



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

P.O. BOX 10070 – BROOKSVILLE, FL 34603-0070 FAX 352 796-0493 PHONE 352 754-6830

Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
Public Information Officer, 352-797-3609

Re: Gaetano Antonelli Back in Jail

Date: November 1, 2012

Between 06-27-2012 and 07-27-2012, Gaetano Antonelli was arrested for six counts of Organized Fraud. During that time he fraudulently obtained properties from people who were behind on their mortgages, then fraudulently attempted to sell those properties to other people by listing them on Craigslist. For those charges, he is currently out of jail on \$49,382 bond.

On 10-09-2012, Detective Dustin Mormando, the lead agent in this case, received a tip that Antonelli was again listing real estate for sale on Craigslist.

Detective Mormando first made contact with the current legal owner of the property in question, Dawn Marshall. She advised that around September of 2012 she found an ad in a local coupon booklet that said “we buy homes.” Ms. Marshall contacted the number listed and spoke with Antonelli who advised he would sell her home for her. They signed a contract which indicated that Antonelli would be working for a profit.

Using some investigative tools and techniques, Detective Mormando located the ad on Craigslist. Using some good old-fashioned police surveillance tactics, Mormando was able to catch Antonelli in the act of “showing” the property to the prospective buyer, as if he (Antonelli) was a licensed Real Estate Agent. An inquiry of Antonelli’s license through the Department of Business and Professional regulation revealed that he once held a Sales Associate Real Estate License, but it expired on 03-31-1999. The current status of his license was null and void.

After Gaetano Antonelli showed the house to the prospective buyer, Detective Mormando conducted a traffic stop on his vehicle. Antonelli admitted that he was there to “show” the property. He was placed under arrest at that time and transported to the Hernando County Detention Center.

Since his first arrest, Antonelli has continued to violate the law. Further investigation is currently ongoing into other possible cases.

Antonelli's vehicle and cash are being seized by the Hernando County Sheriff's Office for forfeiture.

Sheriff Al Nienhuis said "My detectives continually monitor repeat offenders, especially those cases that prey upon unsuspecting citizens. Apparently, this criminal has not learned his lesson. We will continue to work hand-in-hand with the State Attorney's Office so this individual can be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."

It has been requested that Antonelli be held on a NO BOND status.