



Office of the Prosecuting Attorney

31st Judicial Circuit
Lake County, Indiana

BERNARD A. CARTER
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

CRIMINAL DIVISION
2293 NORTH MAIN STREET
CROWN POINT, IN 46307
(219) 755-3720
(219) 755-3642 FAX

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Myrna Maldonado-Public Information Officer (219) 755-3720

mmaldonado@lakepros.org

Lake County Prosecutor Requests Indiana State Police Investigation Into Missing Evidence From Winfield Massage Parlor Raid

CROWN POINT, IN — Lake County Prosecutor Bernard A. Carter has formally requested the Indiana State Police open an investigation into missing evidence connected to the November 1, 2023 search warrant execution at Jade Massage Parlor in Winfield.

The request follows the discovery that cash seized as evidence during the raid in the amount of \$97,014.37—was not properly secured and that a substantial amount remains missing. Investigators believe roughly \$33,540.51 is still unaccounted for.

Prosecutor Carter has asked the Indiana State Police to conduct a full, independent investigation into the disappearance of the funds and to work to determine the location of the missing money. “The public must have confidence that evidence collected in criminal investigations is handled lawfully, transparently, and with integrity,” said Prosecutor Carter. “Any allegation involving the mishandling or theft of evidence by a law enforcement officer is extremely serious. We are asking the Indiana State Police to thoroughly investigate this matter and to make every effort to recover the missing funds.”

The missing cash stems from a multi-agency investigation into Jade Massage Parlor, located at 9001 E. 109th Avenue in Winfield, which was the subject of a lengthy human trafficking, prostitution, and financial crimes investigation led by Winfield Police beginning in January 2023.

According to court records, the investigation began after multiple complaints alleged Jade Massage was offering sexual services in exchange for money. Undercover operations conducted over several months documented alleged prostitution occurring inside the massage business. Search warrants were ultimately executed on November 1, 2023, at five locations in Lake County, including two massage parlors, two related restaurant businesses, and a Crown Point residence tied to the owners.



Office of the Prosecuting Attorney

31st Judicial Circuit
Lake County, Indiana

BERNARD A. CARTER
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

CRIMINAL DIVISION
2293 NORTH MAIN STREET
CROWN POINT, IN 46307
(219) 755-3720
(219) 755-3642 FAX

The raids led to the seizure of cash, business records, and other evidence connected to the criminal investigation.

Prosecutor Carter emphasized that the criminal investigation into the massage parlors and any related prosecutions remain separate from the inquiry into the missing evidence.

“This request is about accountability,” Carter said. “The citizens of Lake County deserve answers regarding what happened to this evidence and where this money is today.”

The Lake County Prosecutor’s Office will continue cooperating with state investigators and will provide updates as appropriate.

#