



## Stephen B. Russell, State Attorney

### The Russell Report



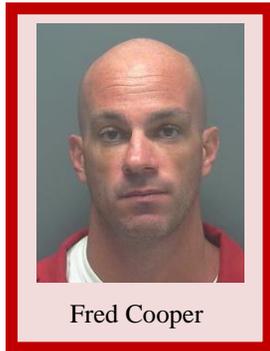
#### Motion Denied

Fred Cooper, the man found guilty of the murders of Michelle and Steven Andrews in the Gateway Community in Lee County has been denied in his Motion for Post-Conviction Relief.

Cooper was sentenced to three consecutive life sentences for the crimes nearly ten years ago. His recent motion was claiming he had ineffective counsel representing him so he could seek a new trial.

Assistant State Attorney Anthony Kunasek, one of the prosecutors who tried the original case said, "This ruling by the court brings us one-step closer to final resolution and end to this very long ordeal."

Cooper may still go to the Second District Court to see if they will change this decision. This process could take another several months.



Fred Cooper

#### Sex Offender

Defendant James Taylor was sentenced to 2 years in prison followed by 8 years of sex offender probation after pleading guilty to one count of Lewd and Lascivious Exhibition. Assistant State Attorney Jennifer Garczewski in our Charlotte County office handled the case.

Taylor must also give a DNA sample and will now be a registered sexual offender.

#### Grand Theft Case

Caryn Lingard was sentenced to 3 years in prison followed by 27 years of probation for stealing from the company she worked for, Allied Recycling. She was ordered to pay \$175,804.67 in restitution. Lingard was a cashier and stole this amount in just a few months. She would ring up several fraudulent purchases of scrap metal daily and pocket the cash.

She was actually caught in the act by detectives with the Fort Myers Police Department. While they were conducting an interview with the manager, they saw the defendant ring up a fraudulent purchase via surveillance camera.

Assistant State Attorney Michael Brown of our Economic Crime Unit handled the case.

#### In This Edition:

Page 1

\* Major Convictions

Page 2

\* Volunteering

Page 3

\* Major Convictions

Page 4

\* Guilty Verdicts

Page 5

\* Anniversaries  
\* Sometimes They Make It Easy....

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Page

### Holiday Closure

The State Attorney's Office will be closed Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> for the holiday.



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### Learning About the State Attorney's Office

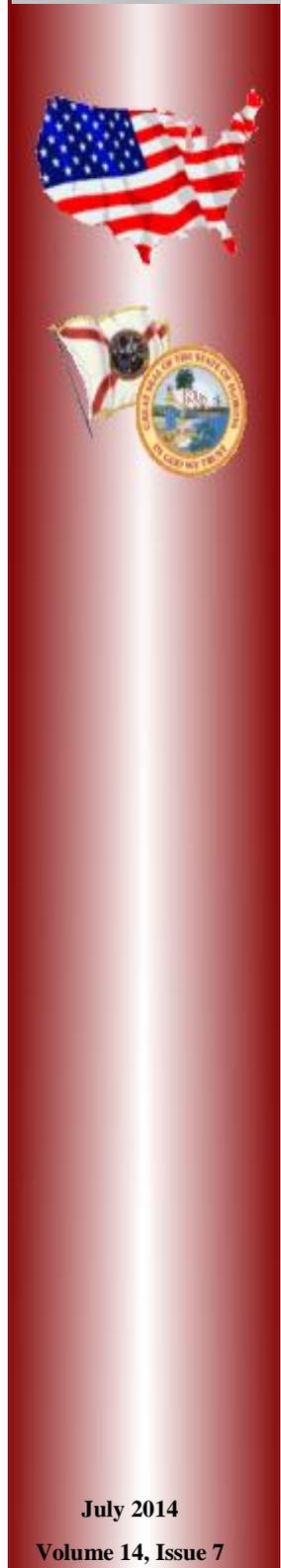
Staff members of the State Attorney's Office are available to speak to local students. Throughout the year we visit local classrooms and teach kids about what our office does and how the law works in Florida. We also invite local college students to volunteer at one of our offices throughout Southwest Florida. We have many volunteers who get to work closely with our prosecutors and get a real life 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](mailto:ncruz@sao.cjis20.org) or call her at 533-1000.





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# THE RUSSELL REPORT



## Hoax Bomb Case

Brandon Deshon was sentenced to 364 days in jail, followed by 60 months probation for Threatening to Bomb, Manufacture, Possess, Sell, Deliver or Mail a Hoax Bomb.

In July 2013, Deshon claimed to have a bomb in his car on the U.S. 41 bridge in Lee County. As part of his sentence he must also pay the Lee County Sheriff's Office for the cost of the investigation. He must also undergo a drug abuse evaluation and mental health evaluation and follow all recommended treatment. After release he must also do 300 hours of community service.

Assistant State Attorney Devin George handled the case.



Brandon Deshon

## Telemarketing Scam: Protect Yourself

You may be one of the many people who still get annoying phone calls at all hours of the day and night from telemarketers. The latest numbers from the Federal Trade Commission show Americans are robbed of more than \$40 billion dollars annually from phone scams.

These scams range from everything to high-pressured sales tactics to the offering of fake "prizes" in exchange for your money.

Here are some ways you can protect yourself according to the FTC;

- Subscribe to the Florida Do Not Call Program by calling 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352)
- You can also subscribe online at [www.fldnc.com](http://www.fldnc.com)
- You can also use the above two sources to research if a telemarketing company has had any complaints filed against them.
- Remember, never give out your credit card, bank account, or personal information over the phone unless it is to a known and trusted source.



## **THE RUSSELL REPORT**

### **GUILTY VERDICTS**

ASAs Jonathan Martin and Jennifer Gutmore: Sale/Delivery of a Controlled Substance within 1,000 ft. of a School, Possession of Cocaine

ASA Maria Berrette: Resisting Officer Without Violence

ASA Maria Berette: Disruption of School Function

ASA Mitchell Cooper: Possession of Undersized Fish

ASAs Abe Thornburg and Martin Holland: Robbery, Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer, Resisting an Officer With Violence

ASA Maria Berrette: Permitting Unauthorized Driver to Drive

ASA John Dommerich Jr.: Stalking, Aggravated Stalking

ASA John Dommerich Jr.: Child Abuse

ASA R. Harlem-Wood: Domestic Violence Battery

ASA Caitlin Sorenson: Petit Theft

ASAs Heather Searcy and Cameron Siggs: Grand Theft, Dealing in Stolen Property, False Info to a Pawnbroker

ASA John Dommerich Jr.: Robbery with a Deadly Weapon

ASAs Caitlin Sorenson and Mitchell Cooper: DUI

ASA Brenda Wade: Possession of a Firearm or Ammunition by a Convicted Felon with Actual Possession





**Stephen B. Russell, State Attorney**

**Serving Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties**

**THE RUSSELL REPORT**

**JULY 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 July employment anniversary dates:

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Dawn Greene '89     | BettyAnn Cefole '07 |
| Elaine Psaros '89   | Miranda Hagney '07  |
| Eugenie Johnson '96 | Lisa Mead '07       |
| Sharon Green '04    | Amira Fox '12       |
| Suzan Taylor '04    | Audri Graham '12    |
| Wynn Whalen '04     | Linda Oiumet '12    |
| Heidi Hazelcorn '05 | Erin Hughes '13     |
| Ray Rhodes '05      | Paul Thomas '13     |
| Devin George '06    |                     |
| Robin McCarley '06  |                     |
| Leandro Navarro '06 |                     |
| Bret Rosen '06      |                     |

**SOMETIMES THEY MAKE IT EASY**

One man has a unique way of getting out of paying his restaurant bill. He goes into an expensive restaurant and eats, then fakes a seizure after the check arrives. He has been doing this all along the eastern coast of the U.S. His seizure meals have finally caught up to him. The man was recently convicted after finding he had done it 90 times!

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An Orange County, Florida man was arrested for offering more than haircuts at his barbershop. Everything was normal during the day but on Saturday night things turned illegal. He would bring in strippers, letting them strip completely nude and served alcohol. This hot spot soon gained the attention of law enforcement who busted him. One telling sign; he had a barbershop pole out front and a stripper pole in the middle of the barbershop!