



DenverDA

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NEWS RELEASE

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ID THIEVES CHARGED IN 115-COUNT INDICTMENT

A group of identity thieves who used the file-sharing software LimeWire to help them steal tens of thousands of dollars over the last year has been indicted by a Denver Grand Jury.

The 115-count indictment charges eight people with a variety of crimes including racketeering, computer crime, aggravated motor vehicle theft, theft, forgery, criminal impersonation, identity theft and drug charges.

The indictment alleges that **Michael Sarrasin** (dob: 05-16-79), **Shawn Adams** (dob: 08-31-74), and **Tamara Stesney** (dob: 11-22-70) were the primary makers and distributors of stolen and counterfeit checks and counterfeit identification for the group and that the group's common goal was to obtain and use methamphetamine as well as steal money and merchandise for personal use.

The indictment alleges that the group was able to use file-sharing software to access names and account information from personal and business accounts across the country, and then use that information to open new bank accounts in the Denver area. The indictment alleges they created phony IDs to match the accounts and then used the accounts to deposit counterfeit checks and withdraw money.

Losses are estimated at more than \$70,000 to victims that include King Soopers, Kohl's, Academy Bank and Grand Kia. Investigators were able to recover counterfeit checks for more than \$100,000 that had not yet been used.

Others charged are:

Joe Fleming (dob: 12-24-72), in custody in the Denver County Jail, bond is set at \$20,000
Kelly Coon (dob: 08-15-80), at-large
Paiten Cook (dob: 01-19-79), in custody in the Denver County Jail, bond is set at \$20,000
Kevin Voeltz (dob: 09-28-75), in custody in the Denver County Jail, bond is set at \$15,000
Ryan Secrest (dob: 07-11-82), in custody in the Jefferson County Jail, bond is set at \$20,000

Sarrasin is in custody in the Denver County Jail (bond is set at \$250,000), Adams is in custody in the Denver County Jail (bond is set at \$200,000) and Stesney is in custody in the Adams County Jail (bond is set at \$150,000). Court appearance dates are pending.

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