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# NEWS RELEASE



## Jupiter Police Department

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### Arrest Made in 'Organized Scheme to Defraud' Case

**October 6, 2008** – In September, 2007, Jupiter Police Department's Detective Nestor Zaragoza, who is also a Task Force Agent with the Office of the State Attorney's Anti-Money Laundering Task Force, began an investigation into fraud allegations against **Brett Cormier**, owner of four Procida Tile stores in South Florida. Following a lengthy investigation, Mr. Cormier was arrested this morning and charged with 'Organized Scheme to Defraud' and 'Grand Theft'.

Agent Zaragoza's investigation led to the discovery of several victims who had paid large sums of money to Mr. Cormier for the purpose of investing in the business 'Procida Tile'. The victims received no value for their investment and the monies were not used for their intended purpose. The victims' money was deposited and transferred within approximately thirty-three bank accounts held in the name of approximately thirteen different business entities of which Mr. Cormier was the registered agent. Mr. Cormier obtained a total of approximately \$1.9 million dollars from the various victims and used the funds for his own use and other unauthorized purposes.

Procida Tile had four locations operating in South Florida (Melbourne, Port Saint Lucie, Jupiter and West Palm Beach).

Additional charges are pending in this case. Anyone with information regarding this investigation is asked to contact Agent Nestor Zaragoza at 561-746-6201.

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