

THE SLEUTH

BLACKMAN DETECTIVE SERVICES NEWSLETTER

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AUGUST 2019, CASE NUMBER 19-04S



REAL CASE STORIES FROM REAL DETECTIVES

#19-04S : BAGGAGE CLAIM

The cases described in The Sleuth are real, but all names and identifying information have been changed.

It was a regular Wednesday morning. I had just put my lunch in the break room fridge and was preparing to get started when a case manager handed me a manila envelope. Inside the envelope were social media photos of my subject, a description of her vehicle, and flight information for her arrival at RDU in two hours. I was briefed. Our client was Mr. Lin, who was told by his wife that she was going on an ordinary business trip leaving Monday and returning Friday. Unfortunately for Mrs. Lin, her disgruntled secretary forwarded an email to her husband, revealing Mrs. Lin would return to RDU on Wednesday afternoon and wasn't expected back at work until the following Monday. Probable that Mrs. Lin would arrive to RDU and spend the next few nights with a significant other before reporting home, my objective was to affix a GPS unit to her vehicle, document her arrival inside the airport and follow her to wherever she went. The RDU parking deck had capacity for nearly 10,000 vehicles, and I began at the bottom. After searching every row on every level, I finally located Mrs. Lin's vehicle on the top floor and attached the GPS. With minutes to spare I rushed to the ground level and began attempts to locate Mrs. Lin among a hundred or so other passengers. I identified her from across the meeting place and followed her on foot. I documented as she retrieved a red suitcase from baggage claim and followed her loosely up to the top of the parking deck, where she put both her suitcase and carry-on into her trunk, locked the car, and re-entered the airport the same way she had just came. Inside, and now with no baggage, Mrs. Lin went through security alone. With evidence that Mrs. Lin was being untruthful, Mr. Lin used a spare key, took her suitcases from her trunk and had them waiting on the bed when she returned home Friday.

**SNEAK PEEK INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

CASE # 19-04S - BAGGAGE
CLAIM

LITTLE RED FLAGS - SIGNS YOU
ARE BEING CATFISHED

DID YOU KNOW? - STATISTICS
ON MISSING CHILDREN IN THE
US, AND HOW TO FINGERPRINT
YOUR CHILD FOR FREE

MEET US @ MUNCH AND LEARN
WITH GABIS GROUDS COFFEE





LITTLE RED FLAGS

SIGNS YOUR EMPLOYEE MAY BE STEALING



"Whatever your life's work is, do it well."
- Martin Luther King Jr.



Employee theft manifests in several ways, from theft of office supplies to more valuable products and equipment, or stealing company time, misuse of work vehicles, or saving confidential company information on personal devices. But why do employees do it? According to security and HR experts most employee theft occurs when the employee has a perceived cause for the theft and feels justified in doing so. It could be that they are acting out of desperation from a financial or family issue at home, or that they feel overlooked for a promotion or pay raise. Some security professionals believe revenge to be the number one cause of employee theft; employees who feel the company owes them will go after their fair share. After considering why your employees might steal, preventing the theft comes from understanding *How* and *When* they might steal. Our answer: Temptation and opportunity.

Temptation can be deterred by the existence of video surveillance equipment, or the signing of non-compete or non-disclosure agreements upon hire. You can reduce the opportunity to steal by monitoring your surveillance and assigning two to a task. Of course, we always recommend thorough and quarterly background checking.

It's time to investigate further if you notice any of the following:

- Change in behavior at the register – More refunds, charge backs, or voiding of sales
- Tampering with CCTV camera systems – Cameras being moved or covered.
- Frequenting of or hanging out in camera “blind spots”
- Frequent breaks or down-time
- An increase in work “off the clock”
- Unwillingness to work in proximity with members of management
- Unusual vehicle activity at the dumpsters

BLACKMAN DETECTIVE SERVICES

STANDING BEHIND OUR WORK



DID YOU KNOW?

According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, roughly 800,000 children are reported missing each year in the United States – that's roughly 2,000 per day. Of those, there are 115 child "stranger abduction" cases each year, which means the child was taken by an unknown person.

While we don't enjoy thinking about these numbers but they serve as a reminder of the importance of being prepared should the unthinkable ever happen to your child. One thing parents can do is to download or update their children's information in the FBI's Child ID app. The app, available free for both iPhones and Androids, allows parents to keep updated photos and physical descriptions of their children available on their smartphones. If your child goes missing, you can quickly send the information to authorities. (Source FBI.gov) Another thing parents can do is to keep their child's fingerprints on file at home. Blackman Detective Services offers **free fingerprinting** at their Garner office every Thursday from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.



Thursdays 12pm - 2pm
Blackman Detective Services

607 Benson Road
Garner, NC



What are those sly sleuths up to now?
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Introducing the MUNCH AND LEARN



Are you bored with the routine business lunch and learn? Are you interested in learning more about private detective work? Our investigative team will come to you with hot coffee and "A Hug in a Mug" from Gabi's Grounds, to share their knowledge in the fields of research, surveillance, and investigative documentation. Get information on what a PI can do for you and hear more stories like this issue's *It's Even Hotter in the Attic*. Munch is on us!

