

OHIO BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

CASE # 2014-28-2039

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Investigator: **David Wood**

Phone: (513) 742-7529

Case Date: 11/21/2014

Office: **District 3 Southwest**

County: **Hamilton**

Case Status: **Closed - Inactive**

Address: **10948 Hamilton Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45231**

COMPLAINANT: **Culver, Lyndsey**

Complainant Type: **BMV Deputy Registrar/License Bureau**

SSN: - -

Relationship to Suspect: **Unknown**

DOB:

Agency #: **3150**

Driver License #:

Agency Name:

Home Phone:

Address:

Work Phone: (513) 742-2477

Cell Phone:

SUSPECT: [REDACTED]

Dealer #:

SSN: [REDACTED]

Business:

Occupation:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Agency #:

Driver License #: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Home Phone:

[REDACTED] OH 45217

Work Phone: [REDACTED]

Cell Phone: [REDACTED]

Height: 5' 9" Weight: 212 Eyes: Brown Hair: Black Gender: M Age: 44

Dealer #:

SSN: [REDACTED]

Business: **Uno Tax LLC dba
Fiesta Auto Insurance**

Occupation: **Owner**

DOB: [REDACTED]

Agency #:

Driver License #: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Home Phone:

[REDACTED] i, OH 45240

Work Phone:

Cell Phone:

Height: 5' 6" Weight: 220 Eyes: Brown Hair: Brown Gender: F Age: 28

	Evidence Type	Evidence Description	Qty
1	Social Security Card	Fraudulent SOC [REDACTED]	1.00
2	BMV 5701 Certificate of Registration	App# 058134EO	1.00
3	BMV 5736 Power of Attorney	[REDACTED]	1.00

Narrative

BACKGROUND OF INVESTIGATION

On 11/19/14 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] went to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) Deputy Registrar (DR) agency# 3150, located at 1214 W. Kemper Rd, Cincinnati OH, 45240, and attempted to obtain new Ohio registration via power-of-attorney (POA) for a 1997 Ford Mustang, vehicle identification number (VIN) 1FALP4045VF184509. The

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person-granting-authority (PGA) was allegedly [REDACTED] OH, 45216. [REDACTED] per BMV regulations, presented the clerk at DR3150 with [REDACTED] Social Security (SOC) card. This card was clearly and obviously fraudulent, lacking many of the security features of a legitimate SOC card. The transaction was completed but the suspect SOC card was seized along with the Ohio Title, 3107400180, for the Mustang. An Investigative Review (IR) was filed with BMV Investigations.

INVESTIGATIVE ACTIONS

11/21/14: I searched Driver License System (DLS) and Vehicle Registration System (VRS) records using the suspect SOC, [REDACTED]. There has never been an Ohio Driver License or Identification Card (OLN) issued that is associated with this SOC. There was an Ohio registration, FXB1010, issued on 7/15/13 for a 1997 Ford Explorer, VIN 1FMDU24E4VUC95073 at DR3129 located at 7990 Reading Rd #3, Cincinnati OH, 45237. I sent a request for a copy of this application to BMV Record Retention to see if [REDACTED] was involved in that transaction, too. In searching Automated Title Processing System (ATPS) records by VIN I noted that [REDACTED] is no longer the owner of this vehicle. The title has passed through several owners since he sold or transferred title to it.

I pulled a copy of Ohio Title# 3107400180 from Electronic Data Imaging System (EDIS) records. The previous Ohio Title, 3107392169, was issued 11/7/14 to [REDACTED] OH, 45246. The assignment section and the application for certificate of title sections on the back of [REDACTED] title were both notarized by [REDACTED] on 11/19/14. [REDACTED] had purchased the vehicle from Austin's Auto. This dealership, located at 8000 Vine St, Cincinnati OH, 45216, has sold vehicles to numerous persons who were later identified as illegal aliens. In at least one case (see below) the titling and registration of one of these vehicles was handled by [REDACTED].

I have investigated [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] previously known as [REDACTED] for involvement in helping illegal aliens obtain Ohio Titles and registrations (see case# 2012-28-1975, 2013-45-1736 and 2013-28-2298). [REDACTED] is the owner of a licensed used motor vehicle dealership, Owens Auto. He has previously told me that he runs titles and registrations as a way of gaining additional business for his dealership. Both CMS case 2013-45-1736 and 2013-28-2298 involved [REDACTED] bringing fraudulent SOC cards to a BMV DR in an attempt to get registration for a suspected illegal alien using an assumed identity. This is the third case involving [REDACTED] bringing a fraudulent SOC card to a DR in order to get registration for a client. [REDACTED] is the owner of Uno Tax LLC dba Fiesta Auto Insurance which is in the same shopping plaza as DR3150. She has previously admitted to me that she charges a \$250 service fee to her insurance clients to title and register their vehicles. [REDACTED] said she offered this service as a way of gaining additional customers for her business.

At 0840 hours I called BMV Titling Support and spoke with Ellis Ford about placing an administrative hold on the Mustang associated with Ohio Title# 3107400180. Ellis said that these requests are handled by him and Erin Wheeler but stated that Wheeler was out until after the new year on a medical leave. I sent the request for administrative hold directly to Ford. A printed copy of this request was added to the case file.

11/28/14: At 0930 hours I called [REDACTED] cell phone, [REDACTED], and left a voice message requesting he contact me as soon as possible. Immediately after hanging up I called his work phone, [REDACTED], and left a matching message. At approximately 0940 hours [REDACTED] called back. He insisted that he didn't realize the most recent SOC card he presented on 11/19/14 at DR3150 was fraudulent. [REDACTED] stated that he charges roughly \$90 to title and register a vehicle. The total cost of this process in Hamilton County is \$69.50. The extra \$20 or so goes to pay for his lunch and gas money. I pressed him about the matter of illegals and fraudulent VRs and he admitted that he has asked many customers of his dealership, Owens Auto, about how they got an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) and Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) prior to buying a car from him in a business name. [REDACTED] said the three primary companies that helped his customers get the ITIN and FEIN are Agencia Hidalgo, Tico Tax and Automundo. He even knew about Automundo titling and registering the cars in Automundo's name rather than the customer (see case# 2014-45-1487). [REDACTED] customers told him that they'd paid up to \$300 for titling and registration through these companies. [REDACTED] stated that he only knows [REDACTED] through her advertisements in Spanish language newspapers and said her husband used to handle all his notarizations because his bank in Carthage didn't have an on-staff notary for a long period of time. [REDACTED] said he and the [REDACTED] don't have a personal relationship of any kind. I told [REDACTED] to give my name and phone number to any of his customers that might be willing to talk to me about Agencia Hidalgo, Tico Tax and Automundo. He said he'll try but doubts seriously that any of them will call me because they're afraid of getting arrested or deported.

12/19/14: I re-sent my request for a copy of VR application 651545DU to Record Retention. Once received I will do a signature comparison to make sure the applicant in both cases was the same person using the fraudulent SOC card.

12/22/14: I went to [REDACTED] OH, 45246, the address used by the applicant as his

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residence. No one answered my knock at the door to that apartment or the one across the hall. I left a business card in the door jam. I stopped at the rental office and confirmed that no one named [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] is listed on the lease for the apartment. The property manager wouldn't provide me with the name of the actual tenant or advise if the apartment was even rented. She did mention that the complex is nearly 100% full.

12/23/14: I received VR app# 651545DU and compared the POA grantor's signature on it with the same person's signature on the VR app from 11/19/14. The signatures appear to have been made by different hands. The former is signed in script, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] while the other is printed in block letters, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Due to the difference in signatures

I have previously discussed the issue of POA using fraudulent Social Security cards with the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office. That office refuses to prosecute the POA since it is impossible to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the POA knowingly presented a fraudulent document. That office also won't charge the "applicant" unless the true identity of the suspected illegal alien can be determined.

2/27/15: I searched ATPS to check the status of the hold on Ohio Title# 3107400180 that I'd requested months ago. This title wasn't on hold as requested and is still titled to [REDACTED]. I placed the title on Administrative Hold in ATPS. I sent an email requesting permission to cancel Ohio registration GJB7407 which was the registration issued on 11/19/14 that opened this investigation.

3/4/15: After receiving permission to immediately cancel Ohio registration GJB7407 from BMV Investigations Chief Darren Lucas I canceled this registration in Vehicle Registration System (VRS) Lucas' email was printed and added to the case file.

Summary