being determined, but is expected to exceed tens of thousands of dollars.

Coletti is currently being held in the Walton County Jail on one-million dollars bond.

Anyone with information on the case is asked to please contact the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office at 850-651-7400.

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A FULLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
Contact: PIO Michele Nicholson 850-651-7420



Okaloosa County



Sheriff's Office



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