



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL Department of Homeland Security

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OIG Investigation Helps to Nab DHS “Agent” Impersonator

Orlando, FL.— A fugitive felon posing as a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) “agent” was arrested on September 26, 2012 in Winter Park, FL, following an investigation in which DHS Office of Inspector General (OIG) agents played a key role. The suspect, Thomas W. Connors, was wanted on several felony probation violations, including attempted murder of a law enforcement officer, felony assault, and several felony fraud charges in Florida.

The OIG’s Orlando field office, assisted by the San Diego field office, started its investigation in August 2012 when the Orange County (FL.) Sheriff’s Office (OCSO) alerted OIG agents. Connors had contacted OSCO and identified himself as “DHS Agent Thomas Morgan” to report criminal activity at his girlfriend’s apartment complex. He then attempted to gather law enforcement activity information concerning that location from the OCSO Intelligence Unit.

The OIG Forensic Threat Analysis Unit conducted an intelligence investigation which identified Connors and narrowed locations in which he might be apprehended. In the course of the investigation, the OIG and its law enforcement partners, the United States Marshals Service (USMS) and the OCSO Intelligence Unit, discovered that Connors unlocked cellular phones for a local communications company. They determined that, as part of his impersonation of a Federal agent, Connors had equipped his personal car with emergency lights and posed as an FBI agent to threaten local competing cellular phone companies with a shutdown.

The OIG’s Orlando field office is working with the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Middle District of Florida to determine for additional charges against Connors.

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