

## Department of Justice

## United States Attorney Carter M. Stewart Southern District of Ohio

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FRIDAY, JULY 9, 2010 http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ohs

CONTACT: Fred Alverson 614-469-5715

## <u>HUBER HEIGHTS WOMAN SENTENCED TO 36 MONTHS FOR EMBEZZLING</u> <u>MORE THAN \$478,000 FROM ANTIOCH SHRINE</u>

DAYTON – Wanda Fox, 67, of Huber Heights, was sentenced in United States District Court here today to 36 months in prison for embezzling approximately \$478,287 belonging to Antioch Shrine, a charitable organization located in Dayton, Ohio.

Carter M. Stewart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio; Tom Mazur, Special Agent in Charge, United States Secret Service; Chief Richard Biehl, Dayton Police Department; and Chief Robert Schommer, Huber Heights Police Department, announced the sentence handed down today by District Judge Walter H. Rice.

Judge Rice also sentenced her to make full restitution in the amount of \$478,287, which includes \$368,287 restitution to Antioch Shrine, \$100,000 reimbursement to the Shriner's insurance company, and \$10,000 to National City Bank.

Fox, used a check-writing computer software program at the Antioch office where she worked, to fraudulently create approximately 192 checks in various amounts totaling approximately \$468,287 between April 2002 and August 2009. She made the checks payable to herself, her spouse or "National City Bank" and drew them on Antioch's National City Bank checking account. Fox fraudulently created the checks without the knowledge or authorization of Antioch Shrine and then traveled to various National City Bank branches located in the Dayton, Ohio area where she negotiated the checks by either depositing them into a personal checking account she maintained at National City Bank or by simply cashing them.

Fox also traveled to Dayton area National City Bank branches on four separate occasions, and withdrew a total of approximately \$10,000 belonging to Antioch Shrine. At the time she made the withdrawals, Fox fraudulently represented to National City Bank that she had the authority to make the withdrawals from the Shrine's account. Fox used the fraudulently obtained funds to pay personal expenses, pay off debts, and for other unlawful purposes.

Fox was arrested on October 21, 2009 but has been free on bond since her arrest. After completing her prison term, Fox will spend five years on supervised release, a form of probation. In addition, Fox was ordered to sign over a \$105,000 life insurance policy naming Antioch Shrine as beneficiary as security for the restitution award in the event of her death.

Stewart commended the investigation of this case by Secret Service agents, Dayton and Huber Heights Police detectives, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Mona Guerrier, who prosecuted the case.