

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE Walt McNeil, Sheriff

2825 Municipal Way Tallahassee, FL 32304 www.leoncountyso.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Deputy Dave Teems Date: November 28, 2018

LCSO Arrests Employee for Credit Card Fraud

The Leon County Sheriff's Office arrested 47 year old Cassandra Austin, an LCSO civilian employee, today. LCSO detectives were made aware of possible fraud related issues by other employees in October of 2018.

Austin was contacted in July, 2018, by a male unknown to her through a dating website. In September 2018, the male asked Austin to pick up cellular phones he had purchased and ship them to him overseas. In October 2018, the male sent Austin three separate credit cards through the mail. He asked her to purchase various electronics and gift cards. He then asked her to ship them to him overseas.

The total loss in this investigation was \$12,454.94. Another \$9,904.96 in charges were attempted but were declined at the point of sale.

The victims in this investigation are from New Jersey, South Carolina, and Connecticut.

Austin turned herself into the Leon County Detention Facility today. Austin is on administrative leave pending an internal investigation, per agency policy.

ARRESTED: Cassandra Sirena Austin 04/03/1971

CHARGES:

Fraudulent Use of Personal ID to Obtain more than \$5,000 Organized Scheme to Defraud, Over \$20,000 but less than \$50,000 Grand Theft, over \$20,000 but less than \$100,000 Fraudulent Use of Credit Card, 2 or more times in 6 months

Attachment: Probable Cause Affidavit







