

# LOUISIANA INSURANCE FRAUD TASK FORCE



## 2025 Annual Report





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The **Louisiana Insurance Fraud Task Force** is a statutorily mandated partnership between three state agencies created to collectively investigate and deter acts of insurance fraud and auto theft in Louisiana. The three state agencies comprising the Task Force are:

**Louisiana State Police**

Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

**Office of the Attorney General**

Insurance Fraud Support Unit

**Louisiana Department of Insurance**

Office of Insurance Fraud

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**Insurance fraud** is any fraudulent act, knowingly and willfully committed by any person in an attempt to injure, defraud, or deceive an insurance company. In Louisiana, insurance fraud is a felony, and when convicted, penalties could include incarceration, fines, community service, probation and/or restitution.

**NOTE:** If the amount of the benefit that is the subject of the criminal act does not exceed \$1,000.00, the insurance fraud will be classified as a misdemeanor.

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# Letter From The Superintendent



**State of Louisiana**  
*Department of Public Safety and Corrections*  
*Public Safety Services*

February 13, 2026

Office of the Governor  
Honorable Jeff Landry  
900 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Governor Landry:

This correspondence is submitted regarding the Louisiana Insurance Fraud Task Force and to acknowledge the leadership and continued commitment demonstrated in protecting the citizens of Louisiana. In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 40:1427, the enclosed annual report of the Louisiana Insurance Fraud Task Force is respectfully submitted for review. This report provides an overview of the Task Force's initiatives, activities, and ongoing challenges during the reporting period.

The Task Force operates as a three-member partnership comprised of the Louisiana State Police Insurance Fraud Auto Theft Unit, the Louisiana Department of Insurance, and the Louisiana Attorney General's Office. This collaborative framework supports the identification, investigation, and prosecution of insurance fraud offenses that undermine public trust and impose financial harm.

The continued partnership among the Louisiana State Police, the Louisiana Attorney General's Office, and the Louisiana Department of Insurance is essential to the Task Force's operations. The dedication and professionalism of Task Force personnel, supported by coordination with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, non-profit organizations, industry partners, and the public, contribute to efforts to deter and reduce insurance fraud statewide. The Task Force maintains a focus on adapting to emerging fraud trends and applying established investigative best practices. Ongoing training and professional development support operational readiness and investigative effectiveness.

Louisiana has enhanced its fraud detection and analytical capabilities through the implementation of Anti-Fraud One for Government AF1 and NetMap. These tools support the evaluation of referrals against large-scale claims data and facilitate analytical link assessments. Their use assists the Task Force in identifying potential fraud patterns, allocating investigative resources, and supporting enforcement efforts intended to reduce the impact of insurance fraud on the cost and availability of insurance within the state.

Ongoing collaboration between the Louisiana State Police and Task Force partners continues to support these efforts. Task Force operations are further strengthened through coordination with the National Insurance Crime Bureau and the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud, which contribute to information sharing and industry engagement.

Insurance fraud continues to adversely affect the residents of Louisiana and results in significant financial losses each year. The Louisiana Insurance Fraud Task Force remains committed to utilizing available resources to conduct lawful, thorough, and objective criminal investigations. Continued support of the Task Force is necessary to sustain these efforts and to support Louisiana's ongoing role in addressing insurance fraud through coordinated enforcement, oversight, and accountability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "COL Robert P. Hodges".

Colonel Robert P. Hodges  
Deputy Secretary, Public Safety Services  
Superintendent, Louisiana State Police

# Louisiana State Police

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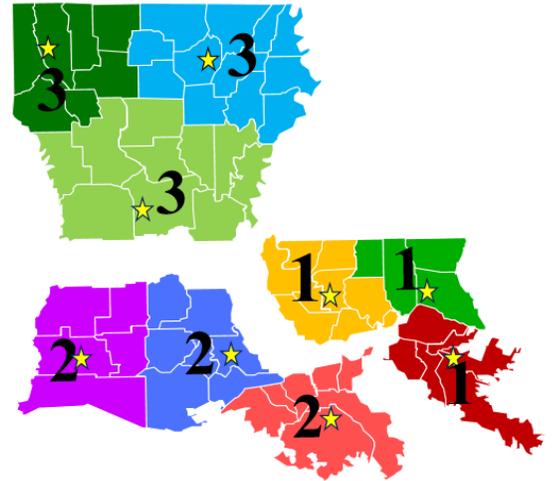
## Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

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# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

## The Unit

In 1999 the Louisiana Legislature passed House Bill 1868, statutorily creating the Insurance Fraud Investigation Unit (IFU) within Title 40 of the Revised Statutes; specifically, Sections 40:1421–1429 provide the outline for unit operations. The IFU became operational January 1, 2000, within the Bureau of Investigation (BOI) of the Louisiana State Police (LSP), thereby implementing a law enforcement function to combat insurance fraud. In 2006, the State Police formally added auto theft responsibilities to the unit's role. At that time it was renamed the Insurance Fraud and Auto Theft Unit (IFAT). The primary focus of the unit is the investigation of insurance acts that violate LRS 22:1921-1929.



Currently, IFAT is divided into six field offices and three satellite offices, which cover the 64 parishes of the state. Detectives and Investigators within each office are tasked with investigating criminal complaints from the LA Dept. of Insurance and from the public. Each field office is supervised by an IFAT Sergeant, who answers directly to the LSP-IFAT Program Coordinator. The Program Coordinator holds the rank of State Police Lieutenant and is under the supervision of a State Police Captain who commands the LSP Special Investigation Section. The Program Coordinator is tasked with working alongside State Police supervisors, staff, industry representatives, and governmental partners to ensure the success of the unit's mission. Excluding the IFAT supervisors, there were nine State Police Troopers and seven State Police Criminal Investigators assigned to the Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit as of December 2025.

## Field Office Contacts

### REGION I

#### Baton Rouge Area

*Sgt. Daniel Graff*  
7919 Independence Blvd  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
(225) 925-3850  
Daniel.M.Graff@la.gov

#### New Orleans Area

(includes the Northshore Areas)  
*Sgt. Leander Journee*  
1450 Poydras St, Suite 1300  
New Orleans, LA 70112  
(504) 310-7069  
Leander.Journee@la.gov

### REGION II

#### Breaux Bridge Area

(includes Houma Area)  
*Sgt. Tony Washington*  
437 W. Mills Ave  
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517  
(337) 332-8062  
Tony.Washington@la.gov

#### Sulphur Area

*Sgt. Landry Willis*  
1803 Beglis Pkwy  
Sulphur, LA 70663  
(337) 527-9111  
Landry.Willis@la.gov

### REGION III

#### Bossier City Area

(includes Monroe Area)  
*Sgt. Cody Roy*  
4185 Viking Dr  
Bossier City, LA 71111  
(318) 754-5384  
Cody.Roy@la.gov

#### Alexandria Area

*Sgt. Brian Coghlan*  
5903 Coliseum Blvd  
Alexandria, LA 71302  
(318) 484-2193  
Brian.Coghlan@la.gov

**Program Coordinator:** Lt. William "Dale" Latham (337) 332-8080

**Admin Coordinator:** Ms. Carol Holder (225) 925-3536

**Investigative Specialist:** Mrs. Ciara Stoute (337) 332-8041

**Unit Email Address:** [lsp.insurance.fraud.unit@la.gov](mailto:lsp.insurance.fraud.unit@la.gov)

# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

## Referrals Received...

The Insurance Fraud and Auto Theft Unit receives insurance fraud referrals from the Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI) on a monthly basis. In 2025, the Unit received 3,542 referrals from the LDI, of which 371 were accepted and 3,171 were declined.

In addition to the 3,542 referrals received from the LDI, the IFAT Unit also accepted 51 non-LDI criminal complaints related to insurance fraud, vehicle theft, and other crimes. These complaints were received from various entities, including IFAT Unit generated operations, other law enforcement agencies, citizens complaints, etc.

Referrals Received from LDI	3,542
LDI Referrals Accepted	371
LDI Referrals Rejected	3,171
Non-LDI Investigations	51
Total Referrals	3,593

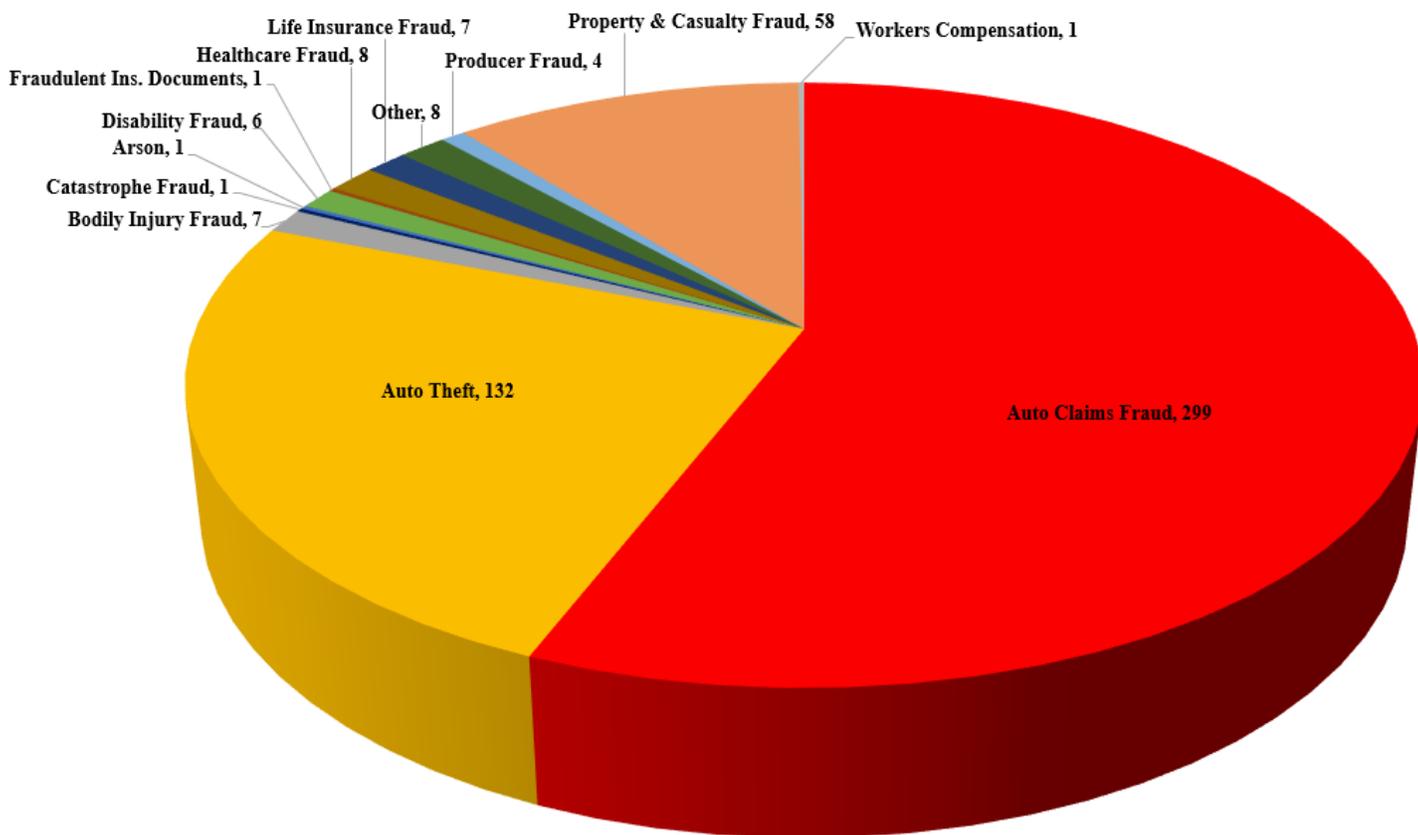
In 2025, 72% of the referrals received from the Department of Insurance were related to auto claims fraud, followed by property & casualty fraud at 19.9%, healthcare fraud at 2.2%, and catastrophe insurance fraud at 1.6%. The remaining types listed in the table to the right make up the remaining 4.3%.



Type of Investigation...	LDI	Non-LDI
Auto Claims Fraud	2561	18
Auto Theft	6	21
Bodily Injury Fraud	10	1
Catastrophe Fraud	57	0
Commercial	3	0
Disability Fraud	27	0
Fraudulent Ins. Documents	9	1
Healthcare Fraud	79	2
Life Insurance Fraud	44	0
Other	19	7
Producer Fraud	15	0
Property & Casualty Fraud	704	1
Worker's Compensation Fraud	8	0

# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

## 2025 Referrals Accepted by Type...



# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

## 2025 Investigations and Arrests...

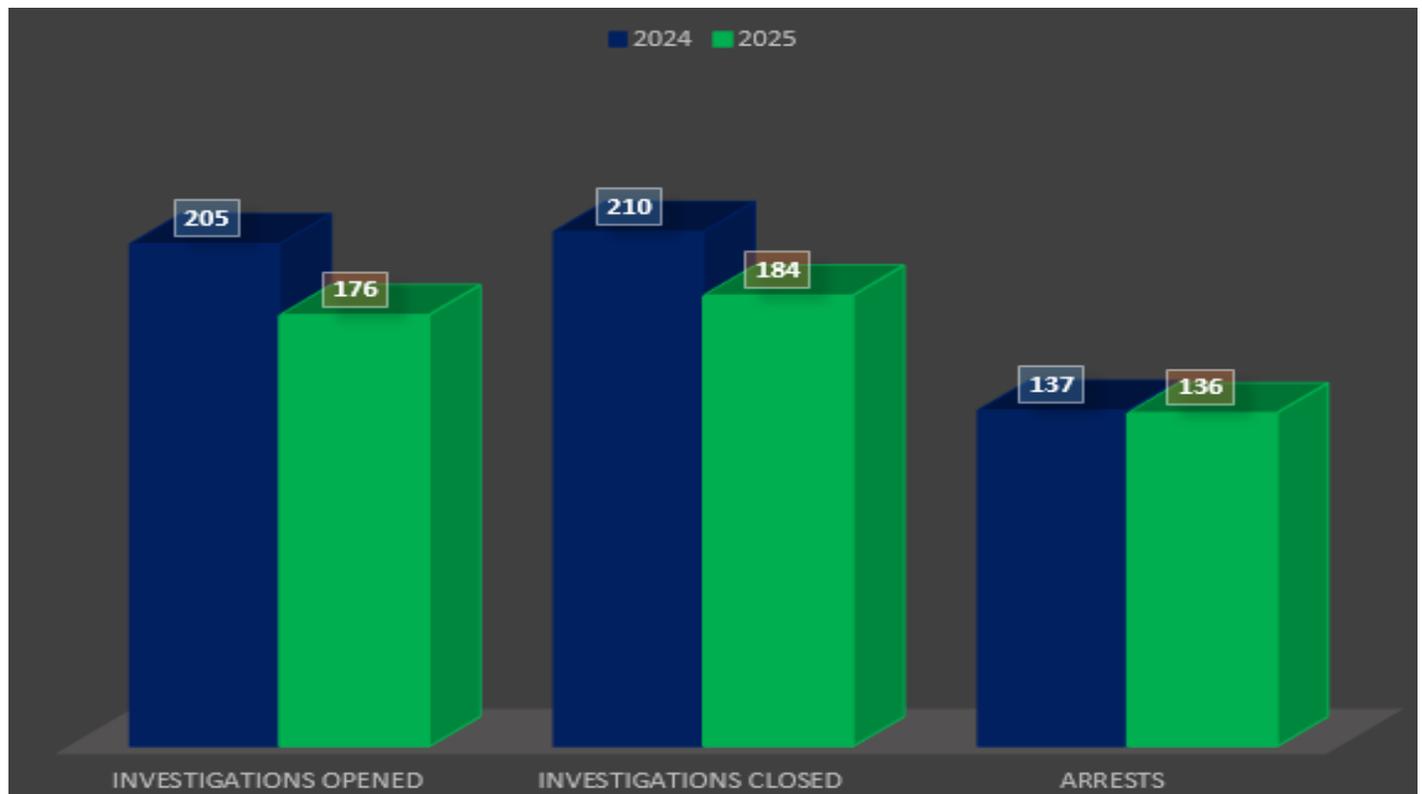
2025 Case Information	
Investigations Carried Over from Prior Years	31
Investigations Opened	176
Investigations Closed	184
Arrests	136

In 2025, the LSP IFAT Unit opened 176 criminal investigations and closed 184 investigations.

**OPENED:** The Region 1 - Baton Rouge & New Orleans field offices accounted for 63 opened investigations, Region 2 - Breaux Bridge (which includes Houma) and Sulphur field offices recorded 44 investigations opened, and Region 3 - Alexandria, Monroe, and Bossier initiated 69 investigations.

**CLOSED:** Of the 184 investigations closed, 110 or 59.8% were closed by arrest. In 2025, the IFAT Unit arrested a total of 136 individuals. Statewide, 36.8% of the arrests were in Region 1, 30.1% were in Region 2, and 33.1% were in Region 3.

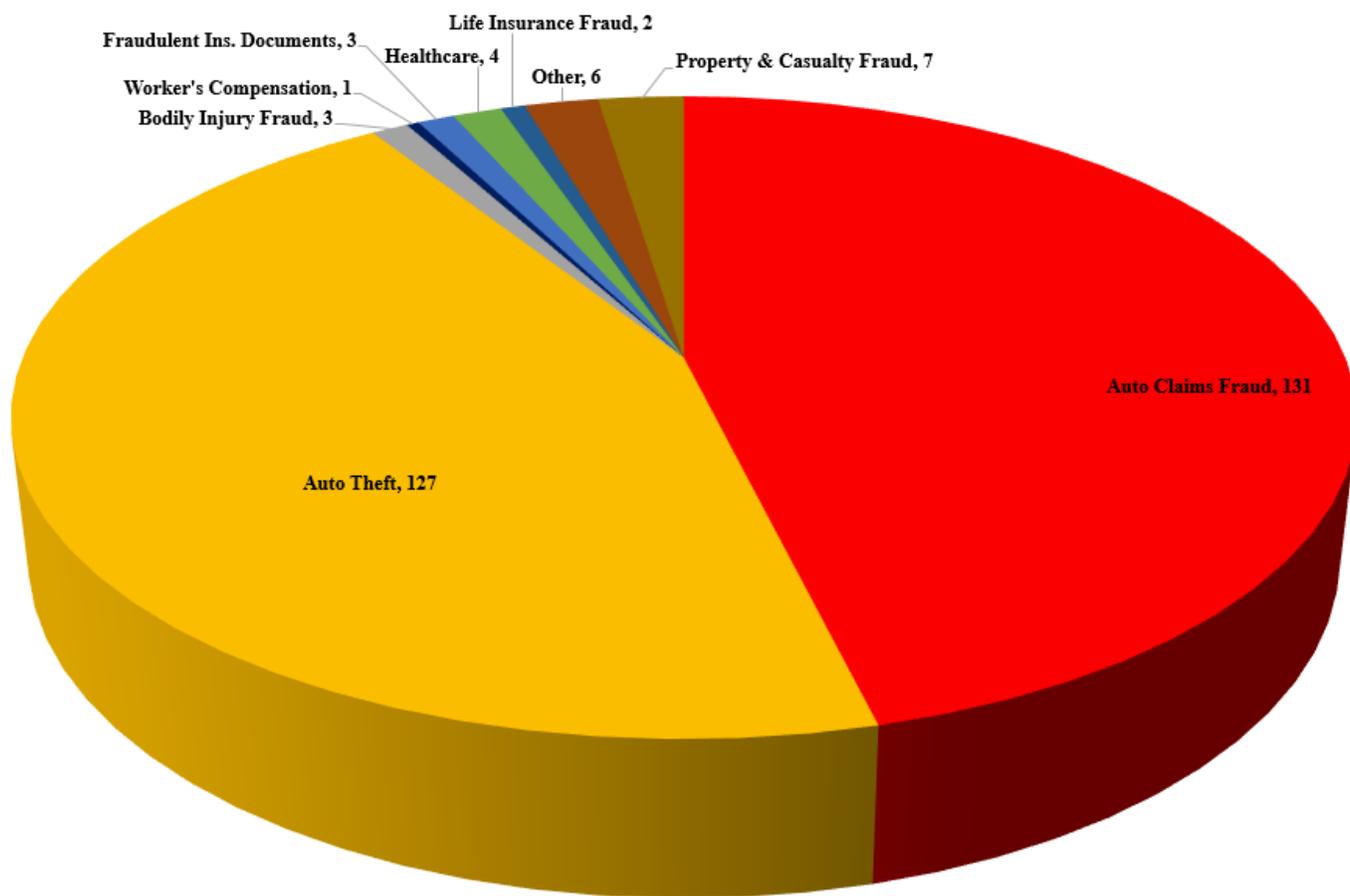
### Two Year Statistical Profile...



\*Note: The slight decline in case activity can be attributed to a shortage of unit personnel. The IFAT Unit is currently in the process of filling open positions.

# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

## 2025 LSP Investigations Conducted by Type...



# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

## 2025 Judicial Actions...

<b>2025 Judicial Actions</b>	
Convictions	63
Jail Time Ordered	42 years 4 months
Probation Ordered	45 years 10 months
Community Service	196 hours
Pre-Trial Interventions	11 entries
Restitution	\$216,627.99
Court Fines	\$30,100

In 2025, the LSP Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit had 42.9% of their convictions declared in East Baton Rouge Parish and 12.7% in Calcasieu Parish. The remaining convictions were spread throughout 18 other parishes. The table on the right shows all convictions and pre-trial interventions by parish. Parishes not listed in the chart did not have any convictions or pre-trial interventions, or no data was available.



Parish	Convictions	Pre-trial Interventions	Cases Pending
Ascension	1	0	4
Assumption	1	0	0
Caddo	3	1	12
Calcasieu	8	1	3
E. Baton Rouge	27	1	35
Grant	1	1	0
Lafourche	1	0	1
Morehouse	1	0	1
Natchitoches	0	1	2
Orleans	1	1	47
Rapides	3	0	2
Red River	1	0	0
Richland	1	0	1
Sabine	1	1	1
St. Charles	1	0	2
St. James	1	0	2
St. Tammany	1	0	7
Tangipahoa	2	0	8
Terrebonne	4	1	2
Vernon	3	3	2
Washington	0	1	1
W. Baton Rouge	1	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>134</b>

# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

## 2025 Budget Expenditures...

GL Category	G/L Account	G/L Acct Long Text	Sum of Total Amount
511:SALARIES	5110010	SALARIES-CLASSIFIED-T/O-REGULAR	\$1,765,118
	5110015	SALARIES-CLASSIFIED-T/O-OVERTIME	\$319,963
	5110020	SALARIES-CLASSIFIED-T/O-TERMINATION	\$47,731
<b>511:SALARIES Total</b>			<b>\$2,132,812</b>
512:OTHER COMPENSATION	5120010	COMPENSATION/WAGES	\$193,702
	5120105	COMPENSATION-NON T/O-OVERTIME	\$4,350
<b>512:OTHER COMPENSATION Total</b>			<b>\$198,052</b>
513:RELATED BENEFITS	5130010	RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS-STATE EMPLOYEES	\$220,477
	5130030	RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS-OTHER	\$706,697
	5130060	MEDICARE TAX	\$33,037
	5130070	GROUP INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS	\$234,364
	5130090	TAXABLE FRINGE BENEFITS	\$77,008
<b>513:RELATED BENEFITS Total</b>			<b>\$1,271,583</b>
520:TRAVEL AND TRAINING	5210010	IN-STATE TRAVEL-ADMINISTRATIVE	\$2,407
	5210015	IN-STATE TRAVEL-CONFERENCES/CONVENTIONS/ATHLE	\$9,010
	5210030	IN-STATE TRAVEL-IT TRAVEL/TRAINING	\$4,260
	5210050	OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL-ADMINISTRATIVE	\$3,146
	5210055	OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL-CONFERENCES/CONVENTIONS/A	\$32,765
	5210060	OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL-FIELD TRAVEL	\$2,220
	5210070	OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL-IT TRAVEL/TRAINING	\$850
	5210110	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES	\$1,845
<b>520:TRAVEL AND TRAINING Total</b>			<b>\$56,504</b>
530:OPERATING SERVICES	5310005	SERV-PRINTING	\$150
	5310010	SERV-DUES & OTHER	\$135
	5310015	SERV-SECURITY SERVICES	\$479
	5310026	SERV-INVESTIGATION EXPENSES & BACKGROUND CHECK	\$250
	5310031	SERV-CREDIT CARD TRANSACTION FEES	\$24
	5310050	SERV-DUES & OTH-PROF MEMBERSHIP-INDIVIDUAL	\$555
	5330008	MAINT-EQUIPMENT	\$104
	5330018	MAINT-AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS	\$5,749
	5340020	RENT-EQUIPMENT	\$2,645
	5340025	RENT-AUTOMOBILES	\$198
	5340070	RENT-OTHER	-\$1,161
	5350001	UTIL-INTERNET PROVIDER COSTS	\$835
	5350005	UTIL-OTHER COMMUNICATION SERVICES	\$3,965
	5350006	UTIL-MAIL, DELIVERY & POSTAGE	\$155
	5350010	UTIL-ELECTRICITY	\$17,631
	5350012	UTIL-CABLE	\$982
<b>530:OPERATING SERVICES Total</b>			<b>\$32,695</b>
540:SUPPLIES	5410001	SUP-OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$15,300
	5410004	SUP-SECURITY/LAW ENFORCEMENT	\$50,268
	5410006	SUP-COMPUTER	\$7,212
	5410007	SUP-CLOTHING & UNIFORMS	\$29,106
	5410015	SUP-AUTO	\$6,061
	5410016	SUP-BLDG,GRDS,GEN,PLANT	\$4,957
	5410021	SUP-ELECTRONICS & ELECTRICAL	\$1,182
	5410023	SUP-PERSONAL	\$410
	5410030	SUP-TOOLS	\$927
	5410031	SUP-REP & MAINT SUPPLIES-AUTO	\$10,035
	5410032	SUP-REP & MAINT SUPPLIES-OTHER	\$6,675
	5410036	SUP-FUELTRAC INTERFACE AND CORRECTIONS	\$28,280
	5410400	SUP-OTHER	\$13,565
<b>540:SUPPLIES Total</b>			<b>\$173,977</b>
560:OTHER CHARGES	5620064	MISC-PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$150
	5620065	MISC-SUPPLIES OTHER	\$44,909
	5620068	MISC-ACQUISITION/MAJOR REPAIR OTHER	-\$16,210
	5620112	MISC-OTHER MISC PUBLIC SAFETY & FRAUD	\$7,500
	5620128	MISC-PROMOTIONAL ITEMS	\$2,911
	5620129	MISC-ONLINE RESERVATION FEES	\$7
	5620160	MISC-TRAVEL-IN-STATE HOTEL	\$99
	5620161	MISC-TRAVEL-OUT-OF-STATE AIR FARE	\$660
	5620162	MISC-TRAVEL-OUT-OF-STATE HOTEL	\$4,851
	5620276	MISC-OC-SUP-CONSUMPTION OF INVENTORY TRADE-IM	\$570
<b>560:OTHER CHARGES Total</b>			<b>\$45,447</b>
595:IAT	5950014	IAT-TELEPHONE	\$2,033
<b>595:IAT Total</b>			<b>\$2,033</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$3,913,105</b>

# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

## Investigative Highlights

### Region 1 Investigative Highlights

#### **Bodily Injury Insurance Fraud**

**(Pointe Coupee)** - Following a complaint from Allstate Insurance, the Louisiana State Police Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit (LSP-IFAT) Baton Rouge Field Office initiated an investigation involving Rhonda Mastrangelo. The complaint alleged that Mastrangelo submitted a fraudulent lost wage claim related to an automobile crash. On or about October 22, 2022, Mastrangelo reported to Allstate that she had been rear-ended by an Allstate-insured driver in Pointe Coupee Parish. During her initial call, she indicated that she was not injured. In a subsequent call, she reported visiting the emergency room for X-rays, prompting Allstate to open and process her injury claim. As the claim progressed, she began receiving extensive medical treatment and later submitted a lost wage claim, asserting she was unable to work due to her injuries. In support, she provided a letter allegedly authored by “Joey Alvarez,” Human Resources Manager at Cajun Industries, indicating her last paycheck was for the week ending October 21, 2022, and that she had not been cleared by a doctor to return to work. During Allstate’s verification process, company representatives contacted Cajun Industries and spoke with Human Resources, who confirmed that no employee named Joey Alvarez existed within the company and that Mastrangelo had been terminated prior to the crash. Allstate subsequently provided a deposition transcript in which Mastrangelo stated she had not worked since the accident and could not pass a physical examination required to return to work. Further investigation revealed that she had been employed by Performance Contractors from May to August 2023. According to the provided employment and pre-employment records, Mastrangelo passed her

physical, failed to disclose any back or neck injuries, and denied any medical conditions or lost work time due to injury within the past five years. These findings contradicted her deposition statements claiming she was unable to work post-crash. On June 16, 2025, Mastrangelo voluntarily appeared at LSP Headquarters for an interview. She reiterated her version of the crash and injury claim. When questioned about the fraudulent Cajun Industries document, she claimed the letter had been provided by Cajun Industries, admitting she had been terminated before the crash, but alleging plans to be rehired. Upon being shown documentation from Performance Contractors confirming her 2023 employment, Mastrangelo admitted she had worked there and claimed she had “forgotten” about it. The investigation concluded that Mastrangelo’s actions were found to be in violation of L.R.S. 22:1924 – Insurance Fraud and L.R.S. 14:125 – False Swearing / Perjury. An arrest warrant was obtained on June 23, 2025. On June 30, 2025, Mastrangelo voluntarily surrendered and was booked into Pointe Coupee Parish Detention Center.

#### **Fraudulent Documents/Policy/Automobile Fraud**

**(Jefferson)** - In August 2024, the LSP-IFAT New Orleans Field Office received a criminal referral from the Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI) related to a suspicious insurance claim. This referral alleged that Nelson Segura fraudulently purchased an insurance policy with State Farm Insurance Company in the name of Kalen Lewis. Lewis provided a recorded statement advising that he does not know Segura and has never had a State Farm policy. The investigation revealed that in May 2023, Nelson Segura purchased a policy with State Farm Insurance Company for his 2016 Dodge Challenger, under the name of Mr. Kalen Lewis. State Farm

**All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty.**

# *Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit*

## *Investigative Highlights*

initiated the policy. During the policy period, Segura filed five separate claims, resulting in settlement amounts totaling \$76,286.66. Research into the policy's payment history showed that the credit cards used to pay the policy belonged to Segura. During this investigation, it was discovered that Segura purchased a second policy in February 2024 for a 2016 Dodge Challenger and a 2021 Porsche Macan. This policy was purchased from GEICO Insurance Company by Segura in the name of Mr. Bijan Moghadam. During the term of this policy, Segura filed four separate claims, resulting in settlements totaling \$12,922.63. A statement was obtained from Moghadam, advising that he does not know Segura and did not purchase this policy. The total amount in settlements fraudulently obtained by Segura on these policies was \$ 89,209.29. On November 7, 2025, an arrest warrant was issued for Segura.

### **Fraudulent Documents/Automobile Fraud**

**(Ascension)** - On March 19, 2025, the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles (OMV) contacted the Louisiana State Police Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft New Orleans Field Office regarding potential counterfeit documents that were transferred at Southern Title and License in Sulphur, Louisiana. The OMV emailed several scanned records they believed were counterfeit for further investigation due to their origin. The six correspondences revealed multiple fraudulent documents, including incorrect Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) submissions using counterfeit IDs under three fake names. Each person and transfer were linked to a business called "Upperrdconsultant LLC, 711 East Ascension Street, Gonzales, Louisiana." In July 2025, the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) forwarded another complaint for

"Upperrdconsultant LLC." According to Mercedes-Benz Financial Services USA LLC, a 2025 Mercedes-Benz with an active lien was illegally transferred to Louisiana's OMV. An analysis of the copy of the uploaded Louisiana Title History (LTH) for the sedan identified multiple fraudulent submissions using counterfeit identifiers. While investigating the 2025 Mercedes-Benz, a 2020 Porsche was impounded by the Gonzales Police Department for a traffic violation. The driver claimed to be the previous and current owner who repurchased it for \$20,000 from "Upperrdconsultant LLC." A joint investigation revealed that "Upperrdconsultant LLC" had registered more than 120 automobiles at a strip mall linked to the business "A Better Mail Service." A review of each transfer was conducted, including titles, bills of sale, seller and buyer IDs, reconstruction affidavits, IRS/EINs, notarized documents, insurance, and claims filed. LSP confirmed that 105 counterfeit titles were submitted to the Louisiana OMV/PTAs, resulting in the issuance of legitimate Louisiana titles. Of the 27 titles that were confirmed "good," 10 were salvaged (parted out, crushed, or still with the salvage buyer). A total of 66 submissions illegally removed the ownership interest of financial institutions, amounting to \$3,512,003.00 in losses. Investigators also determined that 19 notarized affidavits were obtained illegally using compromised information. Additionally, 31 Louisiana license plates were issued after counterfeit and compromised mandatory insurance policies were presented during registration. There were 59 uses of an illegally obtained IRS/EIN number (99-1896556), and more than 250 counterfeit out-of-state and Louisiana identifications were used. In total, 39 variations of fraud were perpetrated against

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# *Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit*

## *Investigative Highlights*

insurance providers, and 25 of the 121 vehicles involved were shipped overseas. Arrest warrants are being obtained and executed.

### *Region 2 Investigative Highlights*

#### Automobile Insurance Fraud

**(Lafayette)** - On March 25, 2025, the Louisiana Department of Insurance forwarded a criminal referral LDI to the Louisiana State Police Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit. According to the referral, American Eagle Trucking Company alleged that Justin Ledet and Steven Thomas committed Automobile Insurance Fraud in Lafayette Parish, Louisiana. The referral was forwarded to the Region 2 Breaux Bridge Field Office for review. On January 19, 2025, Ledet and Thomas were captured on video staging a crash at the intersection of Willow St. and Teurlings Drive in Lafayette Parish. The video footage shows Ledet leaving Frog City in Rayne, Louisiana, and traveling eastbound on Interstate 10. The audio recording clearly captures Ledet coaching the other driver on which lane to use and which turns to take. Both vehicles exited I-10 at Louisiana Avenue. While traveling on Louisiana Avenue, Ledet was heard instructing the other driver that he would strike his vehicle from behind once they were stopped at a red light. At the intersection of Willow Street and Teurlings Drive, Ledet intentionally struck the rear of the maroon Silverado with the front of his vehicle. Days later, Thomas and his four passengers hired lawyers and attempted to sue American Eagle Trucking Company for two million dollars per person, for a total of ten million dollars. On May 2, 2025, upon completion of the LSP investigation, Ledet and Thomas were arrested and booked into the Lafayette Parish Correctional Center for violation of LRS 22:1925 Automobile Insurance Fraud.

#### Medical Insurance Fraud

**(St. Mary)** - On March 19, 2025, the Louisiana State Police Insurance Fraud and Auto Theft Unit received a criminal complaint from David Sherman, a fraud investigator for the Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. According to the complaint, Kay Lynn Vining committed medical insurance fraud by presenting (42) fraudulent Long-Term Disability (LTD) claims against her Hartford Disability insurance policy while employed by Tractor Supply Company. The fraudulent LTD medical documents were submitted from June 8, 2023, through February 6, 2025. The fraudulent medical documents included a reason for the visit, a level of care justification, a mental status, the diagnoses, instructions and recommendations, and an electronically signed physician's signature for each fraudulent LTD disability claim submitted to the Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. Vining claimed on January 2, 2023, Dawn Toups, LPC of Psychological Healthcare of South Louisiana began treating her for Major Depressive Disorder and Anxiety Disorder. Vining falsified a cell phone number, an email address for Dawn Toups to manufacture and submit fraudulent LTD medical documents on her behalf in Patterson, Louisiana, St. Mary Parish. The fraudulent LTD medical documents were emailed from the fraudulent email address account to the Hartford Financial Services Group without the knowledge and consent of Dawn Toups, LPC. On November 17, 2022, Vining setup her Hancock Whitney Bank account with the Hartford Financial Services Group to receive direct deposits for LTD Bi-weekly payments. Upon completion of the investigation, it was determined Vining was never a patient of Dawn Toups, LPC of the Psychological Healthcare of South Louisiana.

**All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty.**

# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

## Investigative Highlights

Vining knowingly acted with intent to defraud the Hartford Financial Services Group for \$47,706.96 by manufacturing (42) fraudulent medical Long Term Disability document claims in Patterson, Louisiana, St. Mary Parish. Vining manufactured (four) Attending Physician's Progress Reports containing forged signed signatures of Dawn Touts. On September 10, 2025, Vining voluntarily surrendered at the St. Mary Parish Jail. Vining was placed under arrest and was subsequently booked at the St. Mary Parish Jail on the LSP arrest warrants for L.R.S. 22:1924 Medical Insurance Fraud (42 Counts), L.R.S. 14:72 Forgery (4 Counts), L.R.S. 14:67.B (1) Felony Theft (Over \$25,000).

### Automobile/Fraudulent Documents

**(Calcasieu)** - On Thursday, May 16, 2024, LSP-IFAT Lake Charles Field Office, was contacted by Sergeant Joe Robertson with LSP Gaming regarding the alleged fraudulent purchase of a 2022 Cadillac Escalade that occurred in the parking lot of the Golden Nugget Casino in Lake Charles, LA. The vehicle was purchased from Service Chevrolet of Lafayette, LA by an unknown alleged identity theft suspect. A State Police investigation identified Kiza Benjamin and Rashalyn Carter as the suspects involved with the fraudulent purchase of the Escalade by means of Forgery and Identity Theft. After obtaining Arrest Warrants for both suspects, LSP learned that both were incarcerated in the Claiborne Parish Jail and a hold was placed on them. The Cadillac Escalade, valued at \$95,296.00, was recovered and returned to Service Chevrolet. On February 7, 2025, Benjamin was arrested on the outstanding warrants and booked into the Calcasieu Parish Correctional Center without incident.

### Automobile Insurance Fraud

**(St. Landry)** - On April 15, 2025, LSP- IFAT

Breaux Bridge Field Office received a call from Louisiana Used Motor Vehicle Commission Compliance Investigator Travis Gallow. Gallow explained he would be conducting an inventory audit on AJ Auto Sales in Opelousas, Louisiana on April 16, 2025. Gallow asked if LSP could assist with identifying VIN numbers on vehicles. Upon arrival, Gallow, and Trooper First Class (TFC) Montet spoke with Allen Guillory Sr, co-owner of AJ Auto Sales. During the audit, TFC Montet located four stolen vehicles with altered VIN numbers. All VIN plates were altered and changed from the original factory VIN plates. All the titles Guillory provided for the vehicles were discovered to be fake. TFC Montet was able to confirm that all four vehicles were stolen through the National Crime Information Center (N.C.I.C), and had insurance claims paid. Guillory stated he allowed Raymond Simien to use one of the AJ Auto Sales Louisiana Dealer tags. Simien is not associated with AJ Auto Sales. According to L.R.S. 47:473 (H), Guillory is not allowed to let Simien operate any vehicle with a dealer tag. AJ Auto Sales was issued six Louisiana Dealer Tags and all six tags were used on different stolen vehicles. All six tags have been recovered and confiscated from AJ Auto Sales. The total value of fraud was approximately \$275,000. On April 16, 2025, Guillory was booked into St. Landry Parish Jail without incident.

## Region 3 Investigative Highlights

### Automobile Insurance Fraud

**(Caddo)** - The Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI) forwarded a criminal referral to the LSP-IFAT Bossier Field Office. According to the referral, GEICO alleged Frank Launer committed Automobile Insurance Fraud in Caddo Parish,

**All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty.**

# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

## Investigative Highlights

Louisiana. The investigation revealed Launer was involved in a motor vehicle crash and did not have insurance on his vehicle at the time of the incident. After the crash, he contacted the insurance company and added insurance in an attempt to defraud the company. Launer knowingly provided false information to the Insurance Company to have the damages to his vehicle repaired as a covered loss. These actions violated LRS 22:1924 – Prohibited Activities and Sanctions (Automobile Insurance Fraud). Further investigation revealed he was actively employed with the Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office as a Deputy. On August 11, 2025, an arrest warrant was secured. At approximately 1700 hours, Launer was taken into custody and transported to Caddo Correction Center to be booked and processed.

### Property & Casualty Fraud

**(Caddo)** - On September 9, 2022, the Louisiana Department of Insurance forwarded multiple criminal referrals, to the LSP-IFAT Bossier Field Office. According to the referral, State Farm Fire and Casualty, Allstate Insurance Company, and Progressive Property Insurance Company alleged that Joy Woodard committed Property & Casualty Insurance Fraud on or about August 4, 2022, in Caddo Parish, Louisiana. Investigation found Woodard purchased renters' insurance through State Farm, Allstate, and Progressive Insurance Companies on or about August 4, 2022. She then made claims to each of the insurance companies on or about August 11, 2022, for items allegedly damaged by water in residences she did not occupy at the time of the claims. Woodard claimed to the respective insurance companies that the dishwasher line had broken, the washing machine had overflowed, or the roof had leaked during a storm. All statements were found to be

false. To support her claims, Woodard supplied the insurance companies with fake work orders for water damage repairs. Additionally, Woodard provided fake/altered receipts for the value of the damaged property. On October 29, 2025, 3 arrest warrants were obtained for Woodard for Insurance Fraud. On Thursday, November 13, 2025, Woodard was taken into custody for her warrants and booked into the Caddo Correction Center.

### Automobile Insurance Fraud

**(Vernon)** - On May 1, 2025, the Louisiana Department of Insurance forwarded a criminal referral to the LSP-IFAT Alexandria Field Office. According to the referral, Progressive Insurance alleged that Roger Louischarles committed Automobile Insurance Fraud on March 10, 2025, in Vernon Parish. On March 10, 2025, at approximately 0029 hours, Louischarles initiated an automobile insurance policy with Progressive Insurance Company on his 2025 Kia K4. He then submitted a claim indicating the crash occurred on March 10, 2025 at 0600 hours. However, the metadata from the video taken of the damage he submitted were dated March 9, 2025, at approximately 1131 hours. Louischarles also called his supervisor, Sergeant Saul, on March 9, 2025, at approximately 2338 hours, to notify him of the accident. Louischarles misrepresented the date and time of the accident when he filed the claim on his vehicle. On August 12, 2025, he surrendered himself at the Vernon Parish Sheriff's Office and was booked without incident. The potential fraud amount was \$5,404.64.

### Automobile/Racketeering Insurance Fraud

**(Ouachita)** - On April 1, 2025, the Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI) forwarded a criminal referral to the LSP-IFAT Monroe Field Office. According to the referral, State Farm **All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty.**

# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit

## Investigative Highlights

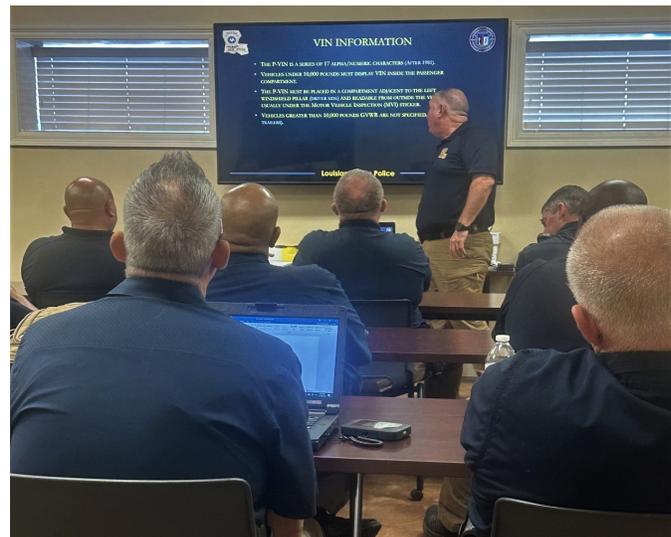
Insurance alleged that Adrian Sampson committed Insurance Fraud (Automobile) on or about February 18, 2025, in Ouachita Parish, Louisiana. As the investigation progressed, investigators learned that Sampson was involved in multiple crashes from May 2024 through September 2025. LSP MFO discovered that Sampson had planned, staged, and orchestrated crashes to file fraudulent insurance claims for personal gain. Further investigation revealed that Sampson potentially gained approximately \$156,000 from the victims of his fraudulent claims. On September 30, 2025, LSP-IFAT Monroe secured an arrest warrant through the 4th Judicial District Court for 16 counts of insurance fraud, 16 counts of aggravated criminal damage to property, 16 counts of staging of a motor vehicle collision, and one count of racketeering. On October 24, 2025, Sampson was arrested in Bossier City and processed into the Bossier Parish Maximum Security Jail without incident.

## Law Enforcement Training

A key responsibility of the Louisiana State Police Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit is providing training to law enforcement agencies across the state. This instruction is delivered at multiple Peace Officer Standards and Training academies as well as various local and state agencies. During these sessions, detectives stress the importance of conducting thorough physical vehicle inspections and demonstrate the proper method for completing the affidavit of physical inspection form. They also offer education on current auto theft trends and effective investigative techniques. As a result, officers who attend these trainings are

better equipped to identify fraudulent auto theft claims and verify a vehicle's true identity through its Vehicle Identification Number (VIN).

2025 IFAT Training Sessions Conducted	
Number officers trained	473
Number of sessions conducted	45



## Conferences

In 2025, members of the Louisiana State Police Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit further expanded their expertise in insurance and auto theft by participating in a variety of conferences and training events. A few of the conferences attended by members were the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud's conference in Washington, D.C. (December 2025), the Southeast International Association of Auto Theft Investigators in Nashville, TN (June 2025), the National Fraud Directors Conference, and the Vehicle Crimes Conference. The training and educational programs provided to LSP-IFAT members equip them with essential knowledge that supports collaborative efforts with industry partners to combat fraud effectively while maintaining full legal compliance.

# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit



In December 2025, LSP-IFAT members Sgt. Leander Journee, Sgt. Landry Willis, Lt. William Latham, and Capt. Joseph Patout attended the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud Conference in Washington, D.C.



In June 2025, LSP-IFAT members Cecil Montet, Jason Gagliano, and Kaleb Reeves attended the Southeast International Association of Auto Theft Investigators in Nashville, TN.



In August 2025, LSP-IFAT members Jason Gagliano, Joseph Cuccia, Keith Bergeron, Jeffrey Cagle, Sgt. Landry Willis, Sgt. Daniel Gruff, Sgt. Tony Washington, Sgt. Leander Journee, Lt. William Latham, and Joey Babineaux attended the Louisiana Department of Insurance Conference in Baton Rouge, LA.

## Certifications

In accordance with LRS 40:1422, all members of the Louisiana State Police Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit must obtain the Fraud Claim Law Specialist (FCLS) certification within two years of joining the unit. This certification, provided by the American Educational Institute (AEI), is completed through correspondence-based coursework.

The FCLS designation is widely recognized within the industry as a significant professional achievement. Through AEI’s Law of Claims Fraud and Investigation Defense Program, detectives complete coursework in six essential subject areas: Recognizing Fraud, Special Investigation, Proving Fraud, Handling Suspicious Claims, Avoiding Bad Faith and Civil Liability in Handling Suspicious Claims, Advanced Legal Issues in Fraud Investigation and Defense, and Auto Insurance Fraud.

Upon successfully finishing all core courses, detectives are awarded their Fraud Claim Law Specialist (FCLS), Legal Principles Claim Specialist (LPCS), and Senior Claim Law Associate (SCLA) Gold Award certifications.



(aeiclaimslaw.com)

# Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit



LSP-IFAT member Lt. William Latham became a Certified Insurance Fraud Investigator through the International Association of Special Investigation Units (IASIU).

## Awards

In May 2025, the Louisiana State Police presented Sergeant Brian Coghlan with the Service Injury Award for his service in Mardi Gras 2024.

## Vehicle Theft

In addition to investigating insurance fraud, the Louisiana State Police Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit (LSP-IFAT) plays an active role in detecting and preventing automobile theft throughout the state. The unit accomplishes this by consistently applying industry best practices and leveraging advanced resources to identify and apprehend individuals involved in auto theft.

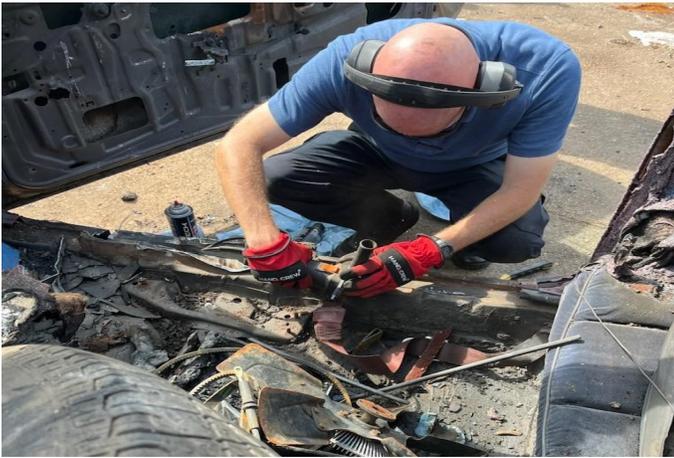
Through close collaboration with the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), the Louisiana Department of Insurance, numerous law enforcement agencies, insurance providers, and other key stakeholders, LSP-IFAT has adopted a proactive strategy to improve auto theft investigations and strengthen its ability to locate and recover stolen vehicles. One such tool is a patrol vehicle equipped with a grant-funded Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR). In 2025, unit personnel recovered 153 stolen vehicles statewide, with a total estimated value of approximately \$4 million.

With the continued support of its partners, the Unit remains committed to protecting the public from the effects of auto theft and sharing information about the evolving methods criminals use across the state.

2025 IFAT Unit Auto Theft Recoveries	
Stolen Vehicles Recovered	153
Value of Recoveries	\$4,126,755.00



## *Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit*



### *Retirements, Promotions, and Reassignments*

#### **Retirements**

In January 2025, Criminal Investigator Sonda Lee retired with approximately 10 years of service. Lieutenant Michael Wilkerson retired with 29 years and 8 months of service.

In February 2025, Captain Belinda Murphy retired with 23 years and 4 months of service.

In April 2025, Sergeant David Jernigan retired with 26 years of service.

#### **Promotions**

In January 2025, Sergeant William "Dale" Latham of LSP-IFAT-Breaux Bridge was promoted to

Lieutenant of LSP-IFAT. Sergeant Jon Tircuit was promoted from LSP-IFAT-Baton Rouge Field Office to Lieutenant of the Special Victims Unit (SVU).

In February 2025, Trooper First Class (TFC) Daniel Graff of LSP-IFAT-Covington Field Office was promoted to Sergeant of LSP-IFAT-Baton Rouge Field Office.

In March 2025, Lieutenant Joseph Patout was promoted to Captain of Special Investigations Division.

In May 2025, TFC Cody Roy was promoted from the Criminal Investigative Division (CID) Bossier Field Office to Sergeant of LSP-IFAT-Bossier Field Office.

#### **Reassignments**

In February 2025, Sergeant Tony Washington was reassigned from the Special Victim's Unit (SVU) Baton Rouge Field Office to LSP-IFAT-Breaux Bridge Field Office.

In June 2025, Criminal Investigator Joseph Cuccia was hired in LSP-IFAT-New Orleans Field Office.

In July 2025, Trooper First Class Melissa George was reassigned from the SVU to LSP-IFAT-Bossier Field Office.

In October 2025, Trooper Tyler Werner was reassigned from Troop C Patrol to LSP-IFAT-Houma Field Office.

### *Team Member Spotlights*

**(IFAT-Bossier City)** - Trooper First Class (TFC) MeLissa George has been employed with the Louisiana State Police (LSP) for 8 years. In 2018, TFC George was assigned to Troop G patrol and transferred to Special Victim's Unit (SVU) in 2020. While in SVU, she worked cases involving child exploitation, human trafficking, and abuse

## *Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit*

### **Team Member Spotlights (continued)**

cases against the elderly. She was also assigned to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICACTF) for Northwest Louisiana. In July 2025, she transferred from SVU to the Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit's Bossier City Field Office. TFC George is currently assigned to the LSP Mobile Field Force Unit (where she has served for seven years), a LSP cadet Mentor, duty officer, and the Louisiana State Troopers Association and Central State Troopers Coalition (CSTC) Secretary. Prior to joining the LSP family, TFC George worked as a Corporal with Shreveport Police Department (SPD) for six and a half years. Joining SPD inspired her mother, Barbara, to do the same and they became the first "Mother Daughter Duo" to work at SPD. In her spare time, TFC George enjoys spending time with family, crafting, working out, fishing, traveling, and serving at her church.

**(IFAT-Bossier)** - Sergeant Cody Roy has been employed with the Louisiana State Police for 6 years. In August 2023, he was transferred from Troop G Patrol to the Bureau of Investigations Criminal Investigative Division (CID), where he worked as a Detective in the Bossier City Field Office. In May 2025, he was promoted from CID to Sergeant in Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft for the Bossier City and Monroe Field Offices. He has been a use-of-force instructor and taser instructor for LSP since 2023 and assists in teaching LSP cadet classes and Trooper in-service. Before joining LSP, he was employed at the Shreveport Police Department for six years, where he was a Detective in the Armed Robbery/Violent Crimes Unit. He is married and has three children. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family, coaching his children's sports teams, and hunting.

**(IFAT-Alexandria)** - Senior Trooper (ST) Mary Yolanda Neal was born in Rapides Parish and

raised in LaSalle Parish. ST Neal was a proud graduate of Jena High School in Jena, LA. Following high school she joined the Louisiana Army National Guard. She served over 22 years from 1987 to 2009, 19 years where she was assigned to the Counterdrug Task Force, before retiring at the rank of First Sergeant. From 2011 to 2014 she was employed at the Rapides Parish 911 Center as a Communications Operator and was promoted to Communications Operator II and training officer. In 2014, she was selected to join the Louisiana State Police Cadet class #92. Upon completion, she was assigned to Troop E on patrol. In 2021, ST Neal transferred to the Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit. Her hobbies include camping, boating, and enjoying spending time with family and friends.

**(IFAT-Breaux Bridge)** - Sergeant Tony Washington is a native of Lafayette, Louisiana. He has served with the Louisiana State Police for seven years. His law-enforcement career has included assignments in Protective Services, Internal Affairs, and the Special Victim's Unit. Tony has broad experience across multiple areas and has coordinated multi-agency operations statewide. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Sociology from Southern University and a Master's degree in Social Work from Southern University at New Orleans. Tony is married to his wife, Chloe, and is the proud father of two sons, Tony James and Wesley Davis. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time with his family, cooking, hunting, fishing, traveling, and cheering on the New Orleans Saints.

**(IFAT-New Orleans)** - In June 2025, Investigator Joseph Cuccia was hired by the Louisiana State Police and assigned to the Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit's New Orleans Field Office. He originally joined the Louisiana State Police in 1994 and retired in October 2020 with 26.5 years

## *Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit*

### **Team Member Spotlights (continued)**

of service, with 20 years of that spent in the Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit. Before joining LSP, Cuccia was employed with the New Orleans Police Department for three years. Cuccia is married to his wife of 32 years and has three children and three grandchildren. He enjoys spending time with his family and exercising.

**(IFAT-Baton Rouge)** - Sergeant Daniel Graff has served as a Louisiana State Trooper since 2015. He began his career assigned to Troop B in Kenner, Louisiana, and in 2019 was reassigned to the IFAT New Orleans Field Office. Sgt. Graff also spent approximately six years assigned to the Region 1 SWAT Team. In February 2025, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and reassigned to the IFAT Baton Rouge Field Office. In his spare time, he enjoys cooking, traveling, and spending time with his family.

**(IFAT-Houma)** - Trooper Tyler Werner has been employed with the Louisiana State Police since December 2021. In October 2025, he transferred from Troop C to the Insurance Fraud / Auto Theft Unit in the Houma Field Office. Before joining the Louisiana State Police, he was a student worker at Fleet Operations at the Louisiana State Police

Headquarters building. In his spare time, Trooper Werner enjoys spending to with his family and fishing.



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# Louisiana Attorney General Liz Merrill's Criminal Division

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## INSURANCE FRAUD SUPPORT UNIT 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

## *Insurance Fraud Support Unit*



Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill is proud of the efforts of her Insurance Fraud Support Unit (the Unit). Through criminal prosecutions and the recovery of restitution from insurance fraud offenders, the unit is a valuable asset in the fight against

criminals who defraud the State and its taxpayers. The Unit operates as part of a tri-agency task force created by the Legislature and dedicated solely to fighting insurance fraud in Louisiana.

The Unit fulfills three primary responsibilities: providing legal advice and consultation in insurance fraud matters to the other two task force agencies – the Louisiana State Police (LSP) and the Louisiana Department of Insurance (LADOI); prosecuting individuals statewide charged with insurance fraud; and presenting insurance fraud information and training to the insurance industry along with state and federal agencies.

The primary objective of the Unit is to provide superior legal representation to the LADOI and LSP in insurance fraud investigations and prosecutions. Assistant Attorneys General assigned to the Unit prosecute violations of Louisiana’s criminal laws under Titles 14, 22, 23, and 47 by conducting – or assisting in – criminal prosecutions upon the recusal or assistance request of local district attorneys and by providing legal support to law enforcement agencies investigating criminal insurance fraud.

The Unit may handle insurance fraud cases that begin with a complaint made directly to the Attorney General’s Office. Additionally, the Unit

may consult with – and provide legal support to – all local and state law enforcement agencies regarding insurance fraud matters and questions. This includes, but is not limited to, reviewing drafts of arrest and search warrants; conducting legal research; and evaluating cases from a prosecutor’s perspective (i.e., whether there is sufficient evidence to satisfy legal burdens of proof). Due to the complex nature of some of the cases handled – the local district attorney may be consulted while the investigation is still ongoing to obtain the necessary authority to offer a plea agreement, immunity to a target of the investigation to secure his cooperation concerning other targets, or request to prosecute the case outright.

The Unit’s attorneys attend regularly scheduled intelligence-sharing meetings hosted by LSP in Baton Rouge. These meetings are attended by members of special investigative units from many insurance companies that do business in Louisiana. Under a statutory grant of immunity from civil liability, these personnel share information with law enforcement regarding fraud trends and specific active investigations. This level of information sharing allows all participants in the Louisiana Insurance Fraud Task Force to stay abreast of the constantly evolving methods that offenders employ to commit fraud, and has resulted in the successful prosecutions of several staged accident rings, producer fraud cases, health care provider fraud cases, and theft of equipment and automobiles.

All of the Unit’s attorneys attend continuing legal education training from various sources, including the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) and other NICB or NAIC sponsored training. Moreover, the Unit is

## *Insurance Fraud Support Unit*

connected with the Homeland Security Information Network – enabling attorneys to track insurance fraud cases from start to finish. This network allows everyone involved with the cases to have access to relevant information at all times.

The Unit continues its work of protecting consumers and insurers in Louisiana by actively working with its partners in the State Insurance Fraud Task Force, and by fostering relationships with insurers to ensure that their interests in deterring and prosecuting fraud are fully represented in the criminal justice system.

### **BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE UNIT**

#### **Statutory Authority for Operations**

La. Const. Art. IV, Section 8 provides, in pertinent part:

As necessary for the assertion or protection of any right or interest of the state, the attorney general shall have authority

- (2) upon the written request of a district attorney, to advise and assist in the prosecution of any criminal case; and
- (3) for cause, when authorized by the court which would have original jurisdiction and subject to judicial review,
  - (a) to institute, prosecute, or intervene in any criminal action or proceedings, or
  - (b) to supersede any attorney representing the state in any civil or criminal action.

La. Code of Criminal Procedure Article 682 provides, in pertinent part:

When a district attorney is recused...it shall be the duty of the Attorney General to appoint a member of his staff...to act in the place of the recused district attorney.

La. R. S. 36:702(E) provides:

There shall be within the Department of Justice a criminal division. It shall be responsible for criminal appeals, amicus curiae briefs in criminal prosecutions, habeas corpus defense, assistance to district attorneys in criminal cases, criminal prosecution, public corruption, institutional and insurance fraud cases, and extraditions, in accordance with Article IV, Section 8 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

#### **Additional Statutory Authority for Insurance Fraud Support Unit Operations**

La. R. S. 40:1421 et seq.

#### **Primary Purpose of Insurance Fraud Support Unit**

To provide superior legal representation to LADOI and LSP in insurance fraud investigations and prosecutions.

To participate in LADOI and LSP meetings to screen insurance fraud referrals.

To assist local District Attorneys in prosecuting insurance fraud.

# Insurance Fraud Support Unit

Insurance Fraud Expenditures	
Salaries	\$396,181.00
Other Compensation	\$58,594.00
Related Benefits	\$191,466.00
Operating Services	\$16,074.00
Travel	\$1,076.00
IAT Charges	\$25,636.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$689,027.00</b>

## STATISTICAL INFORMATION FOR THE UNIT

A strategic objective for the Unit is to provide legal support to law enforcement agencies investigating criminal insurance fraud referrals by responding to requests for legal consultation within two working days and by attending 90% of intelligence-sharing meetings hosted by the LSP Insurance Fraud Unit. In 2025, the Unit’s attorneys attended all six of the intelligence sharing meetings with the LADOI and the LSP fraud units.

During the 2025 calendar year, the Unit not only reached the standard of 95% percent of requests for legal consultation responded to

within two working days; but exceeded this goal by handling 100% of all requests for legal consultation within two working days.

The Unit meets the State goal for Crime and Safety Reform of bringing security to all Louisiana citizens by protecting our taxpayers from insurance related fraud. LADOI estimates that there are over \$500 million dollars lost annually in Louisiana to insurance fraud, as it as it pertains to casualty and property claims. This does not include healthcare fraud which is estimated to be about \$1.5 billion in Louisiana alone. The typical Louisiana household pays almost \$1,000 a year in fraud-related charges passed on to them as consumers.

Active Prosecutions (as of Dec 31, 2025)	71
New Prosecutions 2025	18
Felony Convictions 2025	28
Misdemeanor Convictions 2025	1
Restitution Ordered	\$213,165.80

# *Insurance Fraud Support Unit*

## **OTHER 2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

During the 2018 calendar year, the Unit entered into a prosecution assistance agreement with the 19th Judicial District Attorney's Office – allowing Assistant Attorneys General to prosecute all insurance fraud cases occurring in East Baton Rouge Parish (or where East Baton Rouge Parish is a proper jurisdiction). This agreement has resulted in 32 active pending prosecutions of Task Force cases as of December 31, 2022. Nine different Assistant Attorneys General are currently prosecuting Task Force cases in various jurisdictions throughout the State of Louisiana, allowing the development of experience and expertise in insurance fraud cases on a broader level in the Criminal Division of the Attorney General's Office.

In 2025, the Unit instituted 18 new prosecutions of Insurance Fraud Task Force cases. The Unit also resolved 28 Task Force cases by way of felony guilty pleas in 2025. Included in that number are 10 convictions of defendants apprehended in "Operation Dirty Deeds" conducted by the Louisiana State Police. These defendants were

participants in an organized group engaged in Filing False Public Records, Forgery and Tax Evasion seeking to defraud the State of Louisiana.

The Unit continues to strive to increase its role in active prosecution of Task Force cases statewide to ensure that taxpayers and insurers in Louisiana are protected from fraud. In their role as prosecutors, Assistant Attorneys General work to see justice done in each individual case, and to highlight the important work done by its partners in combatting insurance fraud.



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# Louisiana Department of Insurance

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**Commissioner Tim Temple**

## Office of Insurance Fraud



### Claims Fraud...

The Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI) Office of Insurance Fraud (OIF) received 4,317 reports of suspected fraudulent claims during 2025. The majority were from insurance companies in accordance with La. R.S. 22:1926. Since its inception in 2007, the Office of Insurance Fraud database has accumulated 56,635 entries of suspected fraudulent claims.

During 2025, the Office of Insurance Fraud referred 3,341 claim fraud investigations to Louisiana State Police. There were 114 arrests resulting in 293 charges for numerous crimes as a result of criminal referrals related to suspected fraudulent insurance claims.

### Charges Against Claimants or Licensees Resulting from Referrals by Category

Category	Number of Charges*	Percent of Crimes
Insurance Fraud	85	29.0%
Automobile Insurance Fraud	82	28.0%
Other	28	9.6%
Illegal Possession of Stolen Things	17	5.8%
Staging of Motor Vehicle Collision	17	5.8%
Forgery	13	4.4%
Identity Theft	11	3.7%
Motor Vehicle Alter/Removal of Identifying Numbers	10	3.4%
Filing False Public Records	10	3.4%
Theft	6	2.0%
Bank Fraud	3	1.0%
Injuring Public Records	2	0.7%
Criminal Conspiracy for Identify Theft	2	0.7%
Unfair Trade Practices	1	0.3%
Damage to Property with Intent to Defraud	1	0.3%
Filing False Auto Theft Affidavit	1	0.3%
Altering Dealer Inventory Plates	1	0.3%
Prohibited Acts (Producers)	1	0.3%
Unlawful Possession of Fraudulent ID Documents	1	0.3%
License Requirement	1	0.3%

\*An arrest may include multiple charges.

## Office of Insurance Fraud

### 2025 Producer, Adjuster and Company Fraud Actions...

Action	Number
Number of Investigations Opened	185
Fines and Monetary Penalties	41
Consent Orders	5
License Revocations	17
License Suspensions	3
License Surrendered	1
Cease and Desist Orders Served	22
Criminal Referrals to Law Enforcement	61
Arrests Made as a Result of Criminal Referrals	3
Monetary Penalties	\$147,250

### 2025 Background Investigations...

The Office of Insurance Fraud investigates the backgrounds of company officers, directors, claims adjusters and other entities applying to conduct the business of insurance in Louisiana. This includes changes of officers and directors within domestic companies currently authorized to do business in the State.

Action	Number
Company Applications Received	94
Company Applications Approved	95
Company Biographical Affidavits Received	692
Company Biographical Affidavits Approved	690

### 2025 Office of Insurance Fraud Organizational Highlights...

The Office of Insurance Fraud reorganized in 2024 to encompass insurance fraud investigations for any person who is suspected to have committed a fraudulent insurance act –regardless of whether the subject of the investigation is licensed by the Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI). The LDI’s OIF, in partnership with other Anti-Fraud Task Force members, deployed market surveillance to monitor online behavior within the context of the insurance ecosystem, is deploying measures to identify and investigate collusive insurance fraud, and developing artificial intelligence initiatives to aid in efficient use of human resources.

# Office of Insurance Fraud

Expenditure Category	Amount
Salaries-Class - Regular	789,328.43
Salaries-Class-Termination	84.24
Salaries-Unclass- Regular	154,662.83
Wages	22,321.25
Retire Contrib - State Employee	315,524.60
Post Retirement Benefits	31,550.04
Medicare Tax	13,141.97
Group Insurance Contributions	93,119.14
<b>TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES</b>	<b>\$1,419,732.50</b>
In-State Travel - Conf/Conv	7,795.82
In-State Travel—Field Travel	97.48
Out-of-State Travel - Admin	153.76
Out-of-State Travel - Conf/Conv	4,140.38
<b>TOTAL TRAVEL</b>	<b>\$12,187.44</b>
Printing	150.94
Rent - Real Estate	1,298.28
Rent—DP Licensing Software	39,900.00
Serv - Dues & Other	4,316.10
Serv-Subscriptions	13,409.50
Serv - Dues & Other - Bar	435.00
Util - Mail/Del/Post	3,993.82
Util - Mailbox Rental	360.00
Operating Services - Misc.	1,519.50
<b>TOTAL OPERATING SERVICES</b>	<b>\$65,383.14</b>
Office Supplies	8.00
Operating Supplies - Computer	962.92
Sup - Other	1,877.17
<b>TOTAL SUPPLIES</b>	<b>\$2,848.09</b>
Prof Serv-Other Professional Services	538,670.50
Prof Serv-IT Consulting	89,900.00
<b>TOTAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</b>	<b>\$628,570.50</b>
Acq—Computer Hardware	22,951.35
<b>TOTAL ACQUISITIONS</b>	<b>\$22,951.35</b>
IAT - Postage	92.93
<b>TOTAL IAT</b>	<b>\$92.93</b>
<b>TOTAL OFFICE OF INSURANCE FRAUD EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$2,151,765.95</b>

## Calendar Year 2025 Budget Expenditures...

### OFFICE OF INSURANCE FRAUD

Total Expenditures	<b>\$2,151,765.95</b>
Means of Financing	
Insurance Fraud Investigation Fund	\$1,661,117.42
LDI Self-Generated Funds	<u>\$490,648.53</u>
Total Means of Financing	<b>\$2,151,765.95</b>

## *Office of Insurance Fraud*

### *Report Insurance Fraud to the Louisiana Department of Insurance*

**Insurance Fraud** is ANY intentional misrepresentation to profit from an insurance entity.

**Report Fraud Online:**

<http://www.ldi.la.gov/consumers/insurance-fraud/report-insurance-fraud>

**By Phone:**

(225) 342-4956 or (800) 259-5300

**By Mail:**

P.O. Box 3096, Baton Rouge, LA 70821

**Physical Address:**

1702 N. Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

<http://www.ldi.la.gov/>



# LOUISIANA INSURANCE FRAUD TASK FORCE

## LOUISIANA STATE POLICE

Insurance Fraud & Auto Theft Unit  
7919 Independence Blvd., A-19, Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
(225) 925-3536  
[www.lsp.org/ifu.html](http://www.lsp.org/ifu.html)  
Email: [lsp.insurance.fraud.unit@la.gov](mailto:lsp.insurance.fraud.unit@la.gov)

## LOUISIANA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Insurance Fraud Support Unit  
1885 N. Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
(225) 326-6000  
[www.ag.state.la.us](http://www.ag.state.la.us)

## LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Office of Insurance Fraud  
1702 N. Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
(225) 342-4956  
[www.ldi.la.gov](http://www.ldi.la.gov)

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***HELP LOUISIANA BOOT OUT FRAUD!***