



CITY OF CLEARWATER

POST OFFICE BOX 4748, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33758-4748
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POLICE DEPARTMENT

RELEASE # 10-114

July 28, 2010

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DOCTOR'S BOOKKEEPER ARRESTED FOR SCHEME TO DEFRAUD

WHO: Laurene Jones (Arrested)
DOB: 3-26-73
Hudson, Fla.

Dr. Anthony Sankoorikal (Victim)
Florida Sports Medicine (Victim)

WHAT: Scheme to Defraud (1st degree – over \$100,000)
Scheme to Defraud (3rd degree)

WHEN: May 2006 – September 2009

WHERE: 2655 SR 580, Suite 201
Clearwater, Fla.

SUMMARY: While employed at the above two doctor offices, the defendant redirected insurance reimbursement checks to her personal banking account. The defendant was employed as a book keeping/receptionist in both offices. One of her responsibilities was to log the reimbursement checks received from various insurance companies. The defendant was able to retain and endorse some of the checks either using a signature stamp or forging the doctors' signatures. She would then make the checks payable to herself and deposit them into her personal accounts. The investigation started with a theft of petty cash and questionable checks at Dr. Sankoorikal's office. However, detectives determined the suspect had stolen over \$118,000 from Dr. Sankoorikal's Office and approximately \$7,000 from Florida Sports Medicine, her previous employer. The defendant was charged with two counts of Scheme to Defraud.





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The suspect was arrested in Pasco County on a Clearwater warrant. She was transported to Pinellas County Jail yesterday.

