

U. S. Department of Justice

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THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA COLLECTS \$4.3 MILLION DOLLARS IN CIVIL AND CRIMINAL ACTIONS IN FISCAL YEAR 2022

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA - Jason R. Coody, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Florida announced today that the Northern District of Florida collected \$4,367,699.63 in criminal and civil actions in Fiscal Year 2022. Of this amount, \$3,831,162.71 was collected in criminal actions and \$536,536.92 was collected in civil actions.

"These impressive numbers are the result of the hard work by our office's civil and criminal divisions, and strong coordination with our federal, state, and local law enforcement partners," said U.S. Attorney Coody. "This office will always seek to recover every dollar possible from those who engage in illegal activities so that those funds can be restored to the federal treasury, and help victims recover from crimes perpetrated against them."

The Northern District of Florida Criminal Division collected \$1,270,500.00 from John Thomas Burnette following his conviction at trial and sentencing for a multi-year scheme involving extortion, fraud, and bribery.

In July of 2022, the Northern District of Florida Civil Division obtained \$130,000 as part of a settlement with Ahmad Ismail to resolve potential violations under the Controlled Substances Act, including allegations that Ismail failed to maintain complete and accurate records of controlled substance inventory, and dispensation.

Additionally, the U.S. Attorney's office in Northern District of Florida, working with partner agencies and divisions, collected \$3,128,304 in assets which had been tainted by crime. Forfeited assets deposited into the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund are used to restore funds to crime victims and for a variety of law enforcement purposes.

The U.S. Attorneys' Offices, along with the department's litigating divisions, are responsible for enforcing and collecting civil and criminal debts owed to the U.S. and criminal debts owed to federal crime victims. The law requires defendants to pay restitution to victims of certain federal

crimes who have suffered a physical injury or financial loss. While restitution is paid to the victim, criminal fines and felony assessments are paid to the department's Crime Victims Fund, which distributes the funds collected to federal and state victim compensation and victim assistance programs.

For more information about the Crime Victims Fund, please visit https://ovc.ojp.gov/about/crime-victims-fund.

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Florida is one of 94 offices that serve as the nation's principal litigators under the direction of the Attorney General. To access public court documents online, please visit the <u>U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida</u> website. For more information about the U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Florida, visit http://www.justice.gov/usao/fln/index.html.

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