



News Release

Dallas Police Department

Police Media Relations Unit

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www.dallaspolice.net

November 29, 2017

Update on Offer-Up Forgery Investigation

On November 14, 2017, the complainant, Mrs. Barrett, called police to report a Forgery by Counterfeit Money in which she was the victim on November 13, 2017. Ms. Barrett wanted to sell her property and posted the property on the Offer Up site. A black female suspect, calling herself Melissa, contacted Ms. Barrett by Offer Up and proposed to buy the property. The unknown suspect and Ms. Barrett agreed to meet at a restaurant at the 18100 block of Coit Rd. Ms. Barrett exchanged the property for \$800. Ms. Barrett discovered the next day that the money of the exchange was counterfeit.

On November 17, 2017, Dallas Police Detectives of the Financial Investigations Unit spoke to Ms. Barrett and determined that Ms. Barrett was the victim of a Forgery by Counterfeit Money offense. Ms. Barrett provided the detectives a picture of the believed suspect taken from the Offer Up app. Ms. Barrett advised on multiple occasions that the individual in the picture was the person she met with during the exchange. The identity of the person could not be determined. On November 27, 2017, the detectives of this offense then forwarded the picture to the Dallas Police Media Relations Unit requesting it to be posted on our blog for the public's assistance in identifying the suspect who victimized Ms. Barrett.

On November 29, 2017, detectives were contacted by the Dr. Tamara Pizzoli who is the individual in the picture that was posted on the Dallas Police Department's Blog. She stated that this was her photo, but she was not in Dallas and was not involved in this crime. Dallas Police detectives did further follow up with this additional information and determined that the person in the photograph listed as a suspect may be a victim of impersonation. The detectives continue the investigation to find the suspect who committed these offenses. The social media posts were removed from the department's social media sites. We apologize for any inconvenience to Dr. Tamara Pizzoli. Detectives are still seeking information on this forgery offense and it remains an open and active investigation.

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