

CHARENTON — Cypress Bayou Casino Hotel General Manager Anthony Patrone, who turned himself in to police Wednesday, denies the felony theft, computer fraud and obstruction of justice charges against him.

Patrone's lawyer Donald Washington of Jones Walker LLP, said in a prepared statement Patrone "emphatically denies every charge and allegation put forth by the Louisiana State Police in their unfortunate actions taken yesterday.

"Someone of Anthony's stature and success would have no reason to steal \$5,700 or any amount of money for that matter, and it will be plainly shown by evidence that his actions were transparent and known to many individuals," Washington said in the statement.

Washington also stated Patrone has been "aggressively candid" with state police.

Patrone, along with the casino's General Manager Monte Spivey, were arrested Wednesday following an investigation that began in January. Louisiana State Police Master Trooper Brooks David said a member of the Chitimacha Tribal Gaming Commission made a complaint about possible illegal activity at the casino, and the State Police Gaming Unit confirmed Patrone went into the casino's employee database and edited it to show an unidentified inactive employee was active and qualified for a \$5,700 bonus.

The payment was made to the former employee's bank account.

Police allege Patrone instructed an employee to remove the former employee's name from the database and conceal payment. Police allege Spivey reactivated the former employee in the database for the bonus.

Welcome to the discussion.

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