IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HARDEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA

COURT CASE No. 35 2024 CF 000 327

VS.

OSP CASE No. 2022-0432-ORL

LARRY WILLIAM COLLINS (A),

DAVID PRESTON MILLS (B),

PAUL NEIL BECKHAM (C),

VERNON ROBERT FLOWERS (D),

Defendant(s).

FILED JUL 0 9 2024 HARDEE COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS

PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT FOR ARREST WARRANT

COMES NOW, your Affiant Investigator Camille Soverel, of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, who being a duly sworn law enforcement officer makes an application for an arrest warrant and in support of this application make the following statements under oath:

The Defendants are:

1. Name: LARRY WILLIAM COLLINS-DEFENDANT (A)

DOB: 12/28/1965 Race: Caucasian Gender: Male

Height: 6'4" SSN#:

DL#: C452-539-65-468-0

Address: 29157 Palm Shores Boulevard, Punta Gorda, FL 33982

2. Name: DAVID PRESTON MILLS-DEFENDANT (B)

DOB: 7/6/1967
Race: Caucasian
Gender: Male
Height: 5'10"

SSN#:

DL#: M420-175-67-246-0

Address: 1346 NE Brownville Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

3. Name: PAUL NEIL BECKHAM-DEFENDANT (C)

DOB: 6/3/1975
Race: Caucasian
Gender: Male
Height: 5'7"

SSN#:

DL#: B250-694-75-203-0

Address: 1481 Sandy Pine Drive, Punta Gorda, Fl 33982

4. Name: VERNON ROBERT FLOWERS-DEFENDANT (D)

DOB: 7/28/1952
Race: Caucasian
Gender: Male
Height: 5'10"

SSN#: DL#:

F462-876-52-268-0

Address: 6259 Everett Street, Naples, FL 34112-2978

Your Affiant has probable cause to believe and does believe that the laws of the State of Florida have been violated relative to:

COUNT 1:

ORGANIZED FRAUD: SCHEME TO DEFRAUD (\$20,000 or more but less than \$50,000.00)

F.S. §817.034(4)(a)2 and §777.011 2nd Degree Felony (F2), Level 5

COUNT 2:

CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT ORGANIZED FRAUD: SCHEME TO DEFRAUD (\$20,000 or more but less than \$50,000.00)

F.S. §817.034(4)(a)2, §777.04(3), and §777.011 3RD Degree Felony (F3), Level 4

COUNT 3: CHEATING

F.S. §817.29 and §777.011 3rd Degree Felony (F3), Level 4

COUNT 4: UNLAWFUL USE OF A TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION DEVICE F.S. §934.215 3rd Degree Felony (F3), Level 4

The said offenses occurred in two or more judicial circuits in the State of Florida as part of related transactions and/or are connected with an organized criminal conspiracy affecting two or more judicial circuits in the State of Florida including the Tenth and Twentieth Judicial Circuits including Hardee, Collier and Charlotte counties.

SUMMARY OVERVIEW

Larry Collins and his co-conspirators (Paul Beckham, David Mills and Vernon Flowers) engaged in a Scheme to Defraud to obtain monetary funds by advertising for and providing fraudulent non-wild Osceola turkey hunts to unsuspecting victims. Collins engaged in a systematic, ongoing course of conduct with intent to defraud one or more persons by advertising "Osceola" turkey hunts on his website (WWW.Razzorranch.com) with the intent to obtain monetary funds from one or more persons by false and fraudulent pretenses. Collins advertised Osceola turkey hunts at the FWC Licensed Blanket Hunting Preserve, known as Razzor Ranch in Hardee County. Collins scheduled the hunts with the victims, accepted monetary payment, and then coordinated with his hunting guides (co-conspirators) to guide the unsuspecting victims to hunting locations in two different Judicial Circuits to hunt a non-wild (pen raised) turkey. Collins represented his turkey hunts as "Osceola Turkey" hunts while he knowingly reared fraudulent pen raised non-wild turkeys at a Game Farm in Charlotte County. The pen raised, non-wild turkeys were bred and raised to appear as an Osceola turkey. Collins had knowledge that these domestic non-wild caged turkeys could not legally be hunted at the Razzor Ranch property. Collins utilized a specific taxidermist, Skins and Scales (Owner/Operator and coconspirator Flowers) to refer the victims to, so the victims would have their fraudulent turkeys mounted by Skins and Scales in furtherance of the scheme. Collins received a ten percent kickback from Flowers (AKA Bucky) on the cash value of taxidermy for all the taxidermy work that Collins sent to Flowers at Skins and Scales. Collins utilized used his website to represent his captive reared birds knowingly, purposely, and intentionally as Osceola turkeys for unsuspecting victims to pay large sums of money for the opportunity to hunt the Florida Osceola turkey. In addition, Collins booked and accepted monetary funds for fraudulent turkey hunts outside of the lawful harvest dates for wild turkey in Florida, therefore cheating the common law that regulates specific allowable turkey hunting seasons. By cheating, Collins was able to book additional unlawful turkey hunts for monetary gain. His guides were financially benefiting by cheating as well as by guiding these unlawful and fraudulent turkey hunts outside of the lawful hunting season for compensation (including tips). Collins communicated with his victims using his website, email, and mobile cellular device to plan and complete these fraudulent hunts in furtherance of the scheme. Collins and his co-defendants all engaged in the organized fraud in violation of the Florida State Statutes listed above.

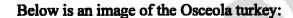
AS GROUNDS FOR THIS PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT, YOUR AFFIANT SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

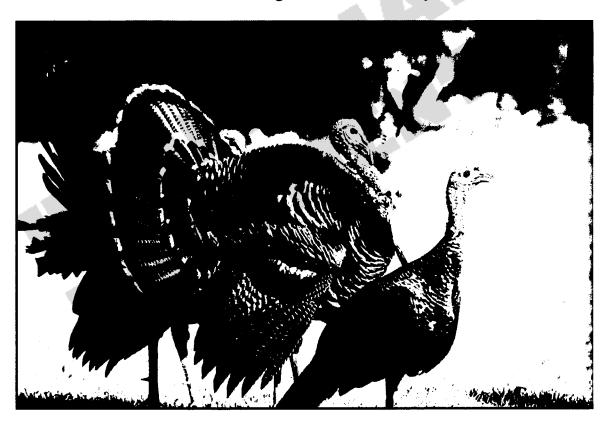
Your affiant, Investigator Camille Soverel, is a duly and lawfully appointed law enforcement investigator for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and has all the powers and duties of a law enforcement officer in and for the State of Florida. I have been a sworn law enforcement officer since 1998 in the State of Florida and have been employed as a law enforcement officer with the FWC since 1998. I am currently assigned to the FWC Division of Law Enforcement, Northeast Region Investigations Section. I am responsible for investigating crimes relating to the illegal taking, sale and possession of fish and wildlife. I conduct overt and covert investigations in the Northeast Region as well as statewide. I have years of experience working Covert, Organized Fraud, Money Laundering and Racketeering investigations for FWC. I am a training instructor for FWC Covert Operations as well as Wildlife Fraud. I am a certified financial crimes investigator with the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators (IAFCI-CFCI).

HISTORY:

Osceola Wild Turkey: There are four unique subspecies of wild turkey found in North America. Florida is home to the Eastern and Osceola subspecies of wild turkey. The Osceola turkey has the smallest population of the subspecies of wild turkeys and are found

in a very small range located only in Florida and nowhere else in the world. Avid turkey hunters seek to harvest all four subspecies of wild turkeys, known as "The Grand Slam". Osceola turkey hunts can be very expensive because of their limited range and availability, making them susceptible to fraud. Turkey hunters come from all over the United States for the opportunity to hunt the Osceola turkey. The Osceola turkey is a proud symbol for the State of Florida. The Osceola turkey is the smallest in size compared to the other subspecies of wild turkey and has survived within Florida's challenging and diverse ecosystems. The Osceola turkeys are known for their long thin legs, tan and black terminal bands, and dark feathers that include iridescent hues of green and bronze.





The Osceola turkeys are also known for their cultural significance. Secretary William Osceola, a tribal member of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida and current Secretary of the Miccosukee Business Council, provided a statement regarding the Osceola turkey. Secretary Osceola stated that Osceola Turkeys were named after one of his ancestors, the renowned War Chief Asi-Yahola ("Osceola"). Chief Osceola was one of

the fiercest warriors of the Second Seminole War (1835–1842) and eluded U.S. military forces until he was captured under a false flag of truce by General Thomas Jesup in October 1837. The name Osceola Turkey was given to the Florida Wild Turkey because of the elusive, unconquerable nature of Chief Osceola during his life.

Secretary Osceola discussed the importance of the "Purity" of the Osceola turkey and stated: "The Osceola Turkey represents the spirit of Osceola, one that is wild, elusive, and inimitable. For these reasons, attempts to domesticate the Osceola Turkey are considered contrary to its spiritual existence. Additionally, any effort to force-breed the Osceola Turkey with other turkeys is considered unnatural. Culturally speaking, cross breeding the Osceola Turkey would create an imbalance in nature that would upset the ecosystem".

FWC REGULATIONS:

The FWC is statutorily responsible for the protection of fish and wildlife species in the State of Florida for their long-term being and benefit of people. FWC is responsible for the management of the Osceola Turkey on both public and private lands. This management includes conservation, research, hunting seasons, methods of harvest, and promoting the cultural heritage of hunting.

The FWC also implements and regulates captive wildlife programs for commercialization of certain types of wildlife in Florida. One of these programs, known as a "Game Farm", allows the breeding of native as well as non-native game birds/mammals which encourage economic opportunities while protecting the wild species from exploitation. The agency also regulates "Hunting Preserves" in Florida. This program allows native as well as non-native game birds/mammals to be hunted within the boundaries of the licensed hunting preserve. The Hunting Preserves are a highly regulated commercial industry and are routinely inspected by FWC. The Hunting Preserves have very specific regulations for the hunting of game mammals and game birds. The Hunting Preserve licensee must maintain harvest records as well as acquisition records of the game birds/mammals at the hunting preserve. These Hunting Preserves and their records are open for inspection at any time by FWC Law Enforcement Officers. With proper oversight, this is a very effective wildlife management tool and business opportunity for Florida's economy. These Hunting

Preserves can provide a unique hunting experience for Floridians as well as visitors to Florida.

Unfortunately, FWC has been detecting violations, receiving intelligence reports and biological data that indicates that captive bred non-wild turkeys were being reared at a Game Farm then released and hunted on a Blanket Hunting Preserve as well as private property. The hunting of domesticated species on a private hunting preserve is a violation of Florida Administrative Code (FAC) 68A-12.010(10)¹. The definition of game birds is listed in FAC 68A-1.004(37)² and captive reared non-wild turkeys are not defined as "Gamebirds".

Game Farm Associated with the Defendants

The previously FWC licensed Game Farm in Charlotte County known as "Jurassic Ranch" is located at 1511 Sandy Pine Drive in Punta Gorda, Florida. The Game Farm permit authorizes the applicant to possess, purchase and sell specific types of game birds and game mammals. Game Farm facilities are highly regulated and must comply with Florida Administrative Codes. The permit history archived within the FWC's License and Permitting Section shows that the Game Farm was licensed with FWC during the time when this investigation began. The Game Farm License was applied for on 1/24/2020 in name of David Mills. The application listed Collins' email address (lcftmyers@gmail.com) and Collins' Shipping Post mailing address as the business mailing address. The payment for Mill's Game Farm application was made by Collins as referenced in certified subpoena returns from Collins' R & R Trust bank account at Crews Bank and Trust. The Game Farm property is in a land trust with Kevin Jones named as the trustee and Jones was leasing the land to David Mills starting on 10/25/2019 for a tenyear period (as observed by the lease contract provided to FWC as required for the Game Farm permit). The FWC database showed the permit was renewed in 2021 and listed

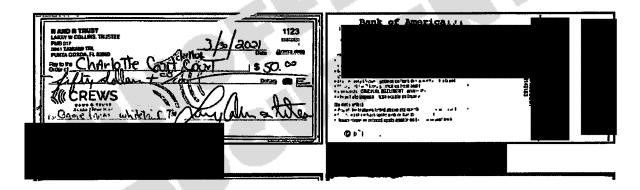
¹ The hunting of game mammals that were produced, raised, or held at a zoological attraction, tame game mammals, or domesticated species is prohibited.

² Game birds-those species of turkey, quail, rail, snipe, woodcock, duck, goose, brant, dove, coot, and gallinule with open seasons established by Rule 68A-13.003, 68A-13.004 or 68A-13.008, F.A.C., and non-native species generally considered game such as pheasant, chukar partridge, and coturnix quail.

twenty turkeys on the application. Game Farms in Florida are regularly inspected by FWC to ensure compliance with FWC rules and regulations.

Game Farm Captive Wildlife Violations

The Game Farm was inspected on 3/17/2021 by FWC Investigator Robert O'Horo. Mills was not present, and Larry Collins met with O'Horo at the facility located at 1511 Sandy Pine Drive in Punta Gorda, Florida. A follow up inspection occurred on 3/29/2021. Both Collins and Mills were present. Mills was issued a citation (C-9282729) for possession of a Zebra without the proper permit. The Charlotte County Clerk of the Court records show that they received a certified letter from Larry Collins (from Collins' Shipping Post mailing address) sent on 3/30/2021. The citation was issued to Mills but was paid for by Collins. Below is an image of the citation being paid by Collins as referenced by the certified subpoena returns for of Collin's R & R Trust bank account:



During this Game farm inspection, O'Horo noticed turkeys on the property. Collins advised O'Horo that there were thirty-eight caged turkeys and described them as "Eastern Browns". Collins did not have any paperwork for these birds and said he bought them as eggs at an auction.

On 9/16/2021 A Game Farm inspection was completed by FWC Investigator Ashley Tyer. She had arranged to meet David Mills at the Game Farm. Tyer met who she assumed was Mills but it was Collins. This inspection was recorded on Tyer's body camera and transcribed. The following was noted during the inspection and may contain paraphrasing:

- Initially Collin's stated to Tyer that he could sell these (referring to the captive bread caged turkeys) to a preserve because they are all wild turkeys. He hasn't sold any yet. He calls them wild because they were raised from an egg.
- There were approximately 200 turkeys at the facility, and he did not have any records of acquisition and guessed they were 'Eastern turkeys'. All the turkeys were produced from eggs, and they have two incubators at the facility.
- They discuss turkey hunts and Collins says, 'if they come out and go hunting, they may hunt for 2.5 days and not get a bird...then they resort to the "other bird", it's \$3000.00
- Collins stated, We have both in here...some are tagged...they're captive (not "captured") reared birds. But we haven't done that yet...haven't released any or done any yet. Three thousand a pop...you're gonna make sure they get a bird. I don't want to do something I'm not supposed to do.

At this point in the investigation, Collins had already released non-wild turkeys at his Blanket Hunting Preserve in Hardee County as noted in the Hirsberg case that will be articulated later in this Affidavit. Collins was not being truthful or forthright with Tyer about the turkeys at the Game farm facility. Collins also knew that he cannot release domestic captive bred birds at his Blanket Hunting Preserve based on the written correspondence between he and FWC in April of 2021 (as documented in the certified copies of the email correspondence between Collins and ASK MYFWC).

On 3/9/2022 A search warrant was served on the Game Farm in Charlotte county, located at 1511 Sandy Pine Drive in Punta Gorda, Florida. The applicant on the FWC licensed Game Farm was still David Preston Mills. The scope of the warrant was to collect DNA samples from the caged turkeys at the Game Farm. There were no visible wing or leg bands on any of the turkeys observed at the facility.

Sample turkey feathers were collected by FWC Officers/Investigators and overseen by a licensed Veterinarian. The samples were sent to Dr. Roy-Zokan at the FWC DNA lab.

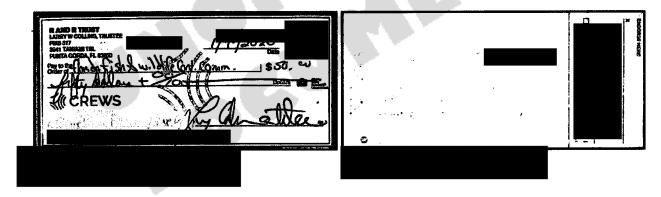
Below is an image of a turkey being sampled during the search warrant:



It was noted at the time the search warrant was being executed, the Game Farm's gate was locked and closed. The FWC had notified David Mills, as listed on the Game Farm Application, about the search warrant. Mills never came to the Game Farm during the time the warrant was executed. Instead, Larry Collins arrived and repeatedly demanded to be let into the scene to observe what the Officers were seizing. Below is an image of Collins, taken from FWC Officer Andrew Kobs's body camera footage (BC20006862 3082 030922114609 5) while serving the search warrant:

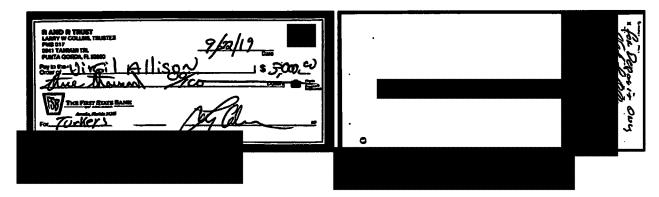


Financial records from Collin's bank account showed that he paid for the Game Farm license that was in Mills' name for 2020. Below is an image of the payment from Collins to FWC for the Game Farm License from the certified subpoena return from Collins' R & R Trust account:



Also noted in Collins' R & R Trust account was a payment to Virgil Allison with Allison Farms.

Below is an image of the payment from Collins dated 9/22/2019 to Allison and in the memo line is the word "TURKEYS":



A subsequent interview and consensual inspection of Allison Farms showed that they raise and sell "Hybrid Osceola" non-wild turkeys. The FWC does not regulate farming practices or sales of domestic or non-wild animals, that is the responsibility of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS). Allison Farms is licensed with FDACS. Allison Farms allowed the FWC to sample these non-wild turkeys at their farm. Below is an image taken from the feather collection on 3/1/2023, leg bands were observed on these non-wild caged turkeys at Allison Farms.

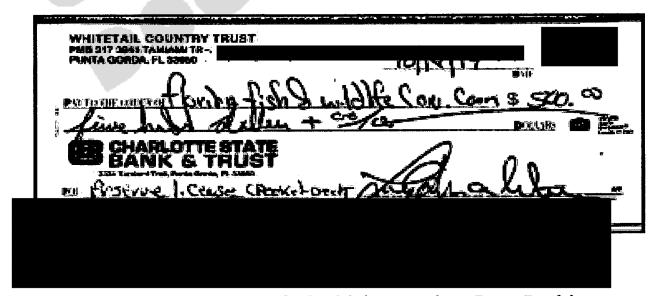


While investigating the Game Farm in Punta Gorda that is associated with the defendants, it is evident to your affiant that Collins is directly involved with the Game Farm operations and

rearing of the captive bred non-wild turkey. The facts supporting this include the Game Farm Application in Mills' name linked to Collins' mailing address, payments to FWC made by Collins for the Game Farm license, Collins involvement at routine Game Farm inspections, Collins showing up to the Game Farm while the FWC search warrant was executed, and Collins purchasing turkeys from Virgil Allison in 2019.

FWC Licensed Hunting Preserve Associated with Collins

Razzor Ranch located at 7019 Crooked Creek Lane, Zolfo Springs, is a licensed Blanket Hunting Preserve as shown in the FWC permitted facilities database. The previous permits show that the Razzor Ranch property was originally licensed in Collins' name as a Game Farm from 2004 to 2018. Collins applied for and received a FWC Hunting Preserve License for the same property from 2014 to 2019 at this same location. Collins was issued criminal citations in 2019 for violations occurring at Razzor Ranch. In 2020 a Blanket Hunting Preserve application in the name of Michael Show was submitted to FWC for the Razzor Ranch property. It was noted on Show's Blanket Hunting Preserve application that the business address listed was that of Collins and the application fee of \$500.00 was paid for by Collins. Below is an image of the check as verified by certified subpoena return from Collins' Whitetail County Trust account with Crews Bank and the FWC Licensing and Permitting database:



After Show received criminal citations for the violations occurring at Razzor Ranch in 2021, his FWC Blanket Hunting Preserve License renewal for 2022 was denied by FWC.

Then, Jacob Ryan Knisley applied to FWC requesting a Blanket Hunting Preserve permit for the Razzor Ranch property. The application reflected that the Razzor Ranch property is made up of different owners. One portion is held in Trust and lists Julie Collins and the trustee, another portion of the property lists James Rozzo as the trustee and both signed a lease agreement with Knisley for a period of three years. The Blanket Hunting Preserve applications for the property known as Razzor Ranch show a pattern of criminal violations by changing the applicant's name on the permit, which is in furtherance of the on-going scheme to defraud.

Blanket Hunting Preserve Captive Wildlife Violations and Permit Revocation

On 08/20/2019 FWC Investigator Erika Zimmerman issued Collins four warnings regarding blanket hunting preserve violations occurring at Razzor Ranch (747268 W).

12/02/19 Investigator Zimmerman filed four misdemeanor citations (240369 C) with the State Attorney's Office in Hardee County in the 10th Judicial Circuit, for violations that Collins committed at Razzor Ranch involving criminal violations of the Florida Administrative Code pertaining to rules that regulate the activity at Blanket Hunting Preserves. (Please note that-A Notice of Nolle Prosequi/No Bill was filed on 10-21-20 by ASA Flood for reasons stating, "The Defendant has complied with the terms and conditions of his Deferred Prosecution Program").

From 01/30/2020 to 07/25/2022 Investigator Zimmerman conducted four routine inspections at the Razzor Ranch Blanket Hunting Preserve that was licensed in Michael Shows name. Collins was present for three of those four inspections. Show was not present for one of those inspections. During these routine inspections Investigator Zimmerman observed numerous violations. Investigator Zimmerman filed four misdemeanor citations (240372 C) with the State Attorney's Office in Hardee County in the 10th Judicial Circuit, for violations that Show committed involving the rules that regulate the activity at the Razzor Ranch Blanket Hunting Preserve. Show entered a Pre Trial-Deferred Prosecution Contract and was required to correct the violations. During the time of the contract, Show was issued a warning by Investigator Zimmerman for an additional violation relating to his Blanket Hunting Preserve (1004218 W).

On 3/25/2022 The FWC notified Show that his Blanket Hunting Preserve Renewal Application at Razzor Ranch was denied and that he had an option to appeal.

On 08/02/2022 Knisely applied for a Blanket Hunting Preserve permit for the Razzor Ranch property. The permit application was approved and sent to Knisely. Investigator Zimmerman is currently investigating additional violations that occurred in 2023 at the facility and criminal charges were filed at the State Attorney's Office for Knisely.

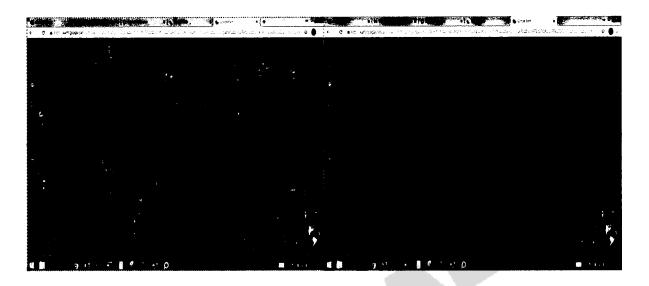
During the investigative time frame, Collins continued to advertise Osceola Turkey hunts on his website (<u>WWW.Razzorranch.com</u>), booked hunts, and monetarily benefitted from these fraudulent turkey hunts that occurred at the Blanket Hunting Preserve known as Razzor Ranch while the properties licensees continued to change (Collins, Show and Knisely).

INTIAL FRAUD INVESTIGATION

On March 10th, 2021, FWC Officer Arron Franks received a complaint (FWC-21-OFF-004048) from the FWC Tampa Regional Communication Center advising that a complainant wanted to speak to a Law Enforcement Officer about questions he had about turkey hunting and possible violations occurring at Razzor Ranch near Zolfo Springs in Hardee County. The complainant was identified as:

Adam Hirschberg 200 East Stassney Ln Apt 526 Austin, Tx 78745 Cell 248 808-3002

Hirschberg sent a photograph with geo-location information as to where he was hunting on the Razzor Ranch property in Hardee County on 03/10/2021. It was also noted that the location Hirschberg was guided to kill his turkey was in a part of Florida that was not open to harvest. The lawful hunting dates for the north zone of Florida that includes Razzor Ranch did not open until 3/20/2021.



Hirschberg provided a Sworn Written statement to FWC Officer John Salem. Hirschberg stated the following regarding his Osceola Turkey hunt on 3/10/2021 at Razzor Ranch and below are bullet points and may contain paraphrasing:

- He drove to Razzor Ranch and met Paul Beckham at the front gate
- He completed paperwork with Paul and paid the remaining \$1500.00 balance to
 Paul in cash.
- He had paid a deposit of \$500.00 on 1-16-2021 with his credit card to "SQ Julie Collins".
- He and Paul drove in a white jeep to the hunting location. There was a blind and
 Paul put out a turkey decoy and began calling for turkeys using a box call.
- Paul advised a turkey was very close and Hirschberg saw the turkey coming to them. Hirschberg shot and killed the turkey about 10-20 yards away from his location.
- Hirschberg noticed that the turkey had light colored tail feathers compared to
 other Osceola turkeys he had seen on the internet. He noticed a claw on the leg
 on the turkey was unnaturally bent inwards.
- Paul said the boss was coming and Collins arrived at their location in a Polaris
 4X4.

- Hirschberg tipped Paul \$500.00. Paul put the turkey in a freezer bag. Collins told Hirschberg that they use Skins and Scales Taxidermy. He wanted to use Black Wings Taxidermy in Saint Cloud.
- He requested that Paul give him his turkey so he could take it Black Wing Taxidermy
- Hirschberg left the Razzor Ranch and drove to Black Wing Taxidermy

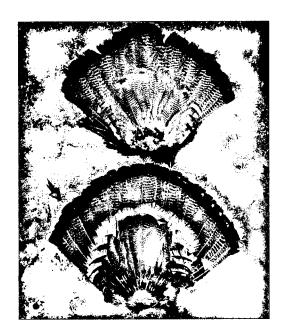
Black Wing Taxidermy

Michael Mizzelle is the owner operator of Black Wing Taxidermy located at 3755

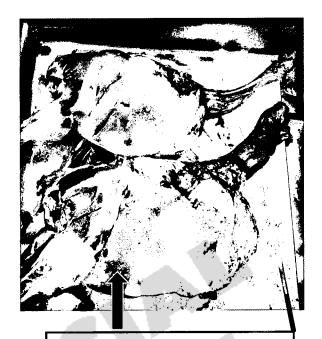
Packard Ave in St. Cloud Florida. Mizzelle provided a sworn statement to FWC

Investigator Damon Saunders. Below are bullet points from that interview that occurred on 3/12/2021 and may contain paraphrasing:

- Mizzelle has been in the taxidermy business since 1996
- When Hirschberg dropped off his bird, Mizzelle immediately noticed that the color of the bird was not what he normally observed for an Osceola
- Hirschberg's bird was abnormally large and with short legs like a domestic (nonwild) turkey
- The feet were large and deformed like a domestic breed
- Mizzelle called Hirschberg and advised him that he thought the bird he killed was a domestic turkey
- He took pictures of Hirschberg's turkey and compared it to another Osceola turkey that he had at his facility. Below are pictures provided by Mizzelle:



The lower turkey fan is from Hirschberg. Noted are the Cream-colored terminal bands and tail coverts compared to the Osceola fan above.



The bottom Turkey is Hirschberg's turkey. Note the large body/neck and the fat on the breast compared to the Osceola turkey above.

Officer Franks met Mizelle on 3-23-21. Officer Franks picked up Hirschberg's turkey and had it sent the FWC DNA lab located in Gainesville Florida for testing. FWC geneticist, Dr. Roy-Zokan examined the Hirschberg's turkey morphologically. Dr. Roy-Zokan agreed that the morphological characteristics of Hirschberg's turkey are not consistent with an Osceola turkey. In addition, Dr. Roy-Zokan performed DNA testing for Hirschberg's turkey against the DNA profile for Florida wild turkey. The DNA phylogenetic analysis (FWC-21-4-3 Report 1) revealed that the turkey submitted for analysis (Hirschberg's turkey Lab reference number FWC-21-4-3 Turkey) was genetically more similar to a domestic turkey and Bronze turkey than to a Wild Florida turkey.

On November 1st, 2021, Texas Parks and Wildlife Law Enforcement Officer Turk Jones met Hirschberg in Texas. Officer Jones completed a simultaneous Photographic Lineup and Hirschberg was able to identify Larry William Collins and Paul Beckham from the photo line-ups. Hirschberg identified Beckham as his guide and Collins as the owner.

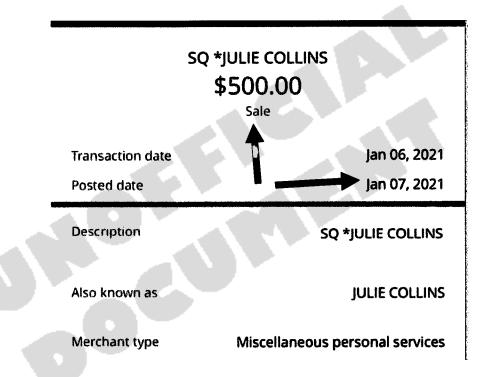
Certified subpoena returns from Julie Collins' Square Account shows a deposit into her account the same day that Hirschberg made his deposit for his turkey hunt. Below is an image of the deposit from her certified bank records:

 01/06/2021
 01/06/2021
 Draft
 -2,735.26

 01/07/2021
 01/07/2021
 Deposit ACH Square Inc
 482.35

 01/07/2021
 01/07/2021
 Withdrawal ACH AMEX EPAYMENT
 -5,000.00

Below is an image provided by Hirschberg from his phone showing the deposit for his fraudulent hunt:



Certified subpoena returns from Collins' bank account show that on 3-17-21 a \$2000.00 cash deposit was made into Collins' R & R Trust bank account with Crews Bank.

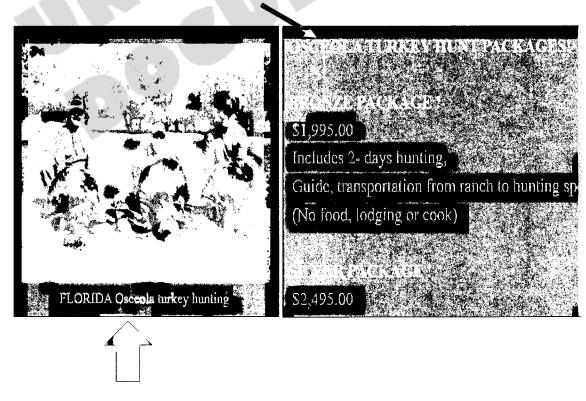
Hirschberg booked an Osceola turkey hunt based on the false pretenses by Collins as advertised on Collins' RazzorRanch.com web domain (as verified in a certified subpoena return from Go-Daddy.com). Collins was advertising "Osceola turkey hunts". Images from the Razzor Ranch's website were downloaded and archived by FWC Criminal Analysist Supervisor, Jessica Pfohl on 03-29-21, after Hirschberg's hunt. Below are screen shots from the Razzor Ranch website taken by Pfohl:

Osceola turkeys are the most coveted and sought after game bird species in Florida and around the world. Also known as the Florida turkey, this unique turkey is one of the five subspecies of wild turkey it forth America. This Osceola turkey is no most turkey hunters opinion the hardest bird to add to a trophy room for two reasons.

- 1. The Osceola Turkey for the most part is from Orlando Florida south leaving it's hunting to a confined area!
- 2. This game bird is the hardest to be called in and requires a professional seasoned turkey hunter to have a shooting chance at one on a three day hunt for the most part.
- The Osceola turkey is an extremely popular turkeyal hunt for out shunte

The white bars on the Osceola are more narrow, with an irregular, broken pattern, and they don't extend to the feather shaft. It's the black bars of the Osceola that actually dominate the feather. In conjunction, the secondary wing feathers also are darker. When the wings are folded across the back, the whitish triangular patch formed is less visible on the Osceola. Osceola feathers also show iridescent green and red colors, with less bronze then the eastern.

Collins' website clearly misleads victims into thinking they are hunting for an Osceola turkey. Collins lists the prices for his Osceola Turkey Hunt on his webpage. Below is an image of the prices for an Osceola Hunt and an image of three hunters with turkeys that Collins advertised as "Florida Osceola turkey hunting" (Later in the investigation, DNA testing was completed on these three birds in the below image from his website; two of these three birds harvested were non-wild turkeys):



Hirschberg was guided by Beckham at Razzor Ranch outside of the lawful turkey hunting season. Hirschberg paid for an opportunity to kill an Osceola turkey, but instead was guided and killed a non-wild turkey. Hirschberg, the first known fraud victim in this investigation, lost at least \$2500.00 in this Organized Scheme to Defraud. This does not include Hirschberg's travel costs to and from Texas to participate in the hunt or the cost of his out of state hunting licenses.

WEBSITE DOMANIN-

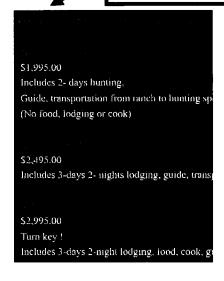
WWW.RAZZORRANCH.COM

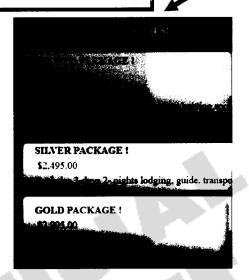
Your affiant received a certified subpoena return from GoDaddy.com. GoDaddy records show that the Razzor Ranch web domain (www.razzorranch.com) is in the name of R & R Trust and lists Collins' drop-box address, phone number, email address. GoDaddy records indicate that Collins has used this domain since 12/05/2006.

Your affiant monitored the Razzor Ranch website and archived images from the website during this investigation. The victims your affiant interviewed stated that they had booked their hunt after looking at the Razzor Ranch online website. The victims believed they were booking an Osceola Turkey hunt by the misrepresentations that Collins was making by offering Osceola turkey hunts on his website and encouraging victims to complete their "Grand Slam" by killing an Osceola turkey at Razzor Ranch. After the Hirschberg investigation started, Collins' Razzor Ranch website began to change.

Below are comparative images taken from his website taken by Pfohl on 3-29-21 on the left and your affiant's screen shot taken on 10-21-22 (labeled screen shot 10). It is noted that the word Osceola was removed from his website. See image below:

The word Osceola was removed once Collins found out the FWC was investigating him





Your affiant also utilized an online search platform with an archive provider called "Wayback Machine" to examine the Razzor Ranch Website for images from 2020-2023. In the Blog dropdown on the Wayback Machine's archived site for Razzor Ranch website from 02-25-2020 stated, "Get in touch with Larry at the Razzor Ranch and fulfill your dream of killing an Osceola". Below is a screen shot of the blog:

Maybe all that you are interested in doing is traveling to a neighboring state for some bonus turkey hunting. Maybe you feel a bit friskier and want to go after an Osceola in Florida to complete your Grand Slam of turkeys

I hear turkey hunters say over and over that the only bird remaining for them to complete their grand slam is the Osceola. There is just one place to hunt Osceola's and that place is
Florida. There are a lot of guides and even public land to hunt in Florida. Expect public lands to be crowded and for guides to charge a lot for a hunt.

There is nothing you can do about public lands being crowded, but you don't have to pay a lot for a quality hunt on land holding a lot of Osceola's. Razzor Ranch is the best kept secret out their when it comes to turkey hunting. Razor Ranch has the birds to hunt at an affordable price.

The land available to hunt holds an abundance of turkeys. The experienced guides know the land and the birds you will be hunting. Preparing all year long, the guides at Razzor Ranch will put you on the birds. To top off a successful hunt. Razzor Ranch has great accommodations, in-house cook and other hunting opportunities you can participate in after you fill your turkey tag.

Get in touch with Larry at the Razzor Ranch and fulfill your dream of killing an Osceola

When your affiant looked at the archived Razzor Ranch's website homepage on 10-21-22, the website stated: "We are a licensed hunting preserve, we introduce birds, turkey, quail". The Wayback Machine archived Razzor Ranch website for November 12th, 2020, showed that the website **did not** say "We introduce birds" on their home page. Collins had been notified in writing that it was not lawful to release non-wild turkey at his Blanket Hunting Preserve, but he continued to advertise on his website that they introduce turkey which is misleading to the victims as well as illegal to do so.

After search warrants were served at the Game Farm in Charlotte County that was licensed to Mills, FWC Investigators began to interview guides and victims involved in fraudulent non-wild turkey hunts. During this timeframe, your affiant noticed that the Razzor Ranch website continued to change. The words and the representations of the turkey hunts changed considerably. Other guides working at Razzor Ranch told your affiant that they had noticed that the Razzor Ranch website had changed from when they were working for Collins at Razzor Ranch. Your affiant continued to take screenshots of the website during the course of the investigation. On 2/07/2024, your affiant observed that the WWW.Razzor Ranch.com website was no longer advertising turkey hunts as "Osceola Turkey" hunts. The website advertisement referred to the hunting of the "Florida Turkey" and the website offered "Native Turkey" hunts. The word "Osceola Turkey" was no longer being used in the advertisements for turkey hunts on Collin's website. Collins is demonstrating a consciousness of guilt by changing his website and removing the misleading advertisements of Osceola turkey hunts after he found out he was being investigated for unlawful hunts of non-wild turkeys at Razor Ranch. If Collins thought that what he was doing was legal and not misleading by false representations, your affiant believes that Collins would not have significantly changed his website advertisements for Osceola Turkey hunts. On 4/30/2024, your affiant examined the website and noticed that turkey hunts were no longer advertised at Razzor Ranch.

Collins intentionally and purposefully advertised "Osceola Turkey" hunts on his Razzor Ranch website during the years of 2020, 2021 and 2022 when the fraudulent hunts took place. The word "Osceola Turkey" was used to represent the types of turkey hunts that Collins was falsely

advertising to lure the unsuspecting victims to plan and book a fraudulent turkey hunt with him at Razzor Ranch.

KNOWLEDGE-COLLINS HAS KNOWLEDGE THAT PEN RAISED TURKEY MAY NOT BE RELEASED ON A BLANKET HUNTING PRESERVE

Collins Communicates in writing with FWC about turkey hunts

FWC Administrative Assistant Shawn Boston provided your affiant with a certified copy of the email correspondence that Collins had with FWC. On 3-31-21, Collins emailed to ASK MYFWC (W133823-033121), an FWC online question and answer forum. (Collins email, "lcftmyers@aol.com" is verified as being used on numerous FWC permit applications by Collins).

Collins asks MYFWC, "On a commercial licensed hunting preserve is a turkey raised thats form a mix of eastern / bronze mix considered a nonnative game bird? Can the above bird be hunted year-round when banded?

FWC Investigator Richard Doricchi emails Collins on 4-8-21 and advises him that:

- 1. The hunting of domesticated species is prohibited on Licensed Hunting Preserves. Per Florida Administrative Code (FAC) 68A-12.010.10
- 2. Since hunting of domesticated species is prohibited on Licensed Hunting Preserves, this would also prohibit the hunting of domestic species year-round."

On 4-5-21 Collins asks My FWC (W134047-040521) "Is a captive reared eastern/brown turkey Considered a non-native game bird"?

Doricchi responds to Collins on 4-8-21 and advises Collins that: "A captive reared turkey, whether native to the State or not, with domestic turkey lineage is not considered a game bird." Doricchi also includes the FAC definition for game birds to Collins.

At this point in the investigation, Collins has knowledge that it is unlawful to hunt domesticated species at his Blanket Hunting Preserve. Collins continued to advertise and have his co-conspirators guide fraudulent non-wild turkey hunts at the Razzor Ranch Banket Hunting Preserve in 2022.

VICTIM CHART

Your affiant and other FWC Investigators helped to identify additional victims that hunted at Razzor Ranch during the years of 2020, 2021 and 2022. Many of the victims came from other states to hunt for what they thought was going to be an Osceola Turkey Hunt. This made interviewing and collecting DNA challenging. Each victim provided the information they had regarding their hunt at Razzor Ranch. The victims were asked about their hunt, including but not limited to when the fraudulent hunt occurred, the location of the hunt, how they found out about the hunt, what type of hunt they thought they were paying for, who they paid, how they paid, who they spoke with while booking the hunt, who they met at Razzor Ranch, who guided them on their hunt. The victims provided photos, videos, sworn statements, and DNA samples from their turkey, if their turkey was taken to Skins and Scales for taxidermy and when possible, the victims were administered Photo Line-ups to attempt to identify Collins and his co-conspirators. Below is a Victim Chart that lists information about their fraudulent hunt:

Victim Chart

DATE	LOCATION	VICTIM / GUIDE	EVIDENCE	<u>Dollar</u> <u>Amount</u>
3/7/2020	Location: Arcadia County: Charlotte Circuit: 20 th	Victim: Steve Masterson Guide: David Mills	DNA-Not Wild; Sworn Statement Photo Lineup Skins and Scales Financial Records	\$2200.00
3/7/2020	Location: Razzor Ranch County: Hardee Circuit: 10th	Victim: Jacob Masterson Guide David Mills	DNA-Not Wild; Sworn Statement Photo Lineup Skins and Scales Financial Records	\$2200.00
3/18/2020	Location: Razzor Ranch County: Hardee Circuit: 10 th	Victim: David Ruschen Guide	DNA-Not Wild Sworn Statement Financial Records Skins and Scales	\$1995.00

		Bill Wilson		
4/14/2020	Location: Razzor Ranch County: Hardee Circuit: 10 th	Victim: Larry Snyder Guide David Mills	DNA-Not Wild Financial Records	\$2000.00 in bartered dental work
3/8/2021	Location: Razzor Ranch County: Hardee Circuit: 10 th	Victim: Steve Nall Guide: Taylor Martin	Guide Statement Not Wild FWC License Interview Guide Photos Financial Records	\$1995.00
3/10/2021	Location: Razzor Ranch County: Hardee Circuit: 10th	Victim: Asher Hirshberg Guide Paul Beckham	DNA-Not Wild; Sworn Statement Photo Lineup Financial Records Taxidermist Photos Out of season	\$2500.00
3/22/2021	Location: Razzor Ranch County: Hardee Circuit: 10th	Victim: Daniel Dietrich Guide: Taylor Martin	Guide Statement Not Wild Sworn Statement Victim and Guide Financial Records	\$2000.00
3/1/2022	Location: Razzor Ranch County: Hardee Circuit: 10 th	Victim: Mark Smith Guide: UKN	DNA-Not Wild Sworn Statement Financial Records Out of Season	\$3595.00
3/1/2022	Location: Razzor Ranch County: Hardee Circuit: 10 th	Victim James Scott Stepp Guide: Paul Beckham	DNA-Not Wild Sworn Statement Photo Lineup Financial Records Out of Season	\$3595.00
3/24/2022	Location: Private Property County: Hardee Circuit: 10 th	Victims: Alex Corbo & Stephanie Corbo Guide: Paul Beckham	DNA-Not Wild Sworn Statement Photo Lineup Financial Records Photos-video Skins and Scale	\$3282.00 Total \$882.00 for taxidermy

		\$2400.00
		for the
		hunt

There are ten known victims with a monetary loss, including payments to Collins, guides and the taxidermist totaling at least \$25,362.00.

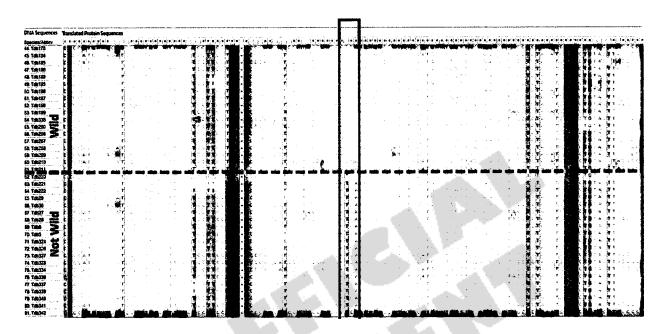
Your affiant did interview additional clients that hunted at Razzor Ranch and either could not provide enough information about their hunt or DNA samples to prove what type of bird they hunted. In some cases, depending on the guide and the location, the client hunted and harvested a wild Osceola turkey as identified by their birds DNA.

DNA TESTING

When the victims were interviewed by FWC, we requested feathers from their Razzor Ranch turkey hunt. These samples were sent to the FWC DNA lab located in Gainesville Florida for testing and analysis. In addition to Dr. Roy-Zokan's initial lab report (FWC-21-4-3 Report 1 for victim Hirschberg), Dr. Roy-Zokan performed DNA testing on additional samples that she received from the victims as the investigation continued.

In Dr. Roy-Zokan's final analysis (FWC-22-11-2 Report), Dr. Roy-Zokan describes the DNA testing methods as well as the results for the victim's samples that were submitted. Below is an example from her report of one of the types of DNA tests that was utilized:

Figure 2: Fixed nucleotide difference with the mitochondrial control region between non-wild turkeys and wild turkeys. This fixed nucleotide difference occurs at site 299 within the gene fragment sequenced. Turkeys that are not wild have a thymine base at this site while wild turkeys have a cytosine base at this site.

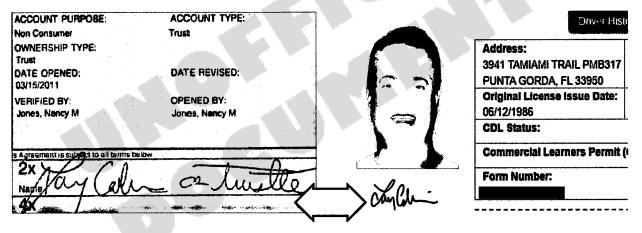


In Dr. Roy-Zokan conclusion she stated. "Based on the fixed nucleotide difference, the phylogenetic analysis, and the statistical analyses performed, it is my opinion that FWC-22-11-2 L1, FWC-22-11-2 L3, FWC-22-11-2 L5, FWC-22-11-2 L6, FWC-22-11-2 L10, FWC-22-11-2 L12, and FWC-22-11-2 L17, are non-wild turkeys".

During this investigation, including the DNA from the initial victim Hirschberg's turkey, Dr. Roy-Zokan identified eight turkey samples with DNA that conclusively showed the DNA submitted from the victim's bird was that of a non-wild turkey. Victims were given lab numbers for their submitted samples as assigned by Dr. Roy-Zokan when she received them. The following lab numbers correspond with the victims' names as listed in the victim chart: FWC-22-11-2 L1-Alex Corbo, FWC-22-11-2 L3-Mark Smith, FWC-22-11-2 L5-Dave Ruschen, FWC-22-11-2 L6-Larry Snyder, FWC-22-11-2 L10-Steve Masterson, FWC-22-11-2 L12-Jacob Masterson, FWC-22-11-2 L17-Scott Stepp and FWC-21-4-3- for Asher Hirschberg.

FOLLOWING THE ILLICIT FUNDS FROM THE VICTIMS TO COLLINS AND CO-CONSPIRATORS

Your affiant completed analysis of the bank accounts associated with Collins from the certified subpoena returns from Crews Bank and Trust. The certified subpoena returns showed multiple bank accounts in Collins' name including his R & R Trust account and his Whitetail Trust account. Both bank accounts were used by Collins to make and/or receive payments in furtherance of the scheme as confirmed by payments made from the victims to Collins, payments deposited by Collins, payments from Flowers at Skins and Scales to Collins, payments made by Collins to the Clerk of the Court in Charlotte County to pay for a FWC citation that was issued to Mills' Game Farm, payments made to Beckham and Mills, payments made by Collins for the FWC issued permits for the Game Farm and Blanket Hunting Preserve involved in the scheme. Collins' signatures, emails, date of birth is consistent with what Collins has used on other official documentation. Below is an example of the signature card from Collins' Crews Bank and Trust account (on left) and Collins' signature on his driver's license as observed in the Florida Driver and Vehicle Information Database:



It was noted that Collins used a drop-box for his mailing address on his driver's license rather than his residential address. A certified subpoena return from the Shipping Post located at 3941 Tamiami Trail Suite 3157 Punta Gorda, Florida, showed an account in the names of Julie Collins and Larry Collins. The drop-box assigned to Collins is PMB 317. The shipping address account was opened on 03-06-2010. This "drop box" mailbox at the Shipping Post has been regularly used by Collins for receiving mail and was also used as the mailing address on past FWC permit applications as well as FWC permit applications for properties that co-conspirator Mills used. Below is an image of the Alligator Farm in the name of David Mills with Collin's drop-box mailing address:

77488

ALL INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

P.O. Box 6150, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6150 (850) 488-3641

AFL-249 ALLIGATOR FARMING LICENSE.....\$250.00 FEE

New Applicant	Customer ID #
Farm Name Jovassic RANCA	Farmer's Name DAULO MINS
Malling Address 3941 Term, Ami TR	. ANB. 317 UNIT3157 PUNTA GOMA, FI 33950
Facility Address 148/ SAN AV Di	WE Drive PUNTA GONDA, FI 33982
county of Facility Clanlo He	Business Phone(863)303 4736
Date of Birth <u>07/06/ 967</u> Social Secu	
Email Address LCF MVers Og	mail.com
	tions of the Commission's laws or rules, including any
No Yes	

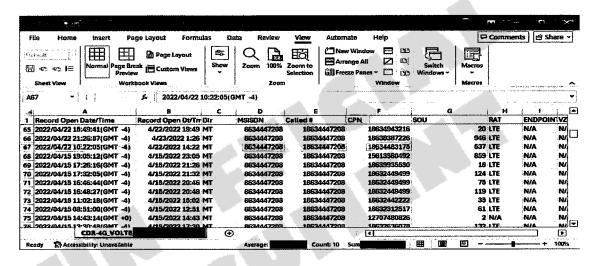
The bank records confirm that financial payments were made from the victims to Collins in furtherance of the Scheme to Defraud. The victims booked and paid for Osceola turkey hunts and were guided on non-wild turkey hunts instead. These hunts cost thousands of dollars each. The victim's checks/cash were deposited into Collins' R & R Trust Collins then spent these illicit funds on personal items such as meals at restaurants, credit cards, gas stations, Amazon, Netflix and Coinbase purchases. He also transferred funds from his R & R Business Trust account to his personal checking account at Crews Bank and Trust

MOBILE CELLULAR DEVICES

Collins-Certified subpoena returns from Verizon identified an account in the name of Julie Collins. There were multiple phone numbers associated with her account (Account number One of those phone numbers, 239 850-3063, lists the contact's name on the account as Larry Collins and an address of 19621 North Tamiami Trail in N. Fort Myers, Fl 33903-1241. This phone line has been active since 12/05/14. This mobile cellular device number is regularly used by Collins as observed on his website Razzorranch.com and listed on certified subpoena returns from his financial institutions. The certified Verizon call detail reports

showed call activity that included dates, times and duration of the calls when Collins used a twoway communication device to communicate with his victims as well as his co-conspirators.

<u>Beckham</u>- Your affiant reviewed the Verizon Certified Subpoena Returns for mobile cellular devices associated with Beckham. In addition, during this investigation Officer Franks used his state issued mobile cellular device (863-448-3137) to call Beckham (863-444-7208) to request an in-person interview. Call detail reports provided by Verizon shows that Officer Franks spoke with Beckham on 04/22/2022 for 537 seconds. Below is an image of the call from Verizon's certified subpoena return:



A FWC hunting/fishing license database check for Beckham (customer ID was completed by FWC analysis supervisor Pfohl and reflected that Beckham listed the phone number 863-444-7208 on FWC applications during the time of this investigation. It was noted that Beckham's phone number changed on his FWC hunting/fishing applications in 2023 and is now listed as 863-444-6743.

The mobile cellular device associated with Beckham communicated with Collins' mobile cellular device 239-850-3063 regularly during this investigation. The call detail reports provided by Verizon showed phone calls between Paul Beckham (863-444-7208) and Larry Collins (239-850-3063) on the days that the Corbos hunted with Razzor Ranch, including: 03-23-22 at 12:34 for 104 seconds, 03-24-22 at 10:25 for 262 seconds from. Beckham to Collins, and 03-24-22 at 20:22 for 113 seconds from Beckham to Collins. Beckham's mobile cellular device also communicates with Collins' mobile cellular device on the day of victim James Scott Stepp's hunt.

In conclusion, certified subpoena returns from Verizon show that the mobile cellular devices associated with Collins and Beckham were used to communicate on the days of the fraudulent hunts and Collins used his mobile cellular device to communicate with the victims.

CO-CONSPIRATORS

GUIDES:

David Mills (co-conspirator)

Sworn interviews with victims and other guides verified that Mills worked in collaboration with Collins by providing guided turkey hunts over fraudulent non-wild turkeys, had the Game Farm License in his name where the fraudulent birds were reared, instructed other guides when/where to hunt, and collected funds involving fraudulent turkey hunts. Photographs provided by victims shows Mills with the victim and the fraudulent turkey, confirming the victim's sworn statements. The victims identified Mills from photo line-ups as their guide during their fraudulent turkey hunt. Geolocation information embedded in the images of the fraudulent turkey hunts shows where Mills guided the victim including hunts in Charlotte and Hardy County. DNA samples collected from the victim's turkeys that Mills guided, proved that Mills guided at least three fraudulent non-wild turkey hunts during this investigation as discovered by the victim's turkey's Non-Wild DNA. Mills engaged in two turkey hunts outside the lawful hunting dates for wild turkey and engaged in cheating, but the statute of limitations has expired.

Below is Mills and victim Snyder from 04-14-20 with a fraudulent turkey (DNA tested Non-Wild)



In addition to guiding the victims to a fraudulent non-wild turkey, Mills would then post false advertisements on his Instagram social media account in furtherance of the scheme. On 10/27/2023 FWC analyst supervisor Jessica Pfohl examined and saved screen shots from Mills' Instagram account, "dave_teamsrr" from posts on March 7, 8 and 15th of 2020. Observed on his Instagram post was a hashtag "#razoranch #limbhanger# osceolaturkey #maketurkeyhuntinggreatagain#". Below is an image taken from victims Steve and Jacob Masterson's hunt that was posted on Mill's Instagram account. Jacob and Steve Masterson were both guided by Mills to harvest non-wild turkeys. Mills makes the following misleading statements about this fraudulent hunt on his social media page: "Steve finished his grand slam this morning with an Osceola limb hanger." Mills posted an image of the Masterson's with their turkey. DNA testing showed that Steve's turkey was a non-wild turkey. Below is an image of a posting from Mills' Instagram account:



Mills was interviewed on 3/09/2022 by FWC Officer Franks and Investigator Kobs. Investigator Kobs utilized FWC FORM 012 and placed Mills under oath for the purpose of taking a sworn statement pursuant to Florida State Statute 117.10. Below are statements made by Mills to Investigator Kobs and Officer Franks and may contain paraphrasing:

- He knew Collins and his wife were breeding captive turkeys at the Game Farm licensed to him located at 1511 Sandy Pine Drive in Punta Gorda.
- Collins books the hunts with the clients and controls the money for the business.
- He thought the turkeys in question were purchased to be used on a preserve for guided hunts.
- You could take one look at them birds and know they are not Osceola turkeys.
- There was a 120-egg incubator located there and he did not know what kind of turkey eggs were being incubated and he did not have anything thing to do with raising turkeys.

In conclusion, the Game Farm that the non-wild turkeys were being reared was licensed with FWC in the name of David Mills. Mills guided three fraudulent turkey hunts as identified by the DNA provided from his victim's fraudulent turkeys, photos of him and

his victims on the fraudulent hunts, and photographic line-up identification completed by victims identifying Mills as their guide. Victims also provided testimony that Mills took them on a tour of the turkey pen facility. Mills told the victims they were helping repopulate the turkeys. Other guides provided sworn testimony that Mills was involved with directing the fraudulent turkey hunts as well as billing out victims and collecting money. Mills used his Instagram social media account to advertise and promote his fraudulent turkey hunts as "Osceola Turkey" hunts when he knowingly guided his victims to a non-wild turkey.

On December 13th, 2023, your affiant tried to interview David Mills at his residence located at 1346 NE Brownville Street in Arcadia Florida 34266. Mills stated that he wanted to speak with his attorney.

Paul Beckham (co-conspirator)

Using Law Enforcement Photo Line-up procedures to administer photo lineups for the victims, Beckham was identified by three of the victims as the guide from Razzor Ranch that took them on their fraudulent non-wild turkey hunt. Beckham was also observed in photographs/videos taken by the victims during their guided hunt. Beckham actively participated in three fraudulent hunts in 2021 and 2022 by taking the victim to a specific location, setting up decoys and calling for turkeys. Two of the fraudulent hunts were conducted outside the lawful hunting dates for wild turkey, proving Beckham was engaged in cheating as well.

Victim Corbo took digital pictures on his hunt. The picture on the left (provided by victim Corbo) shows Beckham stepping on the neck of the deceased fraudulent turkey and the photo on the right shows the geo-location information of where Beckham guided Corbo.





The geo-location information embedded in the photographs was analyzed by Lt. Steve Farmer with the FWC Digital Forensics & Electronic Surveillance Forensics Unit. Lt. Farmer identified that this location was near the residence of Brenda Mcall (7302 NW Lily County Line Road in Ona Florida). This same address is also listed on Beckham's Florida Driver's License as listed in the Department of Motor Vehicles database.

Beckham was positively identified as an employee of Razzor Ranch by two former guides that worked for Collins at Razzor Ranch during the time of the fraudulent hunts.

The other guides stated they observed Beckham feeding/watering the turkeys at the Game Farm as well as guiding turkey hunts at Razzor Ranch.

TAXIDERMIST

Vernon Robert Flowers AKA "Bucky" (co-conspirator)

The victims involved in the fraudulent turkey hunts were encouraged to use Skins and Scales taxidermy in Naples Florida. The investigation began for FWC when one of the victims took their fraudulent turkey to a different taxidermist. The other taxidermist, Black Wing Taxidermy, immediately notified the victim about their bird not appearing to be an Osceola turkey.

Skins and Scales is owned and operated by Vernon Robert Flowers AKA "Bucky" (DOB 7/28/1952 and and located at 6259 Everett Street, Naples, Florida 34112. Taxidermists are required to keep paperwork identifying the wildlife they have at their facility and these records are open to inspection by FWC Officers. Investigator Zimmerman and Officer Franks inspected Skins and Scales on 6/09/2021. Officer Franks took photographs of Flowers required paperwork. A considerable amount of different types of taxidermy work was noted as being referred to Skins and Scales by Razzor Ranch and included requests for turkey mounts from hunters from Razzor Ranch.

Your affiant inspected Skins and Scales on 10/17/2022 and spoke with Flowers. Flowers provided a sworn written statement. Flowers stated that he knew that Razzor Ranch had brought him fraudulent turkeys to be mounted. Flowers told your affiant he provides a 10% kickback to Collins for the total value of taxidermy work he receives from Collins.

To verify these payments, your affiant reviewed certified subpoena returns from Collins' and Flowers' bank accounts. Collins' Crews Bank and Trust account application lists the account owner as Larry Collins with a DOB of 12-28-1965, Florida Driver's License # C452-539-65-468-0. A home and work phone number of (239) 850-3063, the address listed is PMB 317 3941 Tamiami Trail in Punta Gorda Florida 33950 and lists his employer as Razzor Ranch. The signature card on file is consistent with the signature of Larry Collins as observed on the Department of Motor Vehicles Driver's License database for Collins' signature on his Florida issued driver's license. There were multiple accounts in Collins' name including:

- 1. Larry W. Collins account the state of the shows a simple checking account in the name of Collins and no other authorized signers are listed on the account. This account was opened 02/13/2017.
- 2. R & R Trust a checking account shows that the account was opened on 3-15-2011. The trustee is Larry Collins (SS# Larry Collins and the signature on the account was consistent with Collin's signature on his Florida Driver's license. There are no other authorized individuals listed on the account.
- 3. White Tail Trustee and shows a Business checking account opened on 09-18-14 with Larry Collins as the Trustee and no other individual signers authorized on the account.
- 4. Ranch65 Personal Property Trust account The account signature card has Collins as trustee and TOD to R&R Trust 51% and 49% to Julie Collins. Opened 03-20-19

In addition, your Affiant conducted analysis of Flowers' financial accounts to ensure Flowers was making these payments to Collins. The certified subpoena returns from Flowers' bank accounts contained information for two accounts in Flowers name.

Account number was used in connection with Skins and Scales business operations.

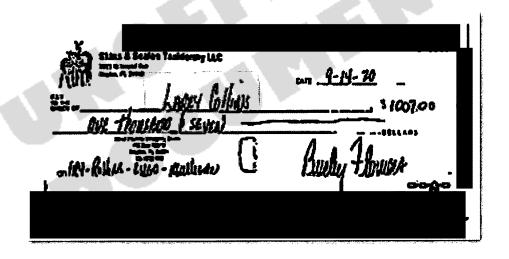
1. The First Foundation Bank account number is a business account in the name of Skins and Scales Taxidermy LLC of 2255 Kirkwood Ave in Naples Florida 34112-4713. The account holder names on the account and signature card are Vernon R. Flowers Jr. and Jerrine C. Flowers Authorized signer is Vernon Robert Flowers with DL F462876522680, DOB 07/28/1952, email of BFSST52@gmail.com, work phone 239-774-2903 and mobile number 239-272-4240.

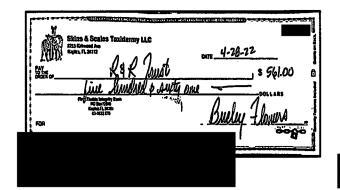
Flowers regularly wrote checks to Larry Collins from his business account number

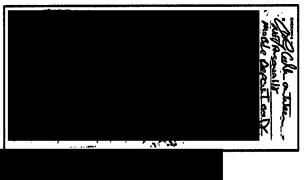
Below are images of signed checks that were written by Flowers with Skins

and Scales Taxidermy and issued to both Collins' personal checking account

and Collins' R & R Trust account number at Crews Bank.







Check Deposits by Collins from Skins and Scales: The following was noted regarding deposits Collins made into his checking accounts from payments from Skins and Scales.

2020-Your affiant observed thirty-three check payments to Larry Collins from Skins and Scales Taxidermy. The total amount of observed payments deposited into Collins' checking account from Skins and Scales Taxidermy for 2020 was \$14,498.75. This number also indicates that Flowers received \$144,987.50 dollars in taxidermist business that was referred to him by Collins.

2021-Your Affiant observed twenty-five check payments from Skins and Scales

Taxidermy to Collins for a total of \$9832.00 deposited into Collins bank account

Indicating that Collins referred \$98,320.00 in taxidermy work to Skins and

Scales.

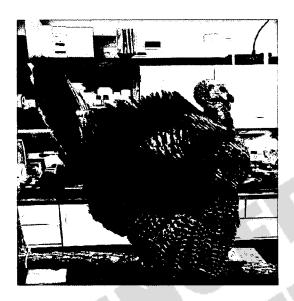
2022-Your affiant observed sixteen check payments for a total of \$8645.00 being deposited into Collins checking account from Skins and Scales Taxidermy. I also observed an additional sixteen check payments totaling \$11,816.00 check deposits into Collin's R & R Trust account from 4-1-22 to 11-18-22) from Skins and Scales Taxidermy. These totals show that in 2022 Collins received 32 check deposits totaling \$20,461.00 from Skins and Scales. These referral payments indicate that Collins referred \$204,610.00 in taxidermist business to Skins and Scales Taxidermy for 2022.

During this investigation, Collins received ninety check payments from Skins and Scales totaling \$44,791.75 between the period of 2020 to 2022. This also indicates that Collins referred \$447,917.50 in taxidermist business to Skins and Scales for fiscal years 2020 through 2022.

On 11/15/22, your affiant sent an undercover officer (UC) into to Skins and Scales to pick up a turkey for a victim named Alex Corbo. Corbo hunted with Razzor Ranch, was guided by Beckham, and killed a fraudulent turkey (as determined by DNA testing). Corbo had his turkey sent to Skins and Scales to be mounted. Posing as a relative of Corbo, the FWC UC paid for the balance due for the turkey mount in cash (\$582.00). The UC asked Flowers what type of turkey it was. Flowers responded, What do you mean? Flowers then asked the UC where it was killed. A female employee said Razzor Ranch. Flowers then responded, "It is an Osceola, I mean sometimes ours get bastardized down here with some of the different kinds around, **but if he**

killed it up there at Razzor Ranch than it is an Osceola." Flowers did not try to induce or otherwise prevent the commission of the fraudulent turkey hunts that he knew Collins was engaged in at Razzor Ranch, but instead financially benefitted by perpetuating the ongoing scheme.

Below is an image of Corbo's non-wild turkey that was picked up from Flowers and taken to the FWC DNA lab for analysis:





In conclusion, all four co-conspirators had financial motivation to participate in the furtherance of the organized scheme to defraud. The guides usually received tip amounts equal to approximately 20% of the price of the turkey hunt. The cost of the hunts ranged from \$1995.00 to \$2995.00. There was a financial motive for the guides acting as co-conspirators to participate in the scheme for their financial gain by receiving tips for guiding fraudulent non-wild turkey hunts. The amount of taxidermy work Flowers was receiving from different types of hunts at Razzor Ranch during the three-year investigation totaled over \$447,000.00. There was financial motive for Flowers to not discuss the fraudulent turkeys with his customers or to report the fraud he observed to local Law Enforcement or the FWC.

<u>ADDITIONAL GUIDES WORKING AT RAZZOR RANCH-</u>Three additional guides were identified as having worked for Collins at Razzor Ranch. They were interviewed and sworn statements were taken from them.

Taylor Martin-The guide in the below photo (as provided by victim Dietrich) was identified as:

Jeremy Taylor Philip Martin 418 Dewolf Road Brandon, Florida 33511 DOB 09-09-1993 Cell phone 727-685-9169



On 12/14/23 Your affiant interviewed Martin. Below are bullet points from that interview and may contain paraphrasing:

- He guided turkey hunts at Razzor Ranch for Larry Collins.
- He worked with other guides at Razzor Ranch including David Mills, Paul Beckham,
 Brayden Opsahl, Bill Wilson, and Ryan Knisely.
- In addition to guiding, he worked on the enclosure and watering system for the turkey
 pens. He referred to the turkey pens property as, "Jurassic Ranch" (The
 Alligator/Game Farm location in Charlotte County).
- Sometimes, not every time, they would meet in the morning at the turkey pens and get a bird and bring it back to Razzor Ranch.
- The birds that they used were from Jurassic Ranch turkey pens not from other sources. He was told they were getting extra birds for Razzor Ranch hunts and Collins told him it was ok. There were a lot of turkeys at Jurassic Ranch.

- Collins told Martin to get a bird from the turkey pens, put it in a dog crate located in the rear passenger seat of Collins' truck.
- Collins drove the caged bird back to Razzor Ranch. Sometimes they would just release the bird and other times they kept it in a cage at a specific location on the property for release at another time.
- Collins would release the bird from a specific location on Razzor Ranch. Martin would guide his client over to where the bird was released.
- Collins would brief the guides ahead of time about when and where the fraudulent birds were going to be released. Sometimes Collins would text or call him and let him know he was releasing the bird. Sometimes if there were clients hunting in the morning and afternoon Collins would go back down in the afternoon and get a bird and bring it back to Razzor Ranch.
- Turkeys were not stored at Razzor Ranch just released.
- He has pictures on his phone of some of the hunts and remembers details from some of the hunts.
- The turkeys were not banded.
- He thinks that Collins brought these birds back to Razzor Ranch as an insurance bird.
 Three Thousand dollars is a lot of money to spend for a hunt, and Collins wanted to make sure the customer got a bird.
- He was aware that FWC was investigating Razzor Ranch.
- Martin specifically remembers Collins calling him while he was in the Florida Keys.
 Collins advised Martin that there may be a chance that FWC will call him about the
 Ranch and Collins asked Martin to do him a favor and if FWC contacts you, tell them
 you understand that they have an investigation, but you don't want to talk about it.
 He remembers this conversation happening sometime in April or May of 2022.
- He would advise clients about Skins and Scales if they wanted taxidermy work done.

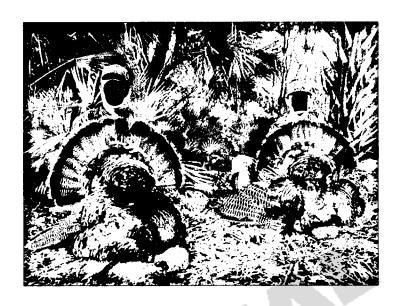
On December 17th, 2023, I spoke with Martin on the phone twice. Martin had sent me images of hunts he guided at Razzor Ranch (Text Images-12-17-23). Below are bullet points from my conversations with Martin and may contain paraphrasing (refer to the audio recordings for further details):

- He remembered guiding Dietrich's hunt and stated the bird he guided Dieterich over
 was a caged bird. He doesn't remember if there was already a caged bird at Razzor
 Ranch or someone went and got it that morning, but he knows for a fact that the bird
 Dietrich shot and killed was a caged bird.
- There was a blind that was constructed on the property just to the left of where the entrance of the high fence area is to Razzor Ranch. He referred to this location as Max Camp.
- A turkey was released and started walking down the dirt road on Max camp. They
 stalked the bird and Dietrich shot and killed the bird. Dietrich believed he had killed
 an Osceola turkey to complete the grand slam and was very happy and gave a large
 tip.
- The turkey that Dietrich killed was the same bird he saw in a crate at Razzor Ranch before the hunt.
- When he picked up the caged birds from Jurassic Ranch he would always place the birds in Collins' truck. He described Collins truck as a Black Ford 150 King Ranch.
- He remembers one of the customers saying the bird did not look like an Osceola. He thinks it was the man with the bow.
- He guided a bow hunter and he stated that they needed a caged bird because the hunter didn't even have the correct arrows for turkey hunting. (This victim was later identified as Steven A Nall).
- He purposely walked the client back to the lodge in a certain way so the client would not see the grey colored plastic dog kennel crate (the same crate used to transfer the bird from Jurassic Ranch to be released at Razzor Ranch).
- He also did turkey hunts inside the high fence area at Razzor Ranch as well. There was a certain spot he would set up with clients within the high fence area. There was a big clearing, and it was 80-90 yards wide and 500-600 yards long. He had a blind there on the left side and the birds would be released on the road to the right of the blind. The bird was usually released after they got to the blind.
- If they were guiding two morning hunts and two afternoon hunts sometimes birds would be let out a little sooner. He explained that they had to get the morning hunters "killed out" so they could get prepped for the afternoon hunters.

- Collins usually discussed with the guides before the hunt, where birds were going to be released prior to the hunt, if a customer did not shoot a wild bird.
- He looked at Razzor Ranch website last night. He noticed that the website now says,
 "captive birds may be released" and he doesn't remember the website saying that.
 The website may have had that on there, but he thinks it has changed.
- He remembers Beckham telling a client that they could hunt at Beckham's girlfriend's property. She had given him permission to do that. He stated Beckhams girlfriends name is Brenda.

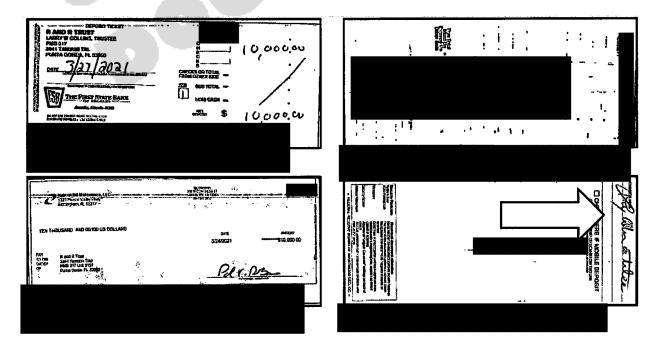
Later that afternoon Martin emailed your affiant images he had on his phone from guiding turkey hunts at Razzor Ranch and called me to explain each photo. Martin explained three fraudulent turkey hunts that he guided the victims on. I asked Martin who was in charge at Razzor Ranch, Martin replied that everything that is orchestrated at Razzor Ranch goes through Collins. When the hunters come, how we are going to do the hunt, what is more important in the hunt, policies and just about everything that goes on at the Ranch goes through Collins. For the guided turkey hunts, Collins would usually tell the guides the night before who they were going to be guiding, where and what time to meet. There would usually be a plan, and specific areas where to guide the clients and if they were bringing up birds from Jurassic Ranch so they can ensure the client gets an opportunity to see a bird. Sometimes these plans would be made at dinner the night before or relayed by Collins to the guides in a group text.

Martin sent me a text image he had taken on 03/24/21 of a father and son at Razzor Ranch with their dead turkeys (Text 6). He had guided the dad and Brandon Opsahl guided the son.



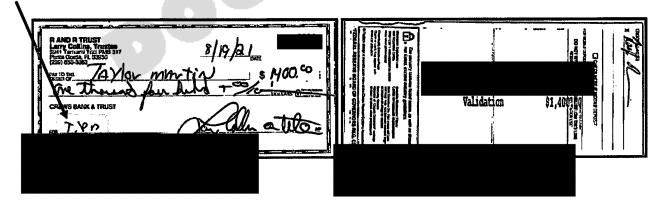
Based on what Martin had told me along with text images he sent of the fraudulent turkey hunts, I reexamined the certified subpoena returns for Collins R&R Trust account.

Martin said he and another guide named Brayden Opsahl had guided fraudulent turkey hunts (father and son) on March 24th of 2021. In reviewing the certified subpoena returns from Crews Bank and Trust, I observed a payment from "National Mill Maintenance" to R &R Trust on 03-24-21 in the amount of \$10,000.00. The check was endorsed by Larry Collins and deposited into his R & R Trust bank account per 03-29-21 (see image below).



On December 20th, 2023, at 10:01 AM, I spoke with Kas Kimbrell via phone (205-365-2548). Kimbrell works at National Mill Maintenance, and he told your affiant that he went along on the guided hunt at Razzor Ranch on the morning March of 24th, 2021 with the son of a work client who shot a turkey. The son's father went on a hunt with a different guide that same morning at Razzor Ranch and his company had paid for this turkey hunts for their clients. Kimbrell said his client's son killed a bird in less than an hour. Kimbrell described the bird as, "A Caged Eastern Turkey". He said the bird ran right to them and did not act like a wild bird. He closely observed both the birds his clients had shot, and remembered thinking they did not look like Osceola turkeys. Your Affiant asked Kimbrell why he thought that? Kimbrell said the bird appeared tame. Kimbrell is an avid turkey hunter and described the morphological differences between an Eastern Turkey and an Osceola Turkey. Kimbrell was upset that his company had paid a lot of money for his clients to hunt an Osceola turkey but instead were guided in a high fence area and shot eastern caged birds. He is certain both birds that were killed that morning on Razzor Ranch property in Hardee County were caged easterns and not Osceola turkeys.

In reviewing Collins R & R Trust account, I also observed a payment from Collins to Martin. Martin had stated that he worked for tips at Razzor Ranch. I observed a check from Collins that was dated 8/19/21 and was made out to Taylor Martin, in the amount of \$1400.00. In the memo line was the word, "Tips".



I also examined certified subpoena returns from Collins Verizon mobile device account (239-850-3063). Records confirmed that Collins' mobile cellular device regularly called Martin's mobile cellular device (727-685-9169) device during the period from 2021 to 2022. Collins was using a two-way communication device to communicate with Martin

by directing Martin's activities before and after the fraudulent turkey hunts in furtherance of the scheme.

In conclusion, Martin stated that he guided turkey hunts on Razzor Ranch in 2021 and 2022. Martin stated he and Collins traveled to the turkey pens in Charlotte county and he would take a turkey from the cage, as instructed by Collins, and put the turkey in a dog crate in the back of Collin's truck. Collins drove the caged turkey to Razzor Ranch and instructed Martin where to guide the clients for hunting the caged turkey, then the caged turkey was released on Razzor Ranch property and hunted.

The sworn statements made by Taylor Martin were corroborated in several ways. Your affiant, and other FWC Investigators, interviewed victims that went on turkey hunts with Martin and their stories were similar in nature to Martin's statements regarding their turkey hunting experience at Razzor Ranch. Martin provided your affiant with photos of these fraudulent hunts and certified subpoena returns showed that Martin worked at Razzor Ranch and used a two-way communication device to communicate with Collins in planning and completing the fraudulent turkey hunts. Martin stated that he had heard Beckham discussing with a client that he had permission to guide turkey hunts at his girlfriend's (Brenda McCall) property. This was confirmed by victim Corbo who provided your affiant images that contained Geo-location information via EXIF data showing a fraudulent hunt, guided by Beckham, that occurred at said property. The DNA testing conclusively determined that the turkey killed at McCall's property was not a wild Osceola and was part of the ongoing scheme.

After interviewing Martin and confirming specific information received from him was accurate and truthful, your affiant believes that Martin has knowledge of the fraudulent turkey hunts that were occurring on Razzor Ranch and participated with Collins and Beckham in furtherance of the Scheme to Defraud.

Bill Wilson

On 02-20-24 Hunting guide Bill Wilson was required by subpoena from the Attorney General Office of Statewide Prosecution (OSWP) to appear before OSWP Robert Miller at the State Attorney's Office in Hardee County. Present at the recorded interview were your Affiant, Bill Wilson, Miller, and FWC Investigator Erika Zimmerman. I identified Wilson as:

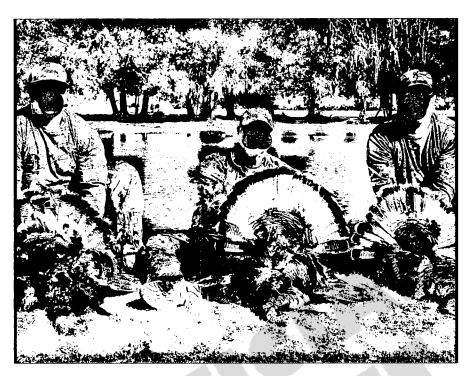
William (Bill) Herbert Wilson 10692 SW Kissimmee Road Arcadia, Florida 34269 DOB 01/31/1959 Cell 863 398-7520

I read Wilson his Miranda Warning from a prepared text and put him under oath for the purpose of taking a sworn statement. Below are bullet points from that interview and may contain paraphrasing:

- He has worked on and off for Collins over the last decade and left sometime in 2020. He guided fallow deer, alligators, hogs and turkeys.
- Wilson described the turkey pens at the Game Farm in Charlotte County, observed them being built, and referred to them as Jurassic Ranch.
- He thinks Collins purchased turkey eggs from an auction in Arcadia to begin his turkey farm. David Mills was helping Collins and those two were running the turkey farm.
- Wilson thought Mills was the one who suggested to Collins that they could make
 money on turkey hunts and suggested getting turkeys from Allison Farms. Mills
 thought they could bolster the population of turkey, make \$2500.00 per bird, and
 do these hunts times 3-4 times a day.
- Wilson told both Mills and Collins that he did not want to guide those types of turkey hunts. Wilson said he guided wild Osceola turkey hunts near the Peace River on the Stewart property.
- Collins was in control of arranging the hunts and in charge of doing the bill outs (collecting of the monies) and sometimes Mills would do that as well.
- Collins asked Wilson if he thought the birds at Jurassic Ranch looked like Osceola
 turkeys. Wilson has killed about forty Osceola turkeys in his lifetime and guided
 another one-hundred Osceola turkey hunts. After observing the birds in the pens,
 Wilson told Collins only about half of the turkeys he observed resembled an

Osceola turkey. He said the other turkeys in the pen didn't look like Osceola turkeys at all. He observed that the turkeys in the pens had large feet, did not have the correct feather coloring on them, the bird was too big (fat) and when penned together their demeanor changed. David Mills was present when Collins and Wilson had this conversation.

- He saw some turkeys that had been killed at Razzor Ranch and stated that the birds looked funny.
- He guided a client at Razzor Ranch. Mills had told him where to set up on Razzor Ranch to take the client. The bird was out of sight about 90% of the time. The bird came to his client and the client shot and killed the bird. When Wilson walked up to the dead bird, he said it didn't look quite right. That was the only turkey hunt he guided that didn't look right. The bird had shorter legs, a giant head (twice as big as it should be), and big feet. He didn't think this turkey was an Osceola turkey. (Ruschen turkey hunt).
- Wilson spoke with Mills and Collins after that and said that hunting these types of birds isn't right.
- He saw Paul Beckham and Collin's wife feeding the turkeys in the pens.
- He remembered taking one of the Masterson sons on a hunt in Arcadia.
- Mills guided the other two Mastersons. Wilson went back to Razzor Ranch and saw all three birds the Mastersons had killed. He was there when the picture of all three Masterson's with their birds was taken. He did not think the other two birds he observed were Osceola turkeys. Wilson stated look at the head on the bird, too big, the wings have too much white in them to be an Osceola. He confirmed the below image was from the Masterson hunt:



- Wilson is familiar with Bucky Flowers at Skins and Scales.
- Wilson and Bucky discussed the fraudulent birds that Collins was bringing to him.
- Miller asked Wilson about the operation. Wilson said he told Collins they were not Osceola turkeys, not even close, and Wilson stated that Collins knew the turkeys were not wild Osceola turkeys.
- Collins was raising and breeding these turkeys so they could be released and hunted. Collins knew this, Wilson knew this and what the birds are for, Mills knew this, and all the other guides knew this. Mills was very familiar with turkey hunting and regularly guided.
- The Razzor Ranch website changed when they started releasing turkeys. Their website began to look more like Allison Farms website.
- Dominic Casale, identified as a guide that worked for Collins, is the person he had
 a conversation with about the turkeys being moved from the turkey pen and being
 brought to Razzor Ranch.
- Collins called Wilson in April of 2022 and Collins told Wilson that had gotten
 word that that Fish and Game was trying to speak with people that worked at
 Razzor Ranch. Collins requested that Wilson say the following to FWC if they
 reached out to him, "You are not a lawyer and you do not wish to talk to them".

• I showed Wilson a picture of a dead turkey and a turkey call on the ground (this image was sent to us from Ruschen from his turkey hunt at Razzor Ranch). I asked Wilson if he was familiar with the turkey call, he said it was a Hunter Ridge custom turkey call. Wilson is representative for that company. He remembered that picture of that turkey and his custom Hunter Ridge turkey call.



- Wilson stated that to summarize what was going on, Collins was selling an
 Osceola hunt, but they were shooting farm animals. Wilson knew it was wrong and he told Collins it was wrong.
- I asked why he thought Collins was breeding turkeys in Charlotte County? He stated that Collins was breeding them to eventually put them out and hunt them.
- What did the website say? It said Osceola turkey hunts and he noticed that it has changed.

Dominic Casale

On 02-28-24 your affiant completed a phone interview with Dominic Anthony Casale and took a sworn statement. Casale was identified as:

Dominic Anthony Casale

1464 NE Turner Ave Arcadia, Fl 34266 DOB 10/22/1999 Cell 863-303-4398

Below are bullet points from my conversations with Casale and may contain paraphrasing:

- Casale worked at Razzor Ranch during the time of this investigation. He said Paul Beckham, Bill, George, David and Mikey worked at Razzor Ranch.
- Casale observed turkey pens at the Game Farm in question. He referred to the Game Farm as Jurassic Ranch and stated he observed turkeys being bred there because the number of turkeys kept getting larger.
- He remembers seeing the incubators at Jurassic Ranch. He observed the incubator room being filled with turkey eggs on racks.
- Casale guided deer and alligator hunts for Collins and told Collins he wanted nothing to do with the turkey hunts.
- He remembered a specific incident at Razzor Ranch when he was instructed to take a dog crate that had a live turkey in it to the back of the Razzor Ranch property and release it.
- He wasn't sure if it was David Mills or Collins, who told him to release it, but they told him where to take the bird on Razzor Ranch property within the high fence area to be released and he did.
- He told Collins that he did not agree with releasing turkeys and hogs and doing "Canned Hunts". The canned hunts for turkeys were one of the reasons he left employment with Razzor Ranch.
- Casale stated that Collins knew how he felt about releasing turkeys, he refused to guide for turkeys and thought it was morally wrong.

Lawful Turkey Hunting Dates

The FWC regulates the hunting methods and dates for the take of Wild Turkey in Florida.

The lawful hunting dates have two zones, and the zones are referred to as South of S.R.

70 and North of S.R. 70. FWC Paul Scharine provided a certified copy of the Lawful Hunting Dates for Florida Wild Turkey as follows:

2020

3-7-20 to 4-12-20 South of S.R. 70 3-21-20 to 4-26-20 North of S.R. 70

2021

3-6-21 to 4-11-21 South of S.R. 70 3-20-21 to 4-25-21 North of S.R. 70

2022

3-5-22 to 4-10-22 South of S.R. 70 3-19-22 to 4-24-22 North of S.R. 70

***The Razzor Ranch property in Hardee County is North of State Road 70 and the Game Farm in Charlotte County is south of S.R. 70

Cheating-F.S. 817.29.

The following five evidentiary elements listed below support the fact that Collins and Beckham were engaged in Cheating by obtaining money under false pretenses from their victims in violation of F.S. 817.29:

- False representation of a past or existing fact-Collins advertised Osceola Turkey hunts
 for sale on his web page <u>WWW.Razzorranch.com</u> to unsuspecting victims. Some of
 these fraudulent hunts occurred outside the lawful hunting dates for harvesting turkey.

 Beckham was a turkey hunting guide for Collins at Razzor Ranch participating in the
 harvest of these misrepresented non-wild turkeys.
- 2. **Knowledge of its falsity**-Collins and Beckham participated in raising domestic turkeys at the Game Farm in Charlotte County. Beckham was observed by another guide feeding and watering the pen raised turkeys. Collins was observed taking these non-wild birds from the Game Farm to the Razzor Ranch Blanket Hunting Preserve to be released and hunted in violation of Florida Administrative Code. Collins had written conversation with FWC and knew it was unlawful to hunt this type of domestic turkey at the Razzor Ranch Blanket Hunting Preserve and he continued with the false representations for Osceola turkey hunts and used Beckham as a guide to participate in the scheme.

- 3. Intent to defraud-Collins and his guides released these non-wild turkeys at the Razzor Ranch property and Beckham guided his victims to the area where a non-wild bird could be harvested. Collins and his co-conspirators, including Beckham would congratulate the client on killing an Osceola Turkey. Collins had his co-conspirator, Bucky Flowers at Skins and Scales Taxidermy complete the taxidermy work on the non-wild turkey. Flowers did not tell the victim that the turkey they brought to him to be mounted was not an Osceola turkey.
- 4. Reliance on the misstatement by the other party-The victims stated to your affiant that they booked their turkey hunt specifically because they wanted to go on an Osceola turkey hunt. The victims believed the advertisement on Collins' web page and thought that they were booking an Osceola hunt. Both Beckham and Collins told victim Hirshberg that his turkey was a "lighter colored Osceola than normal". Flowers assured FWC undercover officer that if the bird was killed at Razzor Ranch, it was an Osceola.
- 5. Surrender by the other party of property because of the representation-The victims in this case surrendered monetarily to Collins and his co-conspirators by paying Collins for the hunt, tipping Beckham as their guide and paying the taxidermist. The Osceola turkey hunts started at a minimum of \$1995.00. The victims paid a deposit, paid in full at the time of the fraudulent hunt and tipped the guides approximately 20% for their hunts. The price for victim Corbo's fraudulent turkey mount was \$850.00.

By booking and having Beckham take victims on fraudulent turkey hunts outside the lawful hunting dates in Florida in violation of common law, Collins and Beckham were engaged in cheating. Collins and Beckham were also cheating the legitimate Outfitters and other hunters by engaging in extra turkey hunts outside of the legal hunting dates to expand the number of fraudulent turkey hunts they could do in a spring turkey hunting season.

CONCLUSION:

Based on your affiant's knowledge, experience, and training in dealing with the possession and commercial sale of wildlife, your affiant's experience in dealing with financial crimes, internet crimes, along with the overwhelming evidence in this case including statements from guides involved in the fraudulent hunts, victims' statements/evidence (sworn statements, photo lineup identification of Collins, Mills and Beckham, DNA samples, financial records, pictures from the

hunts, location of the hunts, email correspondence with Collins), Search Warrant of the Game Farm, Sworn Statements from co-conspirators and DNA results from the non-wild turkeys your Affiant has probable cause to believe and does believe that Collins used his web domain, "RazzorRanch.com" to advertise fraudulent Osceola turkey hunts to his victims. With knowledge and intent Collins, Mills and Beckham participated in the scheme and conspired to take victims and did take victims on non-wild turkey hunts in Charlotte and Hardee Counties. The victims monetarily paid Collins for a wild "Osceola turkey hunt". Collins knowingly booked them on fraudulent hunts and fraudulent out of season hunts. To carry out the fraudulent turkey hunts, Collins conspired not only with his hunting guides (Beckham and Mills), but Collins also conspired with Flowers by agreeing to bring Flowers the fraudulent turkeys to have taxidermy services performed. In addition to unknowingly paying for a fraudulent turkey hunt, the unsuspecting victims paid Flowers to have the fraudulent birds mounted. The hunting guides and taxidermist participated in the scheme along with Collins at the victim's expense. Mills perpetuated the fraud by making posts on his Instagram account about the victims harvesting Osceola turkeys when in fact the turkeys that Mills guided the victims on were non-wild turkeys. Collins, the guides, and the taxidermist engaged in the continuance of the scheme for personal monetary gain. Flowers, did not try to persuade or otherwise prevent the commission of the fraudulent turkey hunts that he knew Collins and his guides were engaged in. The guides did not report any of these violations to FWC or local law enforcement, but instead benefited financially by guiding these fraudulent non-wild turkey hunts. The value of the known fraudulent turkey hunts involved in this investigation totaled \$25,362.00.

The four defendants all participated in the scheme to defraud as demonstrated by their systematic and ongoing course of actions by the planning and execution of the fraudulent turkey hunts. They each obtained money (for hunts, tips and taxidermy work) from victims under fraudulent pretenses in furtherance of the scheme including violations of Florida State Statute 817.034(4)(a)2-Organized Fraud: Scheme to Defraud (\$20,000 or more but less than \$50,000.00) and Conspiracy to Commit Organized Fraud F.S. §817.034(4)(a)2.

Collins and Beckham used a two-way communication device to communicate with each other on the days of the fraudulent hunts. Collins also used a two-way communication device to arrange the fraudulent hunts with the victims in violation of Florida State Statute 934.215-Unlawful use of a Two-Way Communication Device.

Collins booked these fraudulent turkey hunts outside the legal turkey hunting dates and had Beckham and Mills guide the victims. Flowers knowingly provided taxidermy work on the fraudulent birds. The victims were induced to part with money on reliance of misrepresentations of the facts about the type of turkey they were going to be hunting as well as being guided on their turkey hunt during unlawful time periods. Collins, Beckham and Beckham financially benefitted by providing false pretenses to the victims by Collins advertising the "Osceola" turkey hunt on the RazzorRanch.com website, then Beckham guiding the victims on a fraudulent non-wild turkey outside the lawful hunting dates in violation of Florida State Statute 817.29-Cheating.

WHEREAS your Affiant makes this affidavit and prays the issuance of an Arrest Warrant with authority to enter any premises to effect said arrest, in due form for the arrest:

- Larry William Collins, for the violation of the laws of the State of Florida, to wit:
 Organized Fraud F.S. 817.034(4)(a)2, Conspiracy to Commit Organized Fraud F.S.
 §817.034(4)(a)2, Cheating F.S. §817.29 and Unlawful use of a Two-Way Communication
 Device F.S. §934.215.
- 2. **David Preston Mills**, for the violation of the laws of the State of Florida, to wit: Organized Fraud F.S. 817.034(4)(a)2, Conspiracy to Commit Organized Fraud F.S. §817.034(4)(a)2.
- 3. Paul Neil Beckham, for the violation of the laws of the State of Florida, to wit:
 Organized Fraud F.S. 817.034(4)(a)2, Conspiracy to Commit Organized Fraud F.S. §817.034(4)(a)2, Cheating F.S. §817.29 and Unlawful use of a Two-Way Communication Device F.S. §934.215.
- 4. Vernon Robert Flowers, for the violation of the laws of the State of Florida, to wit: Organized Fraud F.S. 817.034(4)(a)2, Conspiracy to Commit Organized Fraud F.S. §817.034(4)(a)2, and Cheating F.S. §817.29.

Collins, Mills, Beckham, and Flowers all knowingly and with intent conspired and financially benefited from this fraudulent scheme and committed all the violations listed in this affidavit. The undersigned certifies and swears that she has just and reasonable grounds to believe that the above-named Defendant committed violations of law, on the forementioned dates and times as listed in this probable cause affidavit.

Investigator Camille Soverel 1542

Date

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Affiant

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 9 DAY OF Jv/y, A.D. 2024

Judge Date