



Illegal auto insurance arrests, Eight people face 97 charges

Broadcast time: 11:10

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Fraud Squad

416-808-7300

Through investigations which began December 1, 2005, the Toronto Police Fraud Squad, Toronto Strategic Partnership, members of 33 Division and various insurance industry members, have arrested eight people in a joint effort to combat province-wide concern about the growing number of illegally insured drivers.

It is alleged that:

- during 2005 and 2006, these people were involved in the production and sale of illegal insurance policies and insurance cards,
- a large number of insurance brokers and company names were plagiarized in the operation and sale of the fraudulent slips to people across Ontario.

The Toronto Strategic Partnership is a multi-law-enforcement-agency response to Mass Marketing Fraud. It includes the Toronto Police Service, Ontario Provincial Police, Phonebusters, York Regional Police Service, RCMP-GTA Commercial Crime Section, Competition Bureau, Ministry of Government Services formerly MCBS, Federal Trade Commission, U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the U.K. Office of Fair Trading.

Other agencies and private sector members who were involved include Peel Regional Police, London Police Service, Waterloo Regional Police Service, Canada Post, Insurance Bureau of Canada, Registered Insurance Brokers of Ontario, Financial Services Commission of Ontario and the Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario.

Charged are:

1. Angel Eduardo Santi, 45, North York, with:

- Two counts of Fraud Over \$5,000,
- Engage in an act constituting the business of insurance in Ontario without a licence,
- Five counts of Fraud Under \$5,000,

- Five counts of Uttering Forged Document,
- Possession Property Obtain by Crime.

He is scheduled to appear in court on Friday, April 28, 2006, Old City Hall, 10 a.m.

2. Jamin Wong, 26, Oakville, with:

- Two counts of Fraud Over \$5,000,
- Engage in an act constituting the business of insurance in Ontario without a licence.

He is scheduled to appear in court on Friday, May 5, 2006, 80 The East Mall, room 202.

3. Milton Teran, 50, North York, with:

- Fraud Over \$5,000,
- Engage in an act constituting the business of insurance in Ontario without a licence,
- Drive while under Suspension,
- Operate Motor Vehicle without Insurance.

He is scheduled to appear at Old City Hall courts on Friday, April 28, 2006, at 10 a.m.

4. Juan Ojeda, 48, North York, with:

- Fraud Over \$5,000,
- Engage in an act constituting the business of insurance in Ontario without a licence,
- Drive while under Suspension,
- Operate Motor Vehicle without Insurance.

He is scheduled to appear at Old City Hall courts on Friday, April 28, 2006, at 9 a.m.

5. Heather Phillip, 38, Toronto, with:

- 12 counts of Fraud under \$5,000,
- 12 counts of Uttering Forged Document,
- 12 counts of Theft under \$5,000,
- Fraud over \$5,000,
- Theft over \$5,000.

She is scheduled to appear at College Park courts on Friday, April 28, 2006, at 9 a.m.

6. Venelin Gavrilov, 40, Toronto, with:

- Three counts of Fraud over \$5,000,
- Three counts of Forgery,
- Three counts of Uttering Forged Document,
- Possession of Instruments of Forgery,
- Three counts of Operate Motor Vehicle without Insurance.

He is scheduled to appear at Old City Hall courts on Thursday, May 11, 2006, at 10 a.m.

7. Bosko Kostovski, 25, Toronto, with:

- Eight counts of Uttering Forged Documents,
- Eight counts of Fraud under \$5,000,
- Two counts of Attempt Fraud under \$5,000.

He is scheduled to appear at College Park courts on Tuesday, May 9, 2006, at 2 p.m.

8. Oscar Beteta Amaya, 29, Toronto, with:

- Fraud over \$5,000,
- Engage in Act constituting the business of Insurance in Ontario without a License,,
- Sell/Give/Distribute False Insurance Card.

He is scheduled to appear at College Park courts on Monday, May 29, 2006, at 2 p.m.

A total of 97 charges were laid.

People should ensure that they are dealing with a legitimate company when buying insurance. All insurance companies operating in Ontario must be licensed. Police suggest that a check be conducted to see that the broker and brokerage are licensed.

Be very cautious regarding ads offering cheap rates and also parties offering to meet in coffee shops and parking lots offering to sell insurance slips.

Checks can be made by visiting the following websites:

- Financial Services Commission of Ontario: www.fsco.gov.on.ca,

– Registered Insurance Brokers of Ontario: www.ribo.com.

If you suspect that you have been a victim of this type of scam, contact your local police agency or one of the above agency(s) to report this activity.

For more information contact Detective Sergeant Joe Zwambag or Detective Gary Brennan at 416-808-7300.

Constable Kristine Bacharach, Public Information, for Staff Inspector Steve Harris, Fraud Squad