



# DIFS *ource*

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATIVE AND FORENSIC SERVICES

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 12 December 2018

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## Welcome to CFO Jimmy Patronis' DIFSource

CFO Jimmy Patronis' Division of Investigative and Forensic Service brings to you the DIFSource. 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.

### DIFS Celebrates the Holidays by Giving Back to Local Communities



#### NEWS OF INTEREST

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[Department of Financial Services](#)

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This time of the year it is always better to give than to receive. DIFS staff took that to heart from donating their time to donating gifts to a family in need.

On December 18th, the Bureau of Fire, Arson & Explosives Investigations' Daytona Beach Office partnered with the 7th Circuit Guardian Ad Litem to take six children to a local Walmart to "Shop with a Cop". BFAEI detectives were paired with each child to be their personal shopping partner. The children were then able to spend some one on one time with our detectives, learn what we do and shop for some new toys. The event was a great success, but the best gift of all were the smiles on the children's faces.

On December 21st, the DIFS' Tallahassee Regional Staff adopted a local family in need and, much like Santa and his elves, DIFS Staff loaded up their "sleigh" with wrapped presents to deliver under a new tree. The family was extremely grateful and moved by the outpouring of support that the DIFS team showed.

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[DIFS Organizational Chart](#)

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## Announcements

### **DIFS Would like to Recognize:**

**Government Analyst Brenda Knoll** on her retirement. Brenda has been with the Department of Financial Services since March of 2001 and with the Office of Fiscal Integrity since August of 2012.

### **DIFS Would like to Congratulate:**

**Detective Brian Mitchell** on his recent graduation from Florida State University with his Masters in Criminal Justice.

[Read all DIFS Announcements](#)



# DIFS In The News

**Stuart Woman Accused of Setting Home on Fire**

featured on: [TCPalm](#)

**Miami Man Arrested in \$60K Trucking Insurance Fraud Scheme**

featured on: [InsuranceJournal](#)

**Agencies Working Together to Get Unlicensed Contractors Off the Street**

featured on: [MyPanhandle.com](#)



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

## December Arrest Stats



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

**Bureau of  
Insurance Fraud**

**27**

Arrests

**Office of Fiscal Integrity**

**0**

Arrests

**Bureau of Workers'  
Compensation Fraud**

**14**

Arrests

**Bureau of Fire &  
Arson Investigations**

**14**

Arrests

\*Numbers reflect arrest counts provided at time of publish.

[Full Arrest List](#)

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.