

PRESS RELEASE

February 8, 2011

Trusted Assistant Sentenced to Prison; Ordered to Pay Over \$200,000 Restitution

State v. Deborah S. Lyninger 2010-CR-2620

A 76-year-old Germantown resident was the victim of his own administrative assistant, 53-year-old **Deborah S. Lyninger**. Today, she was sentenced to serve three years incarceration in the penitentiary and ordered to pay \$200,549.33 in restitution to the victim after her plea of guilty-as-charged and convictions for:

- Theft from an elderly or disabled adult over \$100,000;
- Misuse of a credit card over \$500 (elderly or disabled victim);
- Misuse of a credit card (elderly or disabled victim);
- Forgery over \$25,000 (elderly or disabled victim)

During the period from 2005-2010, the defendant was asked by her employer to help him with his personal affairs and write checks for paying his bills. The defendant decided to start writing checks from the victim's account to pay her personal expenses, including her monthly car payment, her credit cards bills, and even her son's college tuition expenses.

Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. said, "Again, we see a case where the victim has known the defendant for a number of years, and she abused that friendship and trust." Sarah Schenck, Supervising Attorney of the Fraud and Economic Crimes Unit added, "Always use caution when trusting someone else with your personal and business affairs."