

## **Organized Retail Crime (ORC) Advisory Board Meeting**

June 17, 2021

### ***Attendees:***

Ms. Jamie Hansen, MSP  
D/F/Lt. Brad Cox, MSP  
Capt. James Smiley, MSP  
D/Lt. Theresa Maylone, MSP  
Sgt. Chris Gerard, MSP  
Mr. Bryant Osikowicz, AG

Mr. John Shuler, Target Loss Prevention  
Ms. Amy Drumm, Michigan Retailers Assoc.  
Mr. Dave Cammenga, Meijer  
Mr. Doug Lloyd, Eaton Co. Prosecutors Office  
Chief Vernon Coakley, Kalamazoo Police Dept.

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Meeting was called to order on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 1:32 p.m.

### **Legislative Update**

- House Bill 4241 – Forfeiture funds from disposed seized vehicles. Introduced in February-March 2021 has not received a committee hearing at that time. Received a hearing in the House Judiciary committee reported on it favorably, passed on June 15, 2021. Currently referred to Senate committee.
- House Bill 4472 - Amends 174a of Public Act 328 of 1931 (MCL 750.174a), to include elder adults in the crime of embezzlement. Updated that there has been no movement on this bill.
- Senate Bill 56 – Pertains to including certain embezzlement crimes in the definitions of racketeering. Representing Senator has no intentions of reintroducing this bill. No other similar bills have been introduced.
- House Bills 4631/4632 – Civil asset forfeiture bills, amends Article 7 of Controlled Substances of the Public Health Code. This would allow cash or property seized in the connection with drug offenses, to be subject to forfeiture without a conviction or guilty plea required if the cash or the property exceeds \$20,000.00.

### **Old Business**

The meeting minutes from March 18, 2021, were approved by committee. Motioned by Mr. Doug Lloyd, seconded by Chief Vernon Coakley.

### **New Business**

Ms. Drumm updated the ORC Advisory Board on the MRA Informed Act Draft Bills that are in process. These model bills that come from a federal perspective that will create transparency with Organized Retail Crimes legislation. The bills would look at high volume sellers that have over 200 online transactions or \$5,000.00 in gross sales would have to provide information to the marketplace and the marketplace would also provide that information to consumers on the marketplace websites. Ohio most recently took up similar bills. Congress also has a federal Informed Act that has not gained movement at this time.

**Roundtable**

Mr. Shuler is having a company called ORA, there are ten states that have joined ORA to create a unified database. The current platform only provides minimum capabilities to send out alerts and comes at a cost.

From a trend perspective, there has been a spike in in-house fraud and identity theft. Along with elder scams, to buy gift cards from a store and then send the gift cards to a fraudulent source.

Mr. Cammenga indicated that there is trend of pushing out of goods through fire escapes. Along with emptying out boxes and putting in larger cost items.

Mr. Maynard agreed with Mr. Shuler and Mr. Cammenga on the current trends. Copper theft has started to increase as well, so items with copper are a targeted item.

Mr. Lloyd indicated that many retail fraud cases are becoming more violent compared to cases from pre-COVID.

D/Lieutenant Maylone has been working with Meijer, Target, and other retailers in regard to on-going cases.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Next Meeting**

Next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 16, 2021, at 1:30 p.m. at Michigan State Police Headquarters. This is contingent upon COVID-19 operational procedures.

Meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.