




Stephen B. Russell, State Attorney

The Russell Report



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<http://www.sao.cjis20.org/>

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Murder Sentencing

Christopher Serna was sentenced to 50 years in prison for Second Degree Murder. Serna, 38, killed 45-year-old Suzanne Bishop in 2011 in his Naples condo. Her body was found in his condo after Serna called his parents to come over.

Assistant State Attorneys Dave Scuderi and Jennifer Brown handled the case.



Christopher Serna

Elder Fraud Task Force

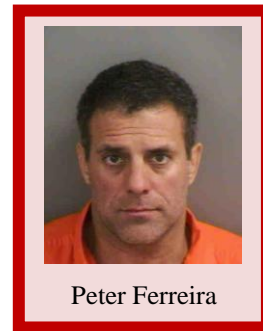
The State Attorney’s Office has started an Elder Fraud Task Force with the assistance of other local and state agencies. It is now a part of our Economic Crimes Unit.

The focus will be on any financial crime involving the elderly. The ECU and the task force are led by Assistant State Attorney James Miller.

Vehicular Homicide

Peter Ferreira was found guilty of Vehicular Homicide following a 3 day trial in Collier County. The Marco Island man killed a 91-year-old woman when he went through a stop sign and hit her car in November 2013.

44-year-old Ferreira faces up to 15 years in prison when he is sentenced. Sentencing is currently scheduled for June 26. Assistant State Attorneys Martin Stark and Katherine Rumley handled the case.



Peter Ferreira

Habitual Felony Offender

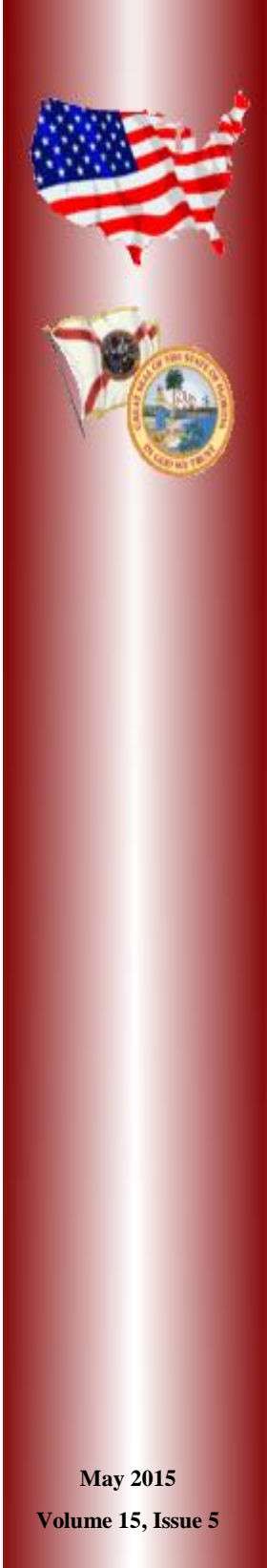
Keith Follis was sentenced to 4 years in prison for two counts of the Sale, Manufacture, or Delivery of a Controlled Substance and two counts of Possession of a Controlled Substance as a Habitual Felony Offender.

Follis is already a convicted felon with multiple prior drug sale convictions. Assistant State Attorney Garrick Soja in our Charlotte County office handled the case.



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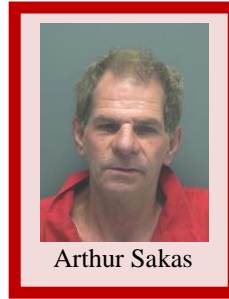
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Habitual Felony Offender

Arthur Sakas was sentenced to 4 years in prison for Burglary of a Structure and Petit Theft. The 60-year-old entered a fenced in storage compound in Fort Myers Beach where surveillance video captured him removing items from a storage room and multiple vehicles.

Later that day, the defendant was arrested for an open container and parole violation, and had some of the stolen items with him. Due to his 13 prior felonies, Sakas was sentenced as a Habitual Felony Offender by our Career Criminal Unit. Assistant State Attorney Stephanie Bendeck handled this case.



Arthur Sakas

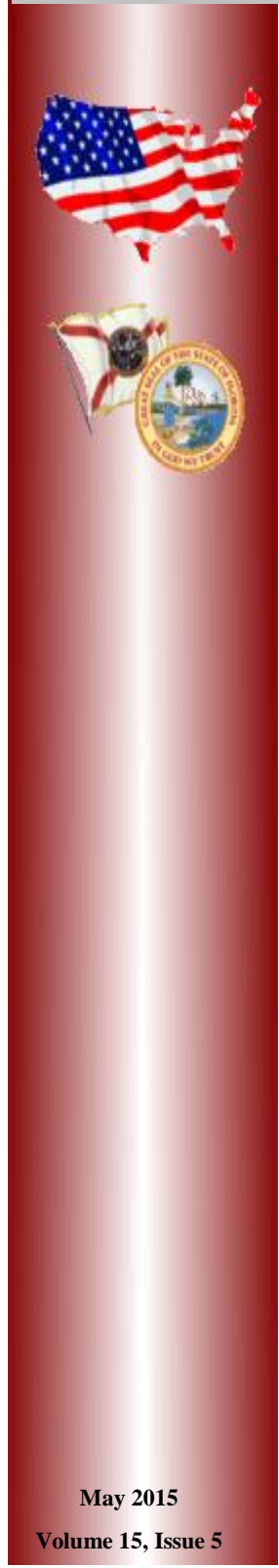
Learning About the State Attorney's Office

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.



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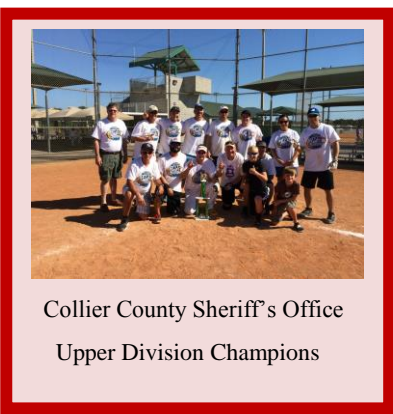
Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

We want to thank everyone who participated in and supported the 13th Annual State Attorney's Office Law Enforcement Appreciation Day Softball Tournament Event.

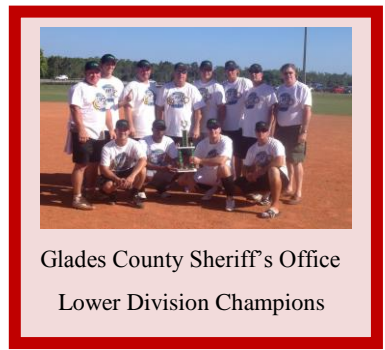
The event was held May 9th at the Century Link Sports Complex. It was a free day of fun for law enforcement and their families and was also open to the public.

Local business sponsors made the day possible and more than \$5,000 in proceeds went to benefit Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers.

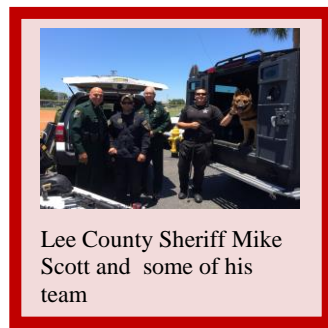
The Collier County Sheriff's Office won the upper division title. The Glades County Sheriff's Office won the lower division title.



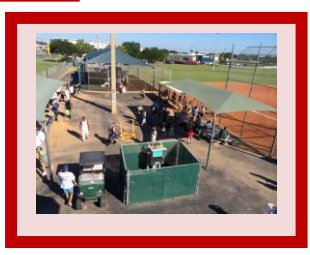
Collier County Sheriff's Office
Upper Division Champions



Glades County Sheriff's Office
Lower Division Champions



Lee County Sheriff Mike Scott and some of his team





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GUILTY VERDICTS

ASA's Steve Maresca and Deborah Cunningham: Manslaughter, Sexual Battery with Great Force – 2 counts, Burglary with a Battery – 2 counts, Grand Theft

ASA's Martin Stark and Katherine Rumley: Vehicular Homicide

ASA Garrick Soja: Sale/Manufacture/Delivery of a Controlled Substance – 2 counts, Possession of a Controlled Substance as a Habitual Felony Offender - 2 counts

ASA's Lindsay Scott and John Grochowski: DUI .15 or Above

ASA Stephen Dommerich: Driving While License Suspended 2nd or More

ASA's Clark Cary and Josh Fredrickson: Petit Theft 2nd or More

ASA's Lisa DiFilippo and Laura Mason: Battery

ASA's Mike Colombo and Brad Willard: Driving While License Suspended (Habitual Revocation), Flee to Elude Law Enforcement Officers with Lights and Sirens

ASA Caitlin Sorenson: Burglary of a Structure, First Degree Petit Theft

ASA John Grochowski: Petit Theft

ASA's Brian Mortenson and Jennifer Toussaint: Aggravated Battery

ASA's Sabsina Karimi and Jennifer Toussaint: Felony Petit Theft, Resisting a Merchant, Trespass

ASA's Brian Mortenson and James Stewart: Aggravated Battery





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Serving Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties

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MAY 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 May employment anniversary dates:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Rosemarie Mitchell '90 | Joseph Howard '11 |
| Claudia Stewart '95 | Michael Colombo '12 |
| Faith Hall '02 | Maria Berrette '13 |
| Christopher Klink '03 | Erica Carr '13 |
| Shannone Doolity '04 | Amber Datko '13 |
| Ronald Smith '05 | |
| Ketty Martinez '06 | |
| Amanda Lasher '09 | |
| Abraham Thornburg '09 | |
| Erin Lee '10 | |
| Tammy Boring '11 | |

SOMETIMES THEY MAKE IT EASY

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A woman in Ocala went shopping with a credit card taken from a stolen purse. During her shopping expedition, she attempted to buy \$430 worth of beauty supplies. When the clerk asked for identification, she, of course, had none. The store clerk allowed her to complete the transaction with one condition, if he could take her picture while holding the credit card. Smiling for the camera, she agreed. The clerk later gave authorities the photo when it was determined the card was stolen. The glamour thief pled to two years of probation, 100 community service hours, and court costs.