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Date 09/16/2019

NEWS RELEASE

Five Arrests Made in Organized Fraud Ring

Date: March 2018 – November 2018

Arrested: 30 –year old Kizito Chisom Ekechukwu of 2000 block of Shreya, El Paso, TX 79938

Arrested: 23 –year old Natalie De la Rosa of 2000 block of Shreya, El Paso, TX 79938

Arrested: 24 –year old Chidindu Jide Obioha of 1300 block of Pullman Dr, El Paso, TX 79936

Arrested: 38 –year old Benita Alejandra Pargas of 10000 block of Loma Verde, El Paso, TX 79936

Arrested: 29 –year old Sebastian Baca of 300 block of Jackson Rd, Socorro, TX 79927

Wanted: 33 –year old Ikenna Victor Eke of Midland, Texas

Wanted: 24 –year old Gary Devon Carrington of 11900 block of Sgt McKibben Ct, El Paso, TX 79908

Wanted: 28 –year old Shanique Renae Thornton of Georgia

El Paso, Texas- Five individuals were arrested and charged with Engaging in Organized Criminal Activity, while three offenders remain at large. The arrests stem from an 18-month long investigation by the El Paso Police Department's White Collar Crime Unit. The investigation revealed the group worked collectively to defraud local banks and credit unions in a scheme that included opening multiple accounts, using debit cards associated with the accounts, filing fictitious reports of lost or stolen debit cards and receiving full reimbursements. The offenders then withdrew the funds and closed the accounts, making off with over \$25,000. All arrestees were booked on \$15,000 bonds, with the exception of Obioha, who was booked on a \$10,000 Bond. Thornton and Eke are believed to be out of the jurisdiction, while Carrington is suspected to remain outstanding in the El Paso area. Arrests of the three are pending. Financial institutions are encouraged to contact the White Collar Crime Unit at 915-212-4100 if they believe they have been a victim.

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Media Contact:

El Paso Police Department
Public Affairs / Media Relations