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Public Relations/Media Inquiries:  
Anne Clarrissimeaux, 214.552.0910  
anne@meauxpr.com  
www.leadsonline.com

**THEIVES MAKE A CLEAN GETAWAY IN DRUG STORE THEFTS --- BUT LEADSONLINE CAN TRACK THEM DOWN ONE TOOTHBRUSH AT A TIME**

**LeadsOnline, the Nation's largest online investigation tool, helps police in tracking down millions of dollars in stolen drug store goods.**

Dallas, Sept 2, 2009 — Thieves across the country are stealing high-priced drug store items such as electronic toothbrushes, vitamins, teeth whitening systems, weight loss supplements, baby formula and thermometers from major retailers across the country. Florida and Massachusetts are among the states hardest hit.

Operating in groups, and posing as actual customers so to appear as though they are simply doing some shopping, these thieves have hit stores and pharmacies and they're walking away with millions of dollars in merchandise.

They then attempt to sell those items to second-hand stores and online. The items are new and still in their original packaging, often with store security and price tags still intact. The crooks tend to sell to multiple stores in multiple cities to avoid suspicion.

But LeadsOnline is helping police find those stolen goods quickly, no matter where the items are sold. With the broad, nationwide reach of the LeadsOnline database, police detectives can search across jurisdictions to recover the stolen items.

"We're proud that we help police recover stolen goods everyday," says Dave Finley, President and CEO of LeadsOnline. "We're also big advocates for good personal hygiene, and we won't stop until all those products are back on drug store shelves where they belong."

Those crooks won't find success selling the personal hygiene products on eBay either, thanks to LeadsOnline. Through an exclusive partnership, all items listed on eBay are tracked through LeadsOnline, which also cross-checks items through the NCIC. So, if a toothbrush or a bottle of weight loss pills randomly shows up somewhere, the LeadsOnline system will immediately alert the police --- and police will be able to track down the seller, and that will most likely take them to the theft ring.

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LeadsOnline is the nation's largest online investigative system used by more than 3,000 law enforcement agencies to recover stolen property and solve crimes. Each day, millions of items are added to the LeadsOnline database by businesses including second-hand stores, scrap metal recyclers, pawnshops, and Internet drop-off stores across all 50 states. Those records are instantly available to law enforcement agencies, meaning crimes can be solved in seconds, not months. The LeadsOnline system, compatible with the NCIC, serves as an indispensable, efficient, and money-saving resource for detectives because it provides a cross-jurisdictional, instantaneous, and accurate database that stops criminals from escaping detection by selling stolen items in another city. An official eBay partner, LeadsOnline helps prevent illegal transactions on the eBay website by giving law enforcement access to the world's largest online marketplace through automatic upload of all eBay transactions into the LeadsOnline database. LeadsOnline also includes LeadsOnlabs, a system for tracking those involved in the illegal manufacture of methamphetamines; a Metal Theft Investigation System designed to track copper and other metal thefts; and cross-checks names of pawn customers against the OFAC SDN list of known terrorists and narcotics traffickers. Each year, LeadsOnline is credited with recovering millions of dollars in stolen goods and solving thousands of crimes that are often associated with bigger crimes, such as homicide, identity theft, and arson. Based in Dallas and led by President and CEO Dave Finley, LeadsOnline works with thousands of agencies throughout the country, including the New York Police Department, the Dallas Police Department, and the San Francisco Police Department. [www.leadsonline.com](http://www.leadsonline.com)

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