



FUGITIVE ALERT

Paul Alan Menzel



Date of Birth: May 22, 1956
White Male, 5'10", 160
County of Residence: Miami-Dade County
Last Known Address: 9411 SW 4th Street, #302, Miami, FL

ALERT ADVISORY – December 23, 2005

PAUL ALAN MENZEL is a FUGITIVE from justice. A warrant for his arrest was issued in Miami-Dade County for one count of Organized Scheme to Defraud and one count of Grand Theft, First Degree.

Menzel and co-defendant, JOHN STEPHEN WALTERS, are both charged in a 2002 mortgage fraud scheme involving the theft of almost \$1 million. Walters was arrested by detectives with the Florida Department of Financial Services on December 20, 2005. Walters is currently being held in the Miami-Dade County Jail on a \$1 million bond. Menzel was not found and is believed to be in hiding somewhere in South Florida and may be working in a title agency as a contract processor or closer.

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Menzel, a former contract closer employed by Title Company of the South, allegedly diverted an escrow account check of more than \$997,000 made out to Butler & Hosch, PA, an Orlando law firm. The check was intended to pay an outstanding mortgage loan for a home on Paloma Drive, but instead Menzel diverted the check to John Walters, the corporate representative of the property seller, A Auto Insurance. Then, between December 2002 and February 2003, Walters opened a checking account at Ocean Bank in the name of Butler & Hosch Corp - Trust Account, and deposited the stolen check by forging the endorsement. Detectives said Walters bought a new car, paid personal debts, and had repairs made to his home. Menzel received more than \$37,000 from the proceeds. As a result of the theft, the prior lender foreclosed on the new owner, and Title Company of the South was put out of business.

If you have any information on the current whereabouts of PAUL ALAN MENZEL, you are asked to contact your local law enforcement agency or the Florida Department of Financial Services, Fraud Division immediately.

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