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The Justice Coalition began in 1995 because one man's priorities were changed. Ted Hires was the average businessman working 60 to 80 hours a week and looking out for himself until that day when he and his staff were held at gunpoint and robbed. Being a victim of crime, Ted found the criminal justice system worked harder for the criminal than the victim. As a result of Ted's experience, he formed a (501C3) non-profit organization, the Justice Coalition, and is making an effort to change the Fourth Judicial court system for the better.

Since 1995, the Justice Coalition has been fighting crime every step of the way. Fugitives captured are through a partnership with local media and law enforcement agencies.

The Justice Coalition's

Victims' Advocate

A free newspaper supporting victims' rights published monthly by The Justice Coalition. The opinions of contributing writers are not necessarily those of the Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate or the Justice Coalition. The Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate welcomes both editorial and photographic submission, but they cannot be returned. Please allow six weeks for a response to submitted works. Calendar information is welcome but must be submitted one month in advance of the event.

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All correspondence to the Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate should be sent to:

Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate
1935 Lane Ave., South, Suite 1 • Jacksonville, Florida 32210
Phone: (904) 783-6312 • Fax: (904) 783-4172

THE JUSTICE COALITION'S OBJECTIVES

- To be available for innocent victims of violent crime
- To educate the general public on criminal justice issues
- To be pro-active in the fight against crime

Advertising Deadline

The deadline for advertising copy for the **May 2010 Edition** of the JUSTICE COALITION'S VICTIMS' ADVOCATE is **April 10, 2010.**

THE SECRET WORD GAME

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARCH'S WINNER, EDDIE BRETT. THANKS FOR PLAYING.

Hidden in the text of the Victims' Advocate is the **SECRET WORD** for the month of **April**. The rules are simple:

1. Find the word.
2. Telephone the Justice Coalition office 783-6312.
3. The first person who telephones the correct Secret Word wins a Gift Certificate to Sonny's Real Pit Barbeque Restaurant.
4. You can only win once in a twelve month period.

SO START SEARCHING!

Exclusions: no persons employed by the Justice Coalition, Sonny's, nor their families are eligible.



Bill McCollum Attorney General

Seniors vs Crime

A Special Project of the Florida Attorney General



On Feb. 26 Attorney General Bill McCollum joined David Blacklock (l.), Regional Director of Region 3, and JSO Chief of Community Affairs David Stevens to cut the ribbon officially opening both the Jax Highland and Jax Regency Offices of Seniors vs. Crime.

**Region 3
2009 Case Synopses**

Failure to Repay Debt

Our most memorable case resulted in the return of over \$10,000 and the complainant's dignity. A 92-year-old woman (St. Johns Office) in a wheelchair at the assisted living center in which she resided told us a story she was too embarrassed to tell anyone else. For the past few months she had been hounded by a collection agency over a \$10,000 debt incurred when a younger woman befriended her during an outing and eventually "assisted" her in obtaining a credit card which was maxed out within the month with all of the proceeds going to the younger woman, who did not make good on promises to repay the debt. The secret word is trust. The case eventually morphed into three cases involving the bank (possible predatory lending), the collection agency (possible harassment) and the other woman (alleged fraud). Three Sleuths spent about 18 months on the case, working with the bank, the collection agency, law enforcement and, eventually, the legal system to bring the many aspects of the case into perspective and find a resolution. End result? The collection company stopped calling, the bank converted the ever-escalating credit card interest and charges to a fixed conventional loan with a 1-year moratorium on payments while recovery was pursued. And yes, the alleged defrauder paid off the original debt.

Unable to Return Merchandise

An 89-year-old woman (Volusia Office) was contacted by a vacuum cleaner salesman who offered to clean her carpet. She agreed and he had her sign a contract for a new vacuum and left with her old one. This lady has poor vision and is so frail she could not use the vacuum. She tried to cancel the contract and was told it was too late because the 3-day return period had expired. We contacted the company and after a few phone calls, the vacuum was picked up and she received a refund of \$1605.

Paid More Than Advertised

An 86-year-old woman (Volusia Office) went to a car dealership after she was notified that she had a \$10 gift card there. She was ushered into an office, the door was closed and after four hours she signed papers for a new car. They also had an ad with a price of the new car, but she was charged more than the ad stated. She came to us to see what we could do. We called the dealer and set up a meeting in our office with the dealer and the lady to negotiate a settlement. She agreed to a refund of \$5,500.

Leak In New Roof

Marcia (Altamonte Springs Office) had hired a roofing company to replace her roof in May 2009. In September, she noticed a leak. After repeated calls to the roofing company, her requests for service had been ignored. The company kept telling her they couldn't fix the roof and to put a tarp over it. She couldn't afford to buy a tarp or have someone else come and fix the leak, so she came to us for help. Seniors vs Crime called the roofing company's owner on a Friday. He told us that he had only two employees left and was having a hard time staying afloat. He promised to have the roof repaired by Monday. Seniors vs Crime contacted Marcia on Tuesday and she confirmed that they had come to her home on Monday and repaired the leak. We saved her approximately \$600.

UNSOLVED MURDERS



Name: Kelli Chapple
Info: Kelli Chapple, 23, left home to dine with friends on Sept. 7, 2007, and was found murdered, along with a male friend, the next day in a Southside apartment Sept. 8, 2007.
Notify: JSO Homicide at 630-2172



Name: Mary Elizabeth Petersen
Info: This 34-year-old mother of two was strangled during the night and found by her little children on May 28, 2002.
Notify: JSO Homicide at 630-1157.



Name: John Patrick Rowan
Info: Rowan, 34, left his Ft. Caroline home before sunrise Feb. 23, 2001, and has not been seen since. His SUV was found a month later near the Orlando airport. His case has been ruled an unsolved homicide.
Notify: JSO Cold Case at 630-1157



Name: Paul W. Seidenstricker
Info: This 44-year-old beloved husband and father was murdered on E. 17th and Hubbard St. on Feb. 21, 1994, by multiple stab wounds.
Notify: JSO at 630-0500

\$200,000
REWARD

\$1,000
REWARD

Space paid by family