

Department of Justice

Acting United States Attorney Benjamin C. Glassman Southern District of Ohio

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FORMER REYNOLDSBURG POLICE OFFICER AGREES TO PLEAD GUILTY TO CIVIL RIGHTS CHARGES, FEDERAL PROGRAM THEFT

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Shane M. Mauger, 41, of Columbus, has agreed to plead guilty in U.S. District Court to conspiracy to deprive persons of civil rights and federal program theft.

Benjamin C. Glassman, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, Angela L. Byers, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Cincinnati Field Division, John F. Oleskowicz, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General, Chicago Field Office, Joseph P. Reagan, Special Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine announced the case today.

According to the statement of facts, Mauger was employed as a police officer with the Reynoldsburg Division of Police during the time of his offenses. Since at least November 2006, Mauger conspired with at least one other person to steal money and property in his capacity as a police officer. The money and property he stole came from the execution of search warrants, the execution of consent searches and other police actions. In total, the conspirators stole between \$150,000 and \$250,000 of money and property.

Mauger and at least one other person also filed false paperwork as part of the conspiracy. Mauger caused search warrant affidavits to be submitted to judges, knowing the affidavits contained false statements. For example, Mauger caused an affidavit to be filed that stated marijuana had been found in a trash pull at a residence, which he knew that in fact no marijuana had been found. He then participated in the execution of a resulting search warrant, which he knew was based on false information. Mauger also conspired with at least one other person to cause police reports to underreport how much money had been found in search warrants. The police reports excluded the amount of money the conspirators unlawfully seized.

By stealing money and property and by causing false statements to be made in affidavits in support of search warrants, Mauger oppressed persons' Fourth and Fourteenth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures and their Fourteenth Amendment right not to be deprived of property without due process of law.

Each of the crimes carries a potential maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

An arraignment hearing is yet to be scheduled in U.S. District Court.

Acting U.S. Attorney Glassman commended the investigation of this case by the FBI, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), Department of Justice OIG and DEA and Assistant United States Attorneys Peter K. Glenn-Applegate, Salvador A. Dominguez, and Jessica W. Knight, who are representing the United States in this case.