

JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

6255 ALAWAY AVENUE ○ JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

Greg Browning
Chief of Police

Committed to Service and Excellence

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INFORMATION RELEASE

Subject: Burglary and Forgery

Date: 01/28/2008

From: Sgt. Campbell

Case or Incident #: 2007-039360

Summary:

On 11/13/2007, at approximately 10:21 am, the Juneau Police Department received a report that 45 payroll checks were missing from a downtown business. At the time of the report, nine of the checks had been forged and cleared through various banks. The nine checks totaled \$8,935.61.

On 11/13/2007, at approximately 3:25 pm, the Juneau Police Department was notified that Cindy HOTCH was attempting to cash one of the checks at a downtown bank. Upon the officer's arrival, HOTCH fled the bank on foot. A short foot pursuit ensued and HOTCH was caught, detained, and arrested. HOTCH was lodged at the Lemon Creek Correction Center on no bail for Forgery in the Second Degree and Theft in the Second Degree, both C felonies.

The subsequent investigation revealed that the theft of the checks involved Heather SCHIMANSKI and Nicole RICHERT. In essence, RICHERT was a former employee of the business and provided SCHIMANSKI with the keys to the business. SCHIMANSKI used the keys to access the business and steal the payroll checks. The checks were forged and cashed by Cindy HOTCH, Heather SCHIMANSKI, Joycelyn WHITE, and Mark NASH under the direction of Vonnie WILLIAMS. The total amount of the cashed checks was \$18,257.60.

On 01/03/2008, Heather SCHIMANSKI was arrested for Forgery 2nd degree while attempting to cash a check taken during another burglary. After further investigation she was charged with Burglary 2nd degree, Theft 2nd degree and Forgery 2nd degree in this case.

On 01/28/2008, Mark NASH was arrested for Forgery 2nd degree

On 01/19/2008 Nicole RICHERT was arrested for aiding and abet Burglary 2nd degree

Any charges reported in this press release are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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On 01/26/2008, Vonnie WILLIAMS was arrested for 14 counts of Theft 2nd degree

There is an outstanding arrest warrant for Joycelyn WHITE for Forgery 2nd degree.

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