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# OSIG NEWS

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## **FORMER CFO SENTENCED TO NINE YEARS FOR STEALING MILLIONS FROM INJURED BABIES PROGRAM**

John Hunter Raines was sentenced to nine years in prison for embezzling funds from his former employer, the Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Program.

“We’re relieved that justice was served here in Virginia,” said State Inspector General Michael C. Westfall. “The Birth-Injury program is meant to help families who find themselves in heartbreaking circumstances. We hope today’s sentencing sends a message that malice and greed of this scale will not be tolerated in the Commonwealth.”

The Birth-Injury program pays for medical expenses of children with severe neurological injuries resulting from the birthing process. Raines, 38, was the program’s former Chief Financial Officer and stole \$6.7 million between January 2022 and October 2023. Through the program’s debit card and at least 59 separate wire transactions directing funds from bank accounts to his own name, Raines spent the stolen money on personal expenses including:

- Eight luxury golf carts and a 2023 Chevrolet Suburban;
- \$125,000 for private jet travel for Raines’ friends and family;
- \$100,000 on gambling at various Virginia casinos, racetracks, and in the lottery;
- Over \$19,000 for eight separate 2022 1-oz American Gold Eagle Bullion coins and a 100-oz silver bar.

In addition to his sentence, Raines was ordered to pay more than \$6 million in restitution.

“This case involved coordination between our agency, the Department of Justice, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and the Internal Revenue Service. We’re grateful to our partners who brought this case of fraud to a close.”

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Established in 2012, the Virginia Office of the State Inspector General manages the State Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline; conducts administrative and criminal investigations and performance audits of state agencies; provides training and standards for the commonwealth’s internal audit programs; and conducts inspections and reviews of Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services-run facilities and programs.