



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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District Woman Pleads Guilty to Forged Securities –Admits Embezzling More Than \$200,000 From D.C. Organization–

WASHINGTON - Carolyn Mitchell, 47, of Washington, D.C., has pled guilty to a federal charge that she possessed forged securities, stemming from the theft of more than \$200,000 from her employer, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced today.

Mitchell entered her guilty plea on March 1, 2011 before the Honorable Judge Beryl A. Howell in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Under federal sentencing guidelines, she could be sentenced to 18 to 24 months incarceration. The judge scheduled sentencing for June 24, 2011, and executed a consent order of forfeiture in the amount of \$210,800.

According to the factual proffer submitted to the Court, Mitchell worked as a bookkeeper and administrative assistant for a private, nonprofit advocacy group identified in these proceedings as “NCL.” Her duties included preparing invoices and processing checks.

From 2005 to 2010, Mitchell engaged in a scheme to embezzle approximately \$210,800 from her employer by misdirecting donor checks and by adding her own name to NCL checks made payable to vendors. She then deposited the checks into her own bank account.

In announcing the guilty plea, U.S. Attorney Machen praised the work of Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Detective Vince Tucci and U.S. Attorney’s Office Paralegal Specialist Sarah Reis. He further acknowledged the efforts of Assistant U.S. Attorneys Barry Wiegand, Stephanie Miller, and Virginia Cheatham.

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