

MEDIA RELEASE

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Employee Accused of Selling Over \$105,000 in School Electronic Equipment

Gurnee – Since November 2020, Gurnee Detectives have been investigating a report of stolen electronic equipment from the Technology Department at Woodland School District 50. The school district received several calls from people across the county who purchased the electronic equipment on eBay. The devices were locked and displayed a message indicating the device belonged to Woodland School District 50. The school district compared serial numbers from the eBay purchases with their inventory and confirmed the equipment belonged to the school district.

Following a thorough investigation, an employee in the Technology Department emerged as a suspect in the case. David May, 53, of Lindenhurst, IL, had been taking the electronic equipment from the school and selling them on eBay for personal profit. May's role within the Technology Department allowed him to inventory equipment, manipulate documents and records, and confiscate devices without detection. Records obtained from eBay for May's account indicated several serial numbers from computers, cameras, and other electronic devices matched the missing inventory from Woodland School District 50. The investigation revealed May sold over \$105,000 worth of electronic devices from the school district during his employment.

In coordination with the Lake County State's Attorney's Office, an arrest warrant was issued for May, and he was taken into custody on May 20, 2021. May received the following charges:

- Theft (Class 1 felony)
- Theft by Deception (Class 1 felony)
- Two counts of Online Sale of Stolen Property (Class 2 felony)
- Electronic Fencing (Class 2 felony)
- Computer Fraud (Class 3 felony)

May was released on \$5,000 bond and is expected to appear in court on June 7, 2021 at 9:00 AM in courtroom T020.

All suspects accused of a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.