

## Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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### THREE INDICTED IN ILLEGAL GUN PURCHASE SCHEME

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Three people – one from Zion, Ill., one from Kenosha, Wis., and one from Columbus, Ohio – face criminal charges in an alleged plot to illegally purchase guns.

40-year-old **Ira A. Burdine**, 46-year-old **Dana J. Prouty** and 38-year-old **Favio Velazquez** each has been indicted on one count of unlawful purchase of a firearm, Class X felony.

Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon alleges in charging documents that:

- **Burdine**, during the purchase of 10 firearms – shotguns and 50-caliber rifles – intentionally and unlawfully provided false information in that he had **Prouty** affirm that she was not acquiring the firearms on behalf of another person.
- **Prouty**, during the purchase of 10 firearms – shotguns and 50-caliber rifles – intentionally provided false information in that she affirmed she was not acquiring the firearms on behalf of another person.
- **Velazquez**, during the purchase of 9 firearms – shotguns and 50-caliber rifles – intentionally provided false information in that he affirmed he was not acquiring the firearms on behalf of another person.

After the indictments, warrants for their arrests were issued. Burdine's bail was set at \$150,000 with 10 percent (\$15,000) to apply for bond. Prouty's bail was set at \$100,000 with 10 percent (\$10,000) to apply for bond. Velazquez's bail was set at \$200,000 with 10 percent (\$20,000) to apply for bond.

Burdine and Prouty were taken into custody Sept. 11, 2017, by agents from Homeland Security Investigations and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Burdine posted bond and was released. His next court appearance is set for 9 a.m. Oct. 5, 2017, in Courtroom 217 at the Kane County Judicial Center in front of Associate Judge David R. Kliment. Prouty remains in custody at the Kane County jail. Her next court date is set for 9 a.m. Sept. 28, 2017, in Courtroom 217 in front of Judge Kliment.

Velazquez was taken into custody Sept. 22, in Columbus, Ohio, by local ATF task force officers. His extradition from Ohio is pending.

State's Attorney McMahon said: "The law that these three individuals are alleged to have violated is in place to protect against guns getting into the hands of the wrong people. We appreciate HSI's work in tracking these gun purchases, and also for working with us to ensure that all available evidence is lawfully gathered so as to ensure a successful prosecution."

James M. Gibbons, Special Agent in Charge of HSI's Chicago office said: "Anyone who 'straw purchases' guns circumvents the federal laws designed to keep firearms out of the hands of criminals, terrorists, and other threats to national security and public safety. Homeland Security Investigations routinely works with our law enforcement partners to enforce these vital laws by investigating and pursuing prosecution against suspects who purchase guns for those who cannot legally buy them."

The case was investigated by Homeland Security Investigations and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives with assistance from the Elgin Police Department.

The charges against Burdine, Prouty and Velazquez are not proof of guilt. Burdine, Prouty and Velazquez are presumed innocent and are entitled to a fair trial in which it is the state's burden to prove their guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

**Ira A. Burdine:** Age 40 (d.o.b. 11-24-1976), of the 1900 block of Gideon Avenue, Zion, Ill.

**Dana J. Prouty:** Age 46 (d.o.b. 5-3-1971), of the 9000 block of Sheridan Road, Kenosha, Wis.

**Favio Velazquez:** Age 38 (d.o.b. 1-21-1979), of the 1700 block of Alum Creek Drive, Columbus, Ohio