

Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff

1250 Eglin Parkway • Shalimar, Florida 32579-1234 Phone: (850) 651-7410 • Email: sheriff@sheriff-okaloosa.org

September 30, 2013

NAVARRE WOMAN CHARGED WITH STEALING MONEY FROM NON-PROFIT LIBRARY GROUP



A Navarre woman is accused of stealing more than ten-thousand dollars from the non-profit organization "Friends of the Mary Esther Library".

The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office has charged 50-year old Tamara King of 2145 Calle De Castelar with one count of grand theft. The investigation began in August when the President of the "Friends of the Mary Esther Library" reported that money was missing from the non-profit's bank account and that it appeared his signature had been forged by the organization's Treasurer, Tamara King. A total of twenty-seven forged checks and several unauthorized counter checks had been issued by King for an amount totaling more than 13-thousand dollars between March 2012 and August 2013. "Friends of the Mary Esther Library" members say King had also been providing false financial information at the group's monthly meetings.

OCSO Investigators say to date, King's husband has provided more than 12-thousand dollars to the organization as reimbursement. King was arrested September 27th.

The investigation is continuing.



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The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.

"The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate"

IN THE CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT IN THE FIRST JUDIC GUIT IN AND FOR OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA WARRANT/OTTIC SERVED

OKALOOSA CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

REPORT NO: OCSO13ARR010003

Jail Booking No	Offense No OCSO13OFF009500	Other No OCSO13CAD139454	OBTS 4601094248					
SUSPECT]								
Last KING	<u>First</u> TAMARA	<u>Middle</u> LYNN	<u>Title Race Sex DOB</u> W F 11/17/196	<u>Age Hgt Wgt</u> 2 50 5'00" 110				
•	- $ -$							
Address 2145 CALLE DE CASTELAR NAVARRE FL 32566 Occupations (Current/Last Known is Listed First) Business: UNEMPLOYED, Job Title: HUMAN RESOURCES, Entered: 9/27/2013 Aliases (Last, First Middle Title DOB)								
* none found in MNI * Street Names * none found in MNI *								
[INCIDENT INFORM	IATION]							
Occurred Date Range: 8/27/2013 10:44 to 8/27/2013 10:44 Lat / Long								
	Street A	Apt/Lot City	ST Zip (GEO)					
	MARY ESTHER BD	MARY ESTHER) 21				
251 [CHARGES] 812.014.2c3		• •						
251 [CHARGES] 812.014.2c3 LARCENY		MARY ESTHER						

[STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE / NARRATIVE]

On August 27, 2013, Brian McMahan, President of the Friends of Mary Esther Library located at 100 Hollywood, Blvd., Mary Esther, Florida, reported a theft of monies from their nonprofit organization, Friends of the Mary Esther Library Regions bank account located at 251 Mary Esther Blvd, Mary Esther, Florida. Mr. McMahan discovered the monies had been stolen by the Treasurer of the organization, Defendant Tamara L. King, over a period of time from March 2012 through August 2013, by forging his signature on unauthorized checks and bank counter checks to obtain money. A total of twenty seven forged checks and several unauthorized counter checks were uttered at Regions Bank by Ms. King totaling \$13,080.35.

Mr. McMahan discovered through a financial review of their bank statements that the checks were made payable to "Cash" and was signed by Ms. King along with his forged signature. As part of the organizations standard procedure, two signatures are required on each check. This is why the Defendant forged his name on the unauthorized checks. Mr. McMahan provided the financial documents and spreadsheet identifying the forged checks and unauthorized bank counter checks Ms. King had illegally uttered to receive the funds.

Mr. McMahan also provided the minutes taken during their monthly Friends of Mary Esther Library meeting. The minutes show false information provided by Ms. King of the actual monthly financial amount to deceive the organization of the true amount and cover up her theft. The only thing Ms. King provided was an amount with a continuing balance between \$2800.00 and \$3400.00. Based on this information Ms. Ortyl requested Nicole Wellem, the organization's Secretary, to set online banking with their account to review the account history. Afterdoing so, Ms. Wellem discovered the account only held a balance of \$146.60 and the organization had been deceived by Ms. King with her false financial reports during the meetings. The Defendant, Ms. King was also employed at the City Of Mary Esther as the City Clerk. After being informed by the organization of the theft and forgery, the Mary Esther City Manager Lynne Olin held a meeting with the Defendant. Ms. Olin states she placed copies of the forged check in front of Ms. King. She OCSO13ARR010003 Printed On: 9/30/2013 1:05:57 PM COPage 1 of 3 [MATZK 9/26/20

WARRANT/OTTIC SERVED REPORT NO: OCSO13ARR010003

said Ms. King started crying and shaking her head back and fore saying something to the effect of "Please don't put me in jail", "or "Please don't have me arrested." Ms. King was asked to make restitution and asked to resign her position as City Clerk. Ms. King made no other admissions during the meeting. Ms. Olin has worked with Ms. King for several years and has reviewed documents that have Ms. King's signature. Ms. Olin said she reviewed the forged checks and can identify the signature of Ms. King is valid.

Acting City Clerk, Nicole Wellem provided a sworn written statement stating she had worked with Ms. King for several years and has had the opportunity to view her signature on many documents including City documents and checks related to the Friends of Mary Esther Library. She state she has viewed the forged checks in this case and can identify that the signature on the check is Ms. Kings. She went as far to say that she knows Ms. King Handwriting so well she can say that Ms. King was the person who forged Mr. McMahan's signature.

The Defendant's husband, Mr. Keith King, was informed of the theft of money from the organization. Mr. King has provided three separate checks totaling \$12,420.00 as reimbursement to the organization. A total of \$660.00 still remains unpaid.

I requested an interview with Ms. King, but she has obtaining an attorney to represent her.

Based on my investigation, Affidavit of Complaint from the Victim, review of the financial documents identifying the forged checks and counter checks displaying the amounts stolen by Ms. King, couple by the fact that Ms. King provided false information at the organization meetings to deceive them of the actual financial amounts, and the amounts paid back to the Victim without being disputed by Ms. King, I have reason the believe and do believe that the Defendant, Tamara L. King, did commit the offense of Grand Theft over \$10000.00.

These offense did occur within Okaloosa County, Florida.

Signature (Arresting Officer)			ALLEN, FRANK Name		1 86 ID/SSN		
Subscrib	ed and swor	n to (or affirmed) before	methis 30 (day of September A	D., 2013 by		
who is p	ersonally kn	own to me or has produc	ced		as ide	entification.	
				Notary Public	LE	0	со
Signatu	re					_	
Commis	sion No:		M	ly Commission Expires			
Supervisor Signature		Date	Supervisor Name	(Please Print)	Rank	
[PHYSI	CAL EVIDEN	NCE] [NO PHYSICA	AL EVIDENC	E LISTED]			
[ARRES	T INFORM	ATION]					
	i 13 08:30	Residency Within jurisdiction	-		tent of Injury A		Resist No
				Arrest Jurisdiction Within jurisdiction			Drugs No
No. 1940	Di	Street LEWIS TURNER BLV	A/L 7D	City FORT WALTON		Zip 32548	Lat / Long
	g Officer		_	nit	(GEO) 2 -		Officer Type
186 ALLEN, FRANK			-	OCSO/ADMINSERV/COURTSEC/DETENTIO			
Reporting Officer			-	nit		On	ginal Offense Jurisdiction
064 Tanan 4	MATZ, KI		0	CSO/FSV/INV/CID			OCSO
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0030/1	SV/INV/CI	U					

IN THE CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT IN THE FIRST JUDIC COPYIT IN AN COUNTY, FLORIDA WARRANT/OTTIC SERVED REPORT NO: OCSO13ARR010003	ND FOR OKALOOSA OKALOOSA CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Bond Set by LEO at Time of Arrest & Booking: \$0.00 () None () ROR () Cash () Pro	
Bond Set by Judge () None \$1,000.00 (X) Cash () Any (X) Pro ()Purge UNSERVED ()SC UNSERVED	() ROR/Sign () PTR
Return Court: CIRCUIT COURT: FELONY Date: 10/29/2013 Instructions: OKALOOSA COUNTY COURT HOUSE ANNEX EXT.	Time: <u>15:30</u>
[COURT INFORMATION] Court Judge Date Sent Revd CIRCUIT BROWN 9/26/2013 Court Case Number 13-009500 Assigned To:	
[DISPOSITION] <u>Disposition Type</u> <u>Release Type</u>	<u>Other Desc</u>
Release Date Release Time Release Officer	<u>Printed</u> <u>Printed By</u> No
Court DispositionType Court Disposition Descrip	otion
[ADDITIONAL PERSONS] COURT DISPOSITION:	(right index)
○ No Bill / Petition ○ Issue Warrant ○ Prosecution Approved	ignature of Assistant State Attorney Date