



Department of Justice

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**U.S. ATTORNEY PRESENTS \$2,671,824.73
TO THE VOLUSIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill, along with James Casey, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation today announce the distribution of criminally forfeited funds to Volusia County Sheriff Ben F. Johnson for Volusia County Bureau of Investigation's (VBI) participation in the successful prosecution of Jive Network, Inc. Pursuant to the Department of Justice Equitable Sharing Program, a check will be presented to the Volusia County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$2,671,824.73 . The presentation of funds took place today at the Volusia County Sheriff's Office Deputy Stephen Saboda Training Center in Daytona Beach, FL.

Jive Network, Inc., owned and operated by Jude LaCour, used the Internet to distribute and dispense prescription drugs to customers unlawfully. According to court documents and evidence at trial, Jive Network, Inc. distributed controlled substances and other prescription drugs to customers located across the United States who did not have prescriptions. Jive Network, Inc. sold controlled substances, mostly stimulants (Phentermine, Adipex-P, Ionamin, Meridia, Tehuate) and depressants (Valium, Xanax, Diazepam, and Alprazolam), using Internet websites and customer service representatives who were located at its office in Daytona Beach, Florida. Customers, who had no

prescriptions, accessed the websites and purchased the controlled substances, including the cost of shipping, with a credit card or by money order. The customers also completed a short health history questionnaire. Jive Network, Inc. did not verify the customers' identities or the information on the questionnaires and did not require the customers to submit any medical records during the ordering process.

As proved at trial, Jive Network, Inc.'s doctors approved and issued drug orders, not in the course of diagnosing and treating medical conditions, but to facilitate the distribution of drugs pre-selected by customers and for the doctors' own personal profit. Jive Network, Inc. paid the doctors a fee for each questionnaire they reviewed. Jive Network, Inc.'s doctors unlawfully approved and issued "prescription" drug orders outside the usual course of their professional practice and for no legitimate medical purpose. The "prescriptions" they issued for Jive Network, Inc. customers were invalid.

Jive Network, Inc. also recruited pharmacists who filled the orders and shipped the drugs to the customers throughout the United States via Federal Express. Jive Network, Inc.'s pharmacists and their pharmacies often were not licensed in the states to which they shipped drugs.

The organization distributed approximately 4.8 million dosage units of Schedule III controlled substances and approximately 39.2 million dosage units of Schedule IV controlled substances to Internet customers who had no valid prescriptions. During the three-year conspiracy, Jive Network, Inc. received well over 500,000 customer orders for controlled substances and illegally generated revenue in excess of \$85 million.

VBI provided critical assistance during the investigation in conducting witness interviews, executing federal search warrants and in completing the initial financial

investigation into Jive Network, Inc. and its operators. VBI is a multi-agency task force that pools resources from local, state and federal law enforcement agencies in order to target mid- and upper-level narcotics traffickers as well as racketeering and organized crime. Participating agencies include the Volusia County Sheriff's Office, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Daytona Beach Police Department, Daytona Beach Shores Department of Public Safety, Port Orange Police Department, New Smyrna Beach Police Department and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. VBI is also part of the Central Florida High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), which is a multi-agency task force established by the U.S. Office of National Drug Control Policy to combat drug trafficking along the seven-county area hugging Central Florida's I-4 corridor.

The case was investigated jointly by the Volusia Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal Revenue Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Food and Drug Administration and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Karen L. Gable and Assistant United States Attorney Daniel C. Irick. The forfeitures were prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Nicole M. Andrejko. In all, over \$12 million was forfeited by the United States from various financial accounts. The U.S. Marshals Service was responsible for asset management and disposal of the forfeited assets.

Under federal forfeiture laws, criminals can be stripped of those assets which are used illegally or purchase with proceeds of illegal activity. The Asset Forfeiture Program takes the profit out of crime and the Equitable Sharing Program provides crime-fighting resources to state and local law enforcement. Asset forfeiture and equitable sharing are valuable law enforcement tools that send a clear message that crime does not pay.

