



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Knerr - Organized Fraud Arrest

Date: September 13, 2016

Tipper Knerr was originally arrested on 03-23-2016 for being in possession of the personal identification information of over 70 individuals, obtained from multiple mail thefts.

From that investigation, several of those victims came forward and reported that either their personal identification information had been used to apply for and obtain credit cards or that credit cards they had applied for were never obtained in the mail.

Through investigation, detectives learned that Tipper Knerr was involved in the fraudulent activity in each case. Knerr obtained and used credit cards in the names of each of the victims.

The original investigation includes some of the following examples of Knerr's fraudulent activity/crimes:

- The victim applied for and was approved for a Lowe's credit card. The victim never received the card in the mail. It was discovered that charges that the victim did not make were made to the account. Investigation revealed that Knerr was involved in the purchase and pick up of the fraudulent purchases.
- The victim discovered that someone had obtained an American Express credit card in her name. Investigation revealed that Knerr applied for and used the card to make various purchases.
- The victim discovered that her personal identification information had been used to apply for and obtain credit cards. Investigation revealed that Knerr was involved in the fraudulent credit card applications.

- The victim applied for and was approved for an Amazon credit card. The victim never received the credit card in the mail. The victim began receiving packages with her own name and Tipper Knerr's name on them. Investigation revealed that Knerr intercepted the credit card (believed through the mail) and made multiple purchases.
- The victim discovered that their personal identification information was used to apply for various credit cards. Investigation revealed that Knerr was involved in the fraudulent credit card applications.
- The victim discovered that their personal identification information was used to apply for various credit cards. Investigation revealed that Knerr was involved in the fraudulent credit card applications.

Detectives described Tipper Knerr's behavior as a systematic ongoing course of conduct, intended to defraud one or more persons, or with the intent to obtain property from one or more persons by false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, promises, or willful misrepresentations of a future act.

Once all investigations into Knerr's fraudulent activities were complete, a warrant was obtained for her arrest, charging her with Organized Fraud.

Tipper Mackenzie Knerr W/F DOB/11-03-1992 was arrested on 08-31-2016. Her bond was set at \$5,000.

The Office of Sheriff:

The Office of the Sheriff is established by the Florida Constitution. As a constitutional officer, the Sheriff has the exclusive authority to administer his or her agency and is responsible for preserving the peace throughout the entire county, carrying out the laws of the state, the orders of Florida courts, and the ordinances of the Board of County Commissioners. The Sheriff is the chief law enforcement and correctional officer of the county.

Sheriff Al Nienhuis was initially appointed as the Sheriff of Hernando County by the Governor in January of 2011. He was then elected by the people of Hernando County in 2012, and remains accountable to them.