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'Dental Hygiene Hoodlum' Wanted after Stealing More than \$2500 Worth of Teeth Whitening Kits

COLUMBUS, OH—A Central Ohio man seemingly possessed by the promise of pearly white teeth has been named "Fugitive of the Week" by Columbus City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr.

Forty-six-year-old Sean Patrick Burk has taken his obsession with stealing *Crest White Strips*—and only *Crest White Strips*—far and wide across Columbus and Franklin County. In the span of just under two months, Burk went on a crime spree that has resulted in six theft charges, three open cases, two guilty pleas, two arrest warrants, and one dubious nickname. All told, Burk, who was dubbed the "Dental Hygiene Hoodlum," has stolen dozens of boxes of the popular teeth whitening kits worth a total retail value of more than \$2500.

"Serial thieves generally target certain items but it is unusual for us to see such brand loyalty where an offender only steals large quantities of a single product, over and over again," said Columbus City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr.

On February 3, 2016, Burk stole seven boxes of *Crest White Strips* valued at \$419.93 from a Polaris area store. According to reports, Burk fled with an accomplice in a beige-colored sedan.

Burk returned to the same store the following day and stole 14 more boxes worth a total value of \$609.86.

On February 9th, Burk stole an unspecified amount of white strips valued at \$519.88 from a Grove City retailer.

On February 24th, Burk stole 10 boxes worth \$459.40 from an Easton area retailer

On March 23rd, Burk stole a "bag full" of white strips valued at \$486.80 from an OSU area pharmacy.

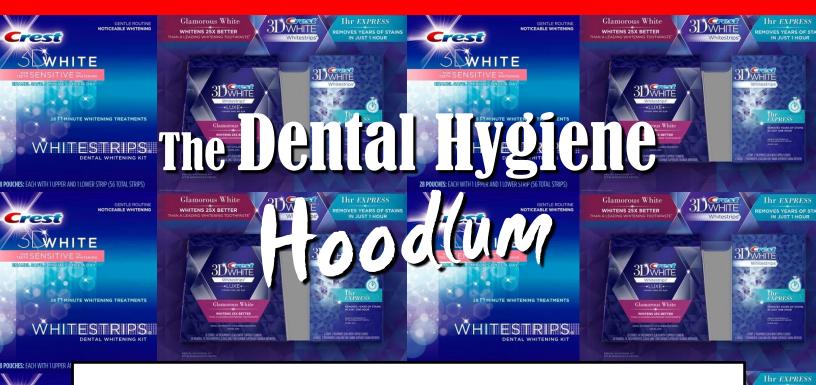
"Mr. Burk has stolen so many teeth whitening strips, he may be literally on his way to having a million-dollar smile," said First Assistant City Prosecutor Bill R. Hedrick. "However, we believe it's more likely he's not using the white strips personally, but selling them on the black market to feed a drug habit."

Besides theft, Burk's past criminal record includes charges of illegal possession of drug paraphernalia and felony deception to obtain dangerous drugs.

Anyone with information on Sean Patrick Burk is asked to contact First Assistant City Prosecutor Bill R. Hedrick at 614.645.8874 or brhedrick@columbus.gov.

Per state law, the Columbus City Attorney's office prosecutes misdemeanor crimes, not felonies.

WANTED





SEAN PATRICK BURK

DOB: 2/18/1970 (Age 46) **Height:** 5'11" **Weight:** 175 **Hair:** Brown **Eyes:** Brown

Last Known Address:

1000 Bryden Rd. Columbus, Ohio 43215

Case Numbers:

2016 CRB 006381 (Arrest Warrant) 2016 CRB 006938 (Arrest Warrant) 2016 CRB 006549 (Open Case)

Charge(s):

2913.02 – Theft (four counts)