



## **NEWS RELEASE**

Lakeport Police Department  
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### **FORMER CITY OF LAKEPORT EMPLOYEE ARRESTED FOR EMBEZZLEMENT AND THEFT OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

**From: Chief of Police Brad Rasmussen**

**Date: August 22, 2012**

On Wednesday, August 22, 2012 at approximately 0915 hours Lakeport Police Detectives arrested Matthew Allen Johnson 36 of Lakeport, CA on a Lake County Superior Court warrant issued after the Lake County District Attorney filed a complaint charging seven felony counts of embezzlement (504a California Penal Code) and seven felony counts of misappropriation of public funds (424 California Penal Code).

On Monday, July 16, 2012 the Lakeport Police Department (LPD) was contacted by city executive management staff and notified of the misappropriation of public funds by Johnson at a time that he was employed as a Utilities Superintendent for the city. Diligent city staff were able to recognize the misappropriations due to the city's system of "checks and balances" for safeguarding public funds and resources.

City staff worked closely with the police department during this extensive criminal investigation which was ongoing until concluded yesterday and identified that the theft amounted to just over \$6500.00. It is important to note that hardworking and honest city staff immediately reported this matter and took steps to ensure that it was handled quickly and efficiently.

This case has been completely turned over to the Lake County District Attorney for prosecution and no further information will be released by this office or the city of Lakeport at this time.

**Brad Rasmussen**  
**Chief of Police**