



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OLATHE, KAN., WOMAN INDICTED FOR DEFRAUDING EMPLOYER

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Olathe, Kan., woman was indicted by a federal grand jury today for defrauding her employer of more than \$600,000.

Joyce Lynne Smith, 60, of Olathe, Kan., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for defrauding her employer, Mid-Continent Specialists Incorporated, a roofing and guttering company located in Kansas City, Mo.

The federal indictment alleges that **Smith** knowingly devised a scheme to defraud the Kansas City business by approving payroll rosters, which contained unauthorized payments to herself and three other individuals. **Smith** was employed as the company's bookkeeper and was responsible for preparing its payroll.

The indictment alleges that between May 30, 1997, and Dec. 14, 2001, **Smith** caused Mid-Continent's contracted payroll company, Midwest Staffing Solutions, to issue a total of over \$600,000 in unauthorized Mid-Continent payroll checks and direct deposits. The indictment alleges that **Smith** caused this to happen by submitting fraudulent payroll rosters to Midwest Staffing Solutions.

The seven-count indictment alleges that Smith sent the fraudulent facsimiles on at least seven separate occasions.

Counts One through Four and Counts Six and Seven allege that **Smith** sent facsimiles from Mid-Continent to Midwest Staffing Solutions containing false payroll information on six separate occasions. Each of the six facsimiles included fraudulent payments of \$1,900.81 for **Smith** and \$348.15, \$721.66 and \$388.56 for three other individuals.

Count Five of the federal indictment alleges that on Nov. 28, 2001, **Smith** sent another facsimile from Mid-Continent to Midwest Staffing Solutions containing false payroll information

in the amount of \$1,900.81 for herself and in the amounts of \$323.43, \$685.49 and \$369.57 to three other individuals.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney D. Michael Green. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow