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ROCHELLE WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FALSE STATEMENT IN BANKRUPTCY HEARING

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:

MARY CRIDDLE, Rochelle, Illinois, pleaded guilty today in federal court in Rockford to an information charging her with making a false statement under oath in a hearing before the Bankruptcy Trustee in connection with her bankruptcy proceeding.

In pleading guilty today, Bartels acknowledged that at a hearing on November 15, 2007, she falsely told the Bankruptcy Trustee that she did not expect to receive any money by inheritance within the next six months. According to the plea agreement, Criddle knew before the hearing that she would receive property from a Trust established by Vance C. Pfeiffer in his will. Bartels further admitted that prior to the hearing she was aware that Pfeiffer had died on October 23, 2007.

Sentencing for Criddle will be conducted on December 2, 2010, at 9:30 a.m. Criddle faces a maximum sentence of up to five years of imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, a period of supervised release of at least two and up to three years following imprisonment. Her actual sentence will be determined by the United States District Court, guided by the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

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

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