



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DEFRAUDING EMPLOYER OF UP TO \$350,000

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City woman pleaded guilty in federal court today to defrauding her employer by making company checks payable to herself and her creditors.

Angeline P. Washington, 38, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this afternoon to charges contained in a federal information, which was filed in court today.

By pleading guilty, **Washington** admitted that she embezzled funds from Tin Masters, a construction firm that specializes in sub-contracting, between 1996 and May 2001, in Kansas City. During the course of the scheme, **Washington** defrauded her employer by making checks payable to herself and her creditors by forging the signatures of an officer at the business with signatory authority.

As a result of the scheme, she wrote checks in an amount greater than \$200,000 but not greater than \$350,000.

One of the checks involved in the scheme was dated March 5, 2001, and written on the account of Tin Master, Inc., for \$8,975.25. The check was made payable to **Washington**, Graves said.

As a result of pleading guilty, **Washington** may be subject to a maximum sentence of 30 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$1 million. Restitution also may be ordered in the full amount of the loss incurred by the banks. Her sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda Parker Marshall and Assistant U.S. Attorney Sheryle L. Jeans.

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