



DIFS *ource*

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATIVE AND FORENSIC SERVICES

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3 April 2019

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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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Division of Investigative and Forensic Services Supports CFO Patronis' New Fraud Free Florida Initiative

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER JIMMY PATRONIS



Florida Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Jimmy Patronis today launched Fraud Free Florida, a new initiative aimed at better coordinating collective investigative efforts to protect Florida's large population, especially seniors, from scam artists. The initiative will bring together statewide law enforcement officials, local state attorneys, private sector stakeholders, and members of CFO Patronis' fraud investigative teams. Its goal will be to help Florida stay ahead of new scams and take on rampant fraud already taking place including: fraud at unscrupulous opioid treatment centers, public assistance fraud, identity theft, and cybersecurity issues.

CFO Jimmy Patronis said, "Florida currently ranks first in fraud and second in identity theft nationwide. In 2017, identity theft cost Americans nearly \$905 million. This is unacceptable, and we must use innovative ways to stay two steps ahead of criminals who want to take your identity, steal money from families who need it, and prey on vulnerable Floridians. We see it after every hurricane, millions of dollars are stolen as crooks prey on Florida families in their time of need to make a quick buck..."

[Read more](#)

State Fire Marshal

Workers' Compensation

Insurance Agent and Agency Services

DIFS Organizational Chart

STAY CONNECTED



Announcements

DIFS Would Like to Congratulate:

Detective Brian Mitchell on graduating from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Hazardous Devices School (HDS).

Lieutenant Charles Wade for being promoted to the rank of Lieutenant serving the Office of Fiscal Integrity.

Detective Nicholas Incontrera on receiving the Florida Advisory Committee on Arson



Prevention (FACAP) 2019 Arson Investigator of the Year award.

DIFS Would Like to Recognize:

Detective Tony Grice on his retirement. Tony has been with the Department of Financial Services since February of 1999. Tony began his career as a detective with the Bureau of Insurance Fraud and later transferred to the Bureau of Fire, Arson & Explosives Investigations, in 2010, working in the Pensacola Field Office.

Detective Tony Gray and ADC Mumsie on their retirement. Tony has been with the Department of Financial Services since May of 2015. Mumsie came to the Division at three years old, after being trained through State Farm and Maine Specialty Dogs. Tony and Mumsie were a successful accelerant detection team for over four years.

[Read all DIFS Announcements](#)

DIFS In The News

Bradenton serial arsonist arrested

featured on: [The Bradenton Herald](#)

Jimmy Patronis launches 'Fraud Free Florida'

featured on: [News 4 Jax/ Insurance Journal/ Florida Daily](#)

Miami insurance agent arrested for stealing \$620K in premiums

featured on: [Insurance Journal](#)

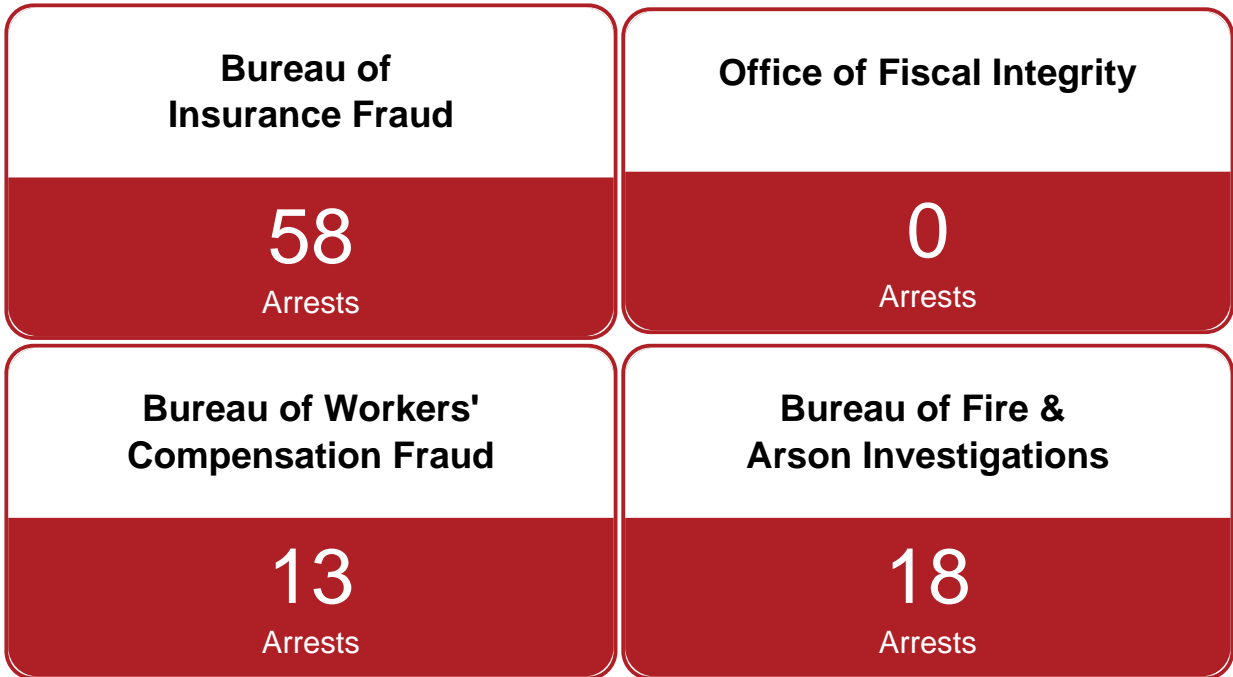


[Read all of the DIFS Press Releases](#)

March Arrest Stats



DIFS' Law Enforcement Bureaus have arrested the following for criminal behavior.



*Numbers reflect arrest counts provided at time of publish.

[Full Arrest List](#)



INSURANCE FRAUD
MOST WANTED

Click **HERE** to see the CFO's Most Wanted list.

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.



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