

**KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE** STATE ATTORNEY TELEPHONE (305) 547-0100 www.miamiSAO.com

#### **PRESS RELEASE**

MIAMI, FLORIDA 33136-2111

Contact: Ed Griffith: 305-547-0535

# FHP OFFICER CHARGED IN FALSE TICKET SCAM

#### False Tickets Plague Unknowing Drivers

Miami (February 2, 2010) – In response to citizen complaints about the issuance of traffic citations for offenses that did not occur, a 12 year veteran trooper of the Florida Highway Patrol has been arrested.

Trooper Paul C. Lawrence has been charged with Official Misconduct after an investigation revealed that numerous tickets he submitted to the Miami-Dade court system were bogus. Trooper Lawrence had been a member of Troop E in Miami-Dade County.

The Florida Highway Patrol first became aware of the problem on November 24, 2009. At that time, Captain Marshall Davies of Troop E began to receive telephone calls from concerned individuals complaining that they had received notices about the issuance of traffic citations that never occurred. The citations were issued by one officer, Trooper Paul C. Lawrence.

All of the complaining individuals had been stopped by Trooper Lawrence in the past, but denied receiving the new traffic citations. A lack of knowledge of the tickets caused some of the victims to have their Driver Licenses suspended. Further investigation revealed a discrepancy between the citations filed via computer with the Miami-Dade court system and the number of citations filed with the Division of Motor Vehicles in Tallahassee. An apparent pattern revealed that the false citations were never signed by the alleged drivers.

The investigation also revealed that most of the drivers could never have been at the cited locations when the tickets were issued.

A desire to increase the number of citations reported to the Florida Highway Patrol appears to be the motivation for Lawrence's actions.

"We all know that honesty and integrity are the central values of every effective police agency," said Dade State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle. "When an officer lies, he damages the reputation of his department and every one of his fellow officers. In Mr. Lawrence's case, he has also committed a crime. Now we all must work to undo the damage Mr. Lawrence created."

Paul C. Lawrence has been charged with:

22 counts of Official Misconduct (3rd Degree Felony)

E. R. GRAHAM BUILDING 1350 N.W. 12TH AVENUE MIAMI, FLORIDA 33136-2111

KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE STATE ATTORNEY

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January 29, 2010

Clerk of the Court Harvey Ruvin

Dear Mr. Ruvin:

Pursuant to an ongoing criminal investigation, the Office of the State Attorney is dismissing the attached list of citations, incorporated by reference. We are requesting at this time, that the Clerk of the Court in and for Miami Dade County dismiss the attached citations and set aside any Driver License Suspensions resulting from these citations.

Sincerely,

KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE

State Attorney

By:

Isis M. Perez

Assistant State Attorney

#### **NOVEMBER 2009**

NOVENIDER 2009	•	
CITATION	DATE	Name
1670SMW 1673SMW 1674SMW 1675SMW 1676SMW	11/4/2009	MICHAEL GEORGE CASTELLON
3530SMW 3531SMW	11/11/2009	MARIA ESPINOZA WILKERSON
3533SMW	11/11/2009	MANUEL ANTONIO CUZAN
3537SMW 3538SMW	11/11/2009	CEDRIC E CUNNINGHAM
3539SMW	11/11/2009	ERNEST J KNIGHT
3540SMW	11/11/2009	CANDITO CARDONA
3541SMW 3542SMW	11/11/2009	GUSTAVO ANTONIO HERNANDEZ
3543SMW	11/12/2009	KESI KENIKA SAWYER
3544SMW 3545SMW	11/12/2009	LUIS ALEJANDRO JIMENEZ
3546SMW 3547SMW	11/12/2009	YAZMIN T TORRES
3548SMW 3549SMW	11/12/2009	HELEN SILVEIRA VAZQUE
3550SMW 3551SMW	11/12/2009	ROLANDO DIAZ
3555SMW 3556SMW	11/12/2009	EUGENE JERMAELDERON BOWEN
3557SMW 3558SMW <b>3559SMW</b>	11/12/2009	WATERIO REY JIMENEZ



CITATION	DATE	Name
3563SMW 3564SMW 3565SMW	11/12/2009	DAVID ALPHANSO PRYCE
3567SMW 3568SMW 3569SMW	11/13/2009	DANIEL A RODRIGUEZ
3572SMW 3573SMW 3574SMW	11/13/2009	DANIEL VALDES
3578SMW 3579SMW	11/13/2009	PAUL D FISHER
3583SMW 3584SMW 3585SMW	11/13/2009	REGINA N WELLLMAN
3586SMW 3587SMW	11/16/2009	DAVID Y GASTOR PALDEON
3588SMW 3589SMW	11/16/2009	MICHAEL OBOURKE
3592SMW 3593SMW	11/16/2009	LUIS A CHIRINOS
3594SMW 3595SMW	11/16/2009	ANTOINE TASSY
3596SMW 3597SMW	11/16/2009	ROBERT RUSELL COXE
3598SMW 3599SMW	11/16/2009	MANUEL DIAZ
<b>3600SMW</b> 5326SMW 5327SMW	11/17/2009	TIMOTHY TYRONE COACHMAN
5328SMW 5329SMW	11/17/2009	ALEXANDER L LLAGUNO
5330SMW	11/17/2009	JOHN A PUNTERVOLD



CITATION	DATE	Name
5334SMW 5335SMW	11/17/2009	EMA P SESCA
5336SMW 5337SMW 5338SMW 5339SMW	11/17/2009	MELISSA ARTAYETA
5354SMW 5355SMW	11/18/2009	BRIAN LAWSON
5356SMW 5357SMW	11/18/2009	DAMIAN TAPANES CRUZ
5364SMW 5365SMW 5366SMW	11/18/2009	VANESSA VERGARA
5367SMW 5368SMW 5369SMW	11/18/2009	MARIA ALEXANDRA SIMONS
5370SMW 5371SMW 5372SMW	11/18/2009	RENIER VALDES
5376SMW 5377SMW	11/18/2009	SISSI VALDES
5380SMW	11/19/2009	ANGIE ROJAS
5381SMW 5382SMW 5383SMW	11/19/2009	ARMANDO CABRERA
5387SMW 5388SMW 5389SMW	11/19/2009	WILLIAM JOSE HERNANDEZ
5390SMW 5391SMW 5392SMW	11/19/2009	RAFAEL PERLERA
5393SMW	11/19/2009	EDDIE WAYNE LINGERFELT



CITATION	DATE	Name
6076SMW 6077SMW	11/19/2009	RODRIGO FERNANDEZ
6078SMW 6079SMW 6080SMW 6081SMW	11/19/2009	JAIME G RIVERA
6086SMW 6087SMW 6088SMW	11/20/2009	DAVID HENRIQUEZ
6089SMW 6090SMW 6091SMW	11/20/2009	ERICK PAUL RODRIGUEZ
6092SMW 6093SMW	11/20/2009	JOSE ANTONIO MEDEROS
6094SMW 6095SMW	11/20/2009	PEDRO ANTONIO HERNANDEZ
6096SMW 6097SMW 6098SMW	11/20/2009	ERVIN ONEIL RAMSAY
6099SMW 6100SMW 6101SMW	11/20/2009	IBRAIN GOMEZ DIAZ
6102SMW 6103SMW 6104SMW	11/20/2009	MYRIAM I GAONA
6105SMW 6106SMW	11/23/2009	TIMOTHY LEE RODGERS
6107SMW 6108SMW 6109SMW	11/23/2009	DAVID L CHERNIN
6110SMW 6111SMW	11/23/2009 11/23/2009	KENNETH WILLIAM KAMPHUES KENNETH WILLIAM KAMPHUES



CITATION	DATE	Name
6112SMW 6113SMW	11/23/2009	PATRICK FRANCOIS BARTHELEMY
DECEMBER 2009 CITATION	DATE	Name
7948SUE 7949SUE	12/29/2009	JOSE J REBOLLAR
7950SUE	12/29/2009	ARESKY MUNGUIA
9826SUE 9827SUE 9828SUE 9829SUE	12/30/2009	BRETT JORDAN DOCKENDORF
9830SUE 9833SUE	12/30/2009	VERONICA CARMENATE VALLE
9834SUE	12/30/2009	JULIO C RAMIREZ
9835SUE 9836SUE 9837SUE	12/30/2009	LESLIE IZQUIERDO
9838SUE 9839SUE 9840SUE 9841SUE 9842SUE 9843SUE	12/31/2009	MOHAMAD A MAHMOUD
9844SUE 9845SUE	12/31/2009	GERARDO J HEDMAN
9846SUE 9847SUE 9848SUE	12/31/2009	GARY ST ALJOE
9849SUE 9850SUE	12/31/2009	ERNESTO HERNANDEZ



#### **JANUARY 2010**

CITATION	DATE	Name
9851SUE 9852SUE	1/5/2010	FELISHA L LASHLEY
9853SUE 9854SUE 9855SUE	1/5/2010	YULIESKY ARGOTA
9856SUE 9857SUE 9858SUE 9859SUE 9860SUE	1/6/2010	ANTHONY R AKHAVAN NOT DI
9861SUE 9862SUE	1/6/2010	ANNELYS ZAMORA
9863SUE 9864SUE 9865SUE 9866SUE	1/6/2010	NATALY VASQUEAZ
9867SUE 9868SUE 9869SUE 9871SUE 9872SUE 9873SUE	1/6/2010	JEANETTE JIMENEZ
9874SUE	1/6/2010	JOSUE A HARO
9875SUE	1/6/2010	RACIELL GONZALEZ AGUIAR
9876SUE 9877SUE	1/7/2010	VANTRICE LATRELLE RANDOLPH
9878SUE 9879SUE	1/7/2010	CHRISTINA COLLAZO
9880SUE	1/7/2010	AMARIS KYA LYNCH
9881SUE 9882SUE	1/7/2010	ELIAN LAGUNA



CITATION	DATE	Name
9883SUE 9884SUE	1/7/2010	NATALIE CARDENAS
9885SUE 9886SUE	1/12/2010	PABLO GUILLERMO IACUB
9887SUE	1/12/2010	ENOC CABRERA
9888SUE 9889SUE	1/12/2010	ANDRES EDUARDO CASTRO
9890SUE 9891SUE 9892SUE	1/12/2010	ANTONIO E TABORDA CURY
9893SUE 9894SUE 9895SUE	1/13/2010	JOSE D AMBERS
9896SUE	1/13/2010	FRANCISCO MELENDEZHENRNAN
9897SUE 9898SUE	1/13/2010	JESUS VELOZ
9899SUE 9900SUE	1/13/2010	REINIER VELOZ TRIANA

