



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Monday, March 26, 2018

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Sheriff's Office Employee Arrested for Grand Theft

On February 14, Sheriff Rick Staly received allegations that a civilian employee, Nancy Birdsong, had been falsifying her timesheets. Sheriff Staly immediately ordered a criminal investigation that resulted in Birdsong's arrest today for grand theft. Birdsong was suspended without pay pending an internal investigation by the Flagler County Sheriff's Office.

The investigation revealed questionable entries, discrepancies and omissions on Birdsong's timesheet related to her use of time off to include sick time, vacation leave, personal leave, comp time and the use of FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act) time. The issues were discovered after Birdsong's supervisor, Sgt. John Bray, was reassigned to another unit and her interim supervisor, Commander Brian Pasquariello, was reviewing timesheets submitted by courthouse personnel. The timesheets submitted by Birdsong contained inconsistencies indicating that Birdsong was at work, which resulted in her being paid her regular salary on days when she did not report to work.

After a thorough investigation by a Sheriff's investigator, which determined a total of \$1,577.61 had been unlawfully compensated to Birdsong through fraudulent timesheet entries, the State Attorney's Office filed a charge of grand theft on Birdsong. She was booked into the Flagler County Detention Facility around 4:40 p.m. Monday afternoon. The warrant ordered her released on her own recognizance after being booked.

"I was elected to restore the professionalism and public trust of the agency," Sheriff Staly said. "It is disappointing that an employee was stealing from the taxpayers and tarnishing the good reputation of the many dedicated and hardworking employees that serve this community with integrity every day. Criminal activity will not be tolerated regardless of who the suspect is or where they work. We will be asking for full restitution as part of the sentence."

Birdsong began her career with the Flagler County Sheriff's Office on July 1, 1998. She was a Civilian Clerk III in the Civil Process and Fugitive Unit at the Flagler County Courthouse.

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