



MATHIAS H. HECK, JR.  
Prosecuting Attorney

DEBRA B. ARMANINI  
First Assistant  
Prosecuting Attorney

APPELLATE DIVISION  
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CIVIL DIVISION  
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**Mathias H. Heck, Jr.**  
**Montgomery County Prosecuting Attorney**

**PRESS RELEASE**

May 18, 2009

**Girl Scout Troop Leader Sentenced**  
**State v. Tamara Jo Ward**  
**2008-CR-2911**

Tamara Jo Ward, formerly the leader of Troop #2162 of the Girl Scouts of America was sentenced today for her conviction on a charge of Grand Theft. The defendant was sentenced to serve 30 days in the Montgomery County Jail, ordered to make full restitution to the Girl Scout Troop and sentenced to five years community control sanctions.

The defendant started Troop #2162 in 2000. She was the troop leader until the troop was dissolved in 2007. During that time, the defendant had access to the bank account the troop used to deposit profits from cookie sales. These funds were to be used to pay for the troops recreational activities. The defendant obtained a debit card to the account, and over the five years prior to the dissolution of the troop she used the money for her personal use. The defendant spent the troop's money on vacations, personal expenses, utility payments and groceries.

Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck said, "This defendant used her access to the bank account of the Girl Scouts to steal over \$28,000 for her personal expenses. Sadly, rather than being a role model to these girls, she betrayed them and stole their cookie money. This type of outrageous, selfish behavior is despicable."