



Man faces three charges in fraud investigation

Broadcast time: 13:57

Thursday, October 30, 2008

Fraud Squad
416-808-7300

The Toronto Strategic Partnership*, in conjunction with the Ministry of Small Business and Consumer Services, started an investigation into an allegedly fraudulent advanced-fee loan scheme.

It is alleged that:

- the accused had been attending Western Union and MoneyGram outlets in the Greater Toronto Area,
- the accused produced bogus drivers' licences, in different names,
- it involved loan schemes targeting United States victims under various fraudulent company names.
- within a two-year period, the accused had accumulated in excess of \$167,000.

Vingler Victor Merli, 52, of Toronto, has been charged with:

- 1) two counts of Fraud Over,
- 2) Defraud the Public.

He is scheduled to appear in court at 2201 Finch Avenue West, on Thursday December 4, 2008, room 202, at 2 p.m.

The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Alan Spratt at 416-808-7300, Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477), online at www.222tips.com, or text: TIP312 and your message to CRIMES (274637).

*The Toronto Strategic Partnership is a multi-law enforcement agency, formed in response to ever-increasing cross-border mass fraudulent marketing schemes. The partnership consists of, the Competition Bureau of Canada, Ministry of Small Business & Consumer Services, Toronto Police Service Fraud Mass Marketing Unit, Ontario Provincial Police Anti-Rackets, Phonebusters, RCMP-GTA Commercial Crime Section, U.S. Federal Trade Commission,

U.S. Postal Service, and the U.K. Office of Fair Trading, working out of Toronto Police Service Headquarters at 40 College Street.

Constable Tony Vella, Public Information, for Detective Alan Spratt, Fraud Squad