



Memorandum



Miami-Dade County Office of the Inspector General
A State of Florida Commission on Law Enforcement Accredited Agency
19 West Flagler Street ♦ Suite 220 ♦ Miami, Florida 33130
Phone: (305) 375-1946 ♦ Fax: (305) 579-2656
Visit our website at: www.miamidadeig.org

To: Honorable Harvey Ruvlin, Clerk of Courts, Miami-Dade County
Honorable Carlos A. Gimenez, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
Honorable Jean Monestime, Chairman
and Members, Board of County Commissioners, Miami-Dade County

From: Mary T. Cagle, Inspector General

Date: May 16, 2016

Subject: Former Clerk's Office Employee Arrested for Stealing Credit Card Information;
Ref. IG15-02

Pursuant to a request for investigative assistance from the Miami-Dade County Clerk of Courts (Clerk's Office), the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation into a Clerk's Office employee suspected of misusing customers' credit card information. The investigation, resulting in an arrest warrant being issued for Damian Lamar Thompson (Thompson), concluded last Friday when Thompson surrendered to law enforcement authorities.

The OIG's investigation found that during the period of December 15, 2014, through January 15, 2015, Thompson, a Court Records Specialist 1 in the Parking Violations Bureau of the Clerk's Office, obtained credit card information from citizens paying their parking fines over the telephone. Thompson would then use the stolen credit card information to make on-line purchases from his workplace computer during the work day. The Clerk's Office had received complaints from customers indicating that their credit card information had been compromised. The OIG investigation involved identifying additional customers who had been victimized, tracing purchases made with the stolen credit cards, and interviewing Thompson, during which time he admitted to having taken the customers' credit card information and making personal purchases with it. Thompson was terminated from his employment immediately after his admissions.

Thompson was charged with one count of Organized Scheme to Defraud, a third degree felony, four counts of Grand Theft in the third degree, and four counts of Petit Theft. On May 13, 2016, Thompson was arrested and taken into custody.

The OIG is grateful to Mr. Ruvlin and his staff for bringing the matter to our attention, and for their continued cooperation during the investigation.

Attachment

cc: Mike Henderson, Assistant to the Clerk, Clerk of Courts
Cathy Jackson, Director, Audit & Management Services Department
Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor