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Press Release



At left is Insurance Fraud Bureau executive director Daniel Johnston presenting District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey with the grant check that will continue the task force fighting insurance fraud in Quincy and Randolph.

Norfolk DA Morrissey Extends Partnership to Fight Insurance Fraud

*Suppression of staged thefts
and crashes holds firm*

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Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey and Insurance Fraud Bureau Executive Director Daniel Johnston have renewed their successful partnership with Quincy and Randolph Police to fight fraud on the south shore – saving honest drivers money.

“This is both a public safety and a consumer issue,” District Attorney Morrissey said. “Every cent insurance companies pay out in false theft or accident claims becomes higher premiums for honest drivers. And even staged crashes can cause real injuries.”

The task force was founded in 2005, including Randolph Police, and soon expanded to include Quincy, according to Morrissey and Johnston. The problem of thefts and accidents being staged to support bogus insurance claims drew broad media and public attention after a bogus accident left a Lawrence grandmother dead; the man who staged the crash was eventually convicted of Manslaughter in Essex Superior Court.

Johnston said the task force has referred 78 fully investigated cases to the DA’s office since inception, resulting in 76 defendants being charged with insurance fraud related crimes. The Community Insurance Fraud Initiative is funded in part by a \$39,000 grant from the IFB. “The task force has had a remarkable impact. There is evidence that insurance fraud schemes have been drying up.”

“This success is possible because of the work of our partners in the Quincy and Randolph Police Departments,” Morrissey said. “Chief William Pace and Chief Paul Keenan deserve credit for agreeing that this should be addressed. By using resources together, intelligently, the arc of this problem has been reversed.”

“The Insurance Fraud Bureau is pleased to partner with local police departments in Randolph and Quincy, and to work closely with the prosecutors in Norfolk District Attorney Michael Morrissey’s office,” Johnston said. “Visible, aggressive investigations against perpetrators of insurance fraud benefit the honest rate payers who play by the rules. We are committed to driving insurance fraud out of our system, with the result being lower insurance premiums for everyone.”