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REDDING POLICE DEPARTMENT
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PRESS RELEASE

February 19, 2010

Case No. 10-7788

On February 3, 2010, Investigators with the Redding Police Department, the Shasta County District Attorney's Office and the Shasta County Sheriff's Department initiated an investigation concerning Anthony James Garceau, 43 years of Redding, for engaging in fraudulent real estate transactions.

The joint investigation revealed that Garceau made offers to purchase approximately \$7,000,000.00 in real estate properties in Shasta County without the funds to make the purchases. He then represented himself as the owner of one of these properties and fraudulently obtained a victim's vehicle in a pending trade for the property. Garceau also attempted to obtain several other items belonging to the victim in the fraudulent deal.

Investigators ultimately obtained an arrest warrant for Garceau and a search warrant for his residence. The arrest warrant charged Garceau with financial elder abuse, theft by false pretenses, grand theft and vehicle theft. Investigators served the search warrant at Garceau's residence on February 11, 2010, but Garceau was not home.

On February 13, 2010, Garceau was located in the Bend, Oregon area and was arrested for this warrant by the Deschutes County Sheriff's Department. Investigators believe Garceau fled to Oregon after learning that Investigators served a search warrant at his residence. Garceau has since been transferred to the Shasta County Jail.

Information indicates that Garceau has been involved in similar frauds with Shasta County victims as far back as 2004. There may also be additional victims of similar crimes in Oregon and Texas. If anyone has information concerning similar activity involving Garceau, please notify the Redding Police Investigation's Division at (530) 225-4214.

**Contact: Investigator Eric Little
Investigation Division
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225-4214**

Reviewed by: 315