



U.S. Department of Justice

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NAPERVILLE MAN SENTENCED TO 20 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR EMBEZZLING OVER \$100,000 FROM CONSTRUCTION PROJECT FOR CHILDRENS CAMP

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, and ROBERT D. GRANT, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, today made the following announcement:

United States District Judge Philip G. Reinhard today sentenced **PHILIP E. RICHARDSON**, 53 (DOB: 7/1/53) of Naperville, Illinois, to 20 months in federal prison without parole for mail fraud resulting from a scheme between April 2000 and April 2001 to embezzle \$104,683 from a non-profit organization.

Richardson had been charged with five counts of mail fraud by an indictment returned on June 21, 2005. The indictment alleged that Richardson, an officer and sole shareholder of Richardson Organization, Ltd., an Illinois corporation engaged in real estate and construction activities, agreed to manage the construction of a building project for Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center (“LOMC”), a non-profit corporation which operates a youth camp near Oregon, Illinois. According to the indictment, Richardson obtained payments for subcontractors from LOMC based on invoices which falsely inflated the amounts due to certain subcontractors. The indictment further alleged Richardson falsely endorsed LOMC checks made payable to a subcontractor and deposited the checks into the Richardson Organization bank account. In addition, the indictment alleged that Richardson failed to fully pay certain subcontractors, and used money from LOMC for personal and business purposes unrelated to the project. On October 5, 2006, Richardson pled guilty to five counts of mail fraud in relation to the scheme.

In addition to his prison sentence, the court ordered Richardson to serve 3 years of supervised release following his release from prison, and to pay a fine of \$2,500 and restitution of \$105,459.24.

The case was investigated by the Rockford office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and was prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Michael D. Love.

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