

3 software companies suspected of stealing

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THE GAZETTE

Federal and local law officers have raided three Colorado Springs software companies suspected of stealing at least \$2 million from more than 20 temporary staffing agencies across the United States.

The criminal warrant alleges that IRP Solutions, DKH Enterprises and Leading Team Inc. hired the staffing agencies to pay the salaries of their employees and then never paid them back, according a federal affidavit.

"This is an ongoing investigation, and I have to decline comment," Jeff Dorschner, spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Denver, said Friday.

The warrant alleging mail and wire fraud and conspiracy was served Wednesday by more than 20 FBI and local law enforcement agents, who seized computers and other records. No arrests were made.

"The investigation on this matter is continuing, and that's our general statement in regard to the ongoing efforts here," said Dan Bradley, the FBI's senior supervisory resident agent in Colorado Springs.

Gary Walker, David Banks and Demetrius Harper are executives of the companies, which share a 14,000-square-foot office at 7350 Campus Drive in north Colorado Springs. They could not be reached for comment.

According to the affidavit, representatives of the companies entered contracts with the staffing companies, which would hire and pay temporary employees chosen by DKH or IRP.

Many of the employees were said to be software engineers.

The agencies were told that temporary labor was needed to develop software that would be sold to the federal Bureau of Prisons, the Department of Homeland Defense, the New York Police Department and other agencies.

The staffing companies paid the employees' salaries, expecting that DKH and IRP would repay them, along with an additional amount to cover expenses.

Investigators found evidence that the companies did some work on developing soft-

ware.
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