

# Sheriff



**Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff**

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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 27<sup>th</sup>.

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 JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

COPY

WARRANT/OTIC SERVED

OKALOOSA CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

REPORT NO: OCSO13ARR010003

Jail Booking No	Offense No OCSO13OFF009500	Other No OCSO13CAD139454	OBTS 4601094248
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[ SUSPECT ]

Last                      First                      Middle                      Title Race Sex DOB                      Age Hgt Wgt  
 KING                      TAMARA                      LYNN                                           W    F    11/17/1962    50    5'00"    110  
Eyes Hair MNI Number                      SSN                      LD No                      St                      Type                      OCA/Agency ID  
 GRN    BLN    OCSO11MNI003687                      [REDACTED]                                           FL                                                               

Birth Location: City: FRESNO County: State: CA Nation: UNITED STATES Citizenship: UNITED STATES 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 INFORMATION ]

Occurred Date Range: 8/27/2013 10:44 to 8/27/2013 10:44                      Lat / Long  
 No.                      Di                      Street                      Apt/Lot                      City                      ST                      Zip                      (GEO)  
 251                                           MARY ESTHER BD                                           MARY ESTHER                      FL                      32569                      2 - 21 - -

[ CHARGES ]

812.014.2c3

LARCENY

GRAND THEFT \$10000 OR MORE BUT LESS THAN \$20000

<u>Counts</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>GOC</u>	<u>UCR</u>	<u>NCIC</u>	<u>AON</u>	<u>Bond Amount</u>
1	Felony	Third	Principal	260A		2399	

[ 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. After doing 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

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