



Stephen B. Russell, State Attorney

The Russell Report



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June 2015
Volume 15 Issue 6

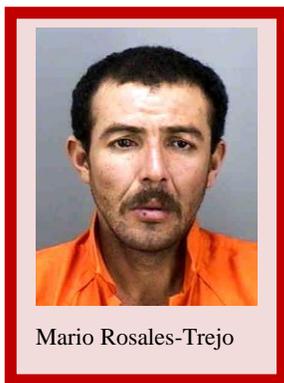
Life in Prison

Mario Rosales-Trejo received 4 life sentences plus 20 years for crimes that resulted in a Collier County woman dying. Rosales-Trejo broke into the 69-year-old woman's home twice over an eight day span.

He brutally raped her both times and was caught when trying to break in a third time. The victim was able to identify her attacker from a line-up. She then died a month after the second attack due to medical issues from the sexual assaults.

Rosales-Trejo, now 40, was found guilty of two counts each of Sexual Battery and Burglary with Battery. He was also found guilty of Manslaughter and Grand Theft. During the crimes he also stole jewelry from the victim. A Collier County grand jury indicted Rosales-Trejo in 2007. There were delays in resolving the case as the defendant spent some time in state mental hospitals.

Assistant State Attorneys Steve Maresca and Deborah Cunningham have dedicated a lot of time to this case and we appreciate their hard work.



Mario Rosales-Trejo

Economic Crime Case

Garaya Jackson, 27, pled guilty to one count of racketeering and one count of running an unauthorized money service business. Operating out of her Immokalee boutique, Garaya's Fashions, Jackson would receive fraudulent tax return checks from an unnamed source. She would cash the illegal checks and take a cut for herself. Jackson cashed in \$70,000.

The Department of the Treasury was able to identify and reclaim the checks of 47 victims from all over the state of Florida. Jackson was sentenced to six years in prison followed by 15 years of probation. She must also pay \$70,000 in restitution to Reliance Bank where the fraudulent checks were cashed.

Assistant State Attorney Erik Leontiev of our Economic Crimes Unit handled the case. It is thought to be the first special money services statute conviction in the state of Florida.



Garaya Jackson



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Drug Trafficking Case

Edricka Cook was found guilty as charged of Trafficking in Cocaine and Trafficking in Heroin. This followed a 4 day trial in Lee County. Cook was arrested following the execution of a search warrant at her home. Cook was found in a bedroom trying to conceal a bag under the bed. The bag contained cocaine and heroin powder.

The home was equipped with numerous surveillance cameras around the residence which alerted those inside to the arrival of the Fort Myers Police Department SWAT team. Inside the home law enforcement found marijuana, more cocaine, scales, and hundreds of dollars in cash.

Assistant State Attorneys Stephanie Russell and Natalie Savino handled the case. Sentencing is scheduled for July 27th. Cook faces up to 60 years in prison.



Edricka Cook

Learning About the State Attorney's Office

Staff members of the State Attorney's Office are available to speak to local students. Throughout the year we visit local classrooms and teach kids about what our office does and how the law works in Florida. We also invite local college students to volunteer at one of our offices throughout Southwest Florida. We have many volunteers who get to work closely with our prosecutors and get an education about the criminal justice system. If you would like to learn more about our programs, contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Nancy Cruz at ncruz@sao.cjis20.org or call her at 533-1000.



Office of the State Attorney

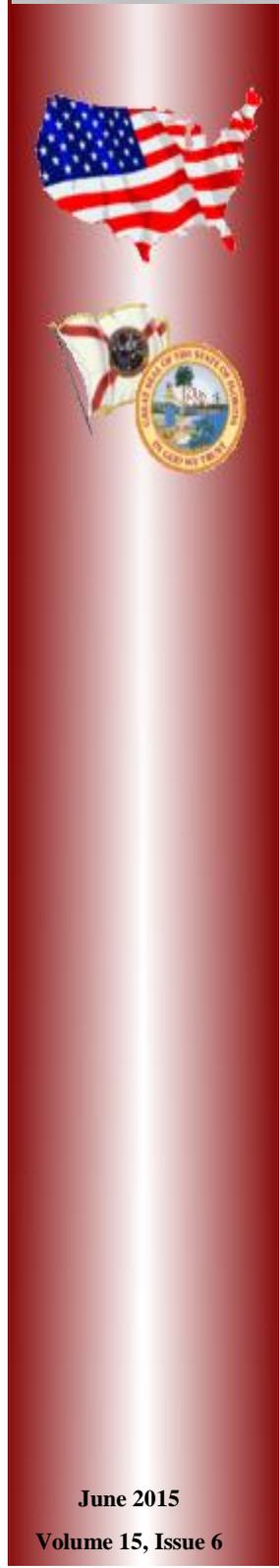
Twentieth Judicial Circuit, State of Florida

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Battery Case

Charles Harner was found guilty as charged following a trial in Lee County. Harner was found guilty of Robbery and Battery on a Person 65 Years of Age or Older and sentenced to 20 years in prison.

The crime happened outside of a restaurant on Tamiami Trail. A husband and wife had just finished eating dinner and were getting in their car. Harner ran up and tried to rip the female victim's purse off of her. Her husband tried to tackle Harner and a fight ensued. Harner got away.

After leaving the scene of the crime he fled to a nearby business where he dumped some of the contents of the purse in a men's bathroom, which were later recovered. He can be seen on surveillance video at the business and was later apprehended.

Assistant State Attorneys John Dommerich and Anthony Kunasek handled the case.



Charles Harner

Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

We are seeking sponsors for the 14th Annual State Attorney's Office Law Enforcement Appreciation Day Softball Tournament Event.

The event will be held in early 2016 at the Century Link Sports Complex. It's a free day of fun for law enforcement and their families. It's also open to the public.

Agencies from across Southwest Florida will be competing in 4 softball games on 4 fields throughout the day. There will also be carnival games, sponsor tables, great food and amazing raffle prizes.

If you want to learn about sponsorship opportunities, contact Communications Director Samantha Syoen at 239-533-1000.

All of the proceeds benefit Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers.





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GUILTY VERDICTS

ASA Dan Feinberg and Hanna Renna: Manslaughter, Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon

ASA Caitlin Sorenson: Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon

ASA's Lindsay Scott and John Grochowski: DUI

ASA's Amy D'Alessandro and Mike Colombo: Burglary of a Dwelling, Grand Theft – Prison Releasee Re-Offender

ASA Caitlin Sorenson: Battery

ASA's Stephanie Russell and Natalie Savino: Trafficking in Cocaine, Trafficking in Heroin

ASA Cassandra Quaglia: Aggravated Battery with a Deadly Weapon

ASA Cameron Siggs: Battery (Domestic Violence), Assault

ASA John Grochowski: Battery

ASA Caitlin Sorenson: Battery, Resisting without Violence

ASA Heather Searcy: Sale or Delivery of a Controlled Substance within 1,000 Feet of a School, Possession of Cocaine

ASA Abe Thornburg: Lewd or Lascivious Molestation

ASA Brenda Wade: Possession of a Firearm, Ammunition, or Concealed Weapon by a Convicted Felon – Career Criminal Conviction

ASA's Sara Hall and Jennifer Toussaint: Resisting an Officer without Violence

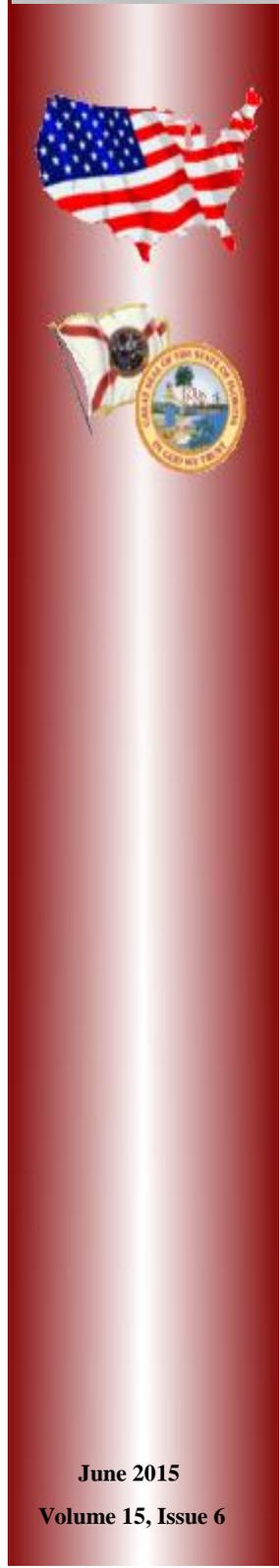




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JUNE ANNIVERSARIES:

In recognition of service to the people of Southwest Florida, and dedication to their jobs with the State Attorney’s Office, a heartfelt thank you goes to the following people on their June employment anniversary dates:

- Amy Koninski 6/02 Scott Miller 6/13
- Andrea Canizares 6/03 Yolanda Cruz 6/14
- Patricia Hartman 6/03
- Jennifer Garczewski 6/05
- Lourdes Muina 6/05
- Jennifer Toussaint 6/10
- Pamela Fitzwater 6/11
- Kyle Stublen 6/11
- Michael McNeese 6/13

SOMETIMES THEY MAKE IT EASY

A Fruitland Park, Florida man was arrested after trying to hit on a 911 operator. He called the emergency line to brag about his “big muscles” and asked the operator if she was single. The dispatcher disconnected him to free up the emergency line but he just kept calling back. He demanded to know if the woman was single. Police traced the call and found the man in a tent surrounded by beer cans. While being taken into custody he told the officer he wanted to kill him and spit on him. He learned the hard way, not to play on the phone.

