



MICHAEL C. O'MALLEY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY PROSECUTOR

37 Indicted in Racketeering Counterfeit Check Ring Spanning Four Counties

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, March 02, 2018

CLEVELAND – Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Michael C. O'Malley announced that a Grand Jury has indicted 37 people in connection with a prolific counterfeit check cashing ring that spanned throughout Cuyahoga, Lake, Portage, and Summit Counties.

The 95-count indictment charges that 42-year-old Montrea Donaldson managed and directed a sophisticated ring that targeted numerous businesses and entities throughout Northeast Ohio.

Donaldson employed numerous individuals who were willing to cash the fraudulent checks that he manufactured. On designated days, the individuals would cash the checks at multiple banks and check cashing locations until the accounts were flagged for fraud.

Over 75 checks were manufactured for over \$165,000. An estimated 56 checks in the amount of \$83,224 were cashed.

The investigation was a joint effort between the Cleveland Police Department and Postal Inspectors.

“These crimes disrupted the lives and businesses of dozens of victims,” said Prosecutor O'Malley. “It is my intent to disrupt Donaldson’s life with a lengthy prison sentence as I believe we are just scratching the surface of this scam.”

Arrest for Donaldson is scheduled for March 6.