

# NEWS RELEASE

## Winter Park Police Department

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Chief of Police

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 11/3/2017

### Arrest of Sergeant Frank Cowart

On March 13, 2017, the Winter Park Police Department received information alleging that Winter Park Police Sergeant Frank Cowart took personal property belonging to a deceased person during a death investigation back in 2011. Based on this information, Chief Michael Deal contacted the Orange County Sheriff's Office requesting that they initiate a criminal investigation into the allegations. As a result of their investigation, Sergeant Cowart was arrested this afternoon for Grand Theft.

Sergeant Cowart began his employment with the Winter Park Police Department in 2002. He was assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division at the time the allegations were made. Sergeant Cowart was placed on administrative leave on March 15, 2017 and will remain on administrative leave until completion of an administrative investigation by the Winter Park Police Department.

All questions pertaining to this investigation and arrest shall be directed to the Orange County Sheriff's Office. The Winter Park Police Department will be making no other comments as there is a pending administrative investigation in this matter.