

# PRESS RELEASE

December 24, 2008

## State v. Linda McDermott & Lisa Kidd 2008-CR-2722

The Montgomery County Grand Jury indicted two defendants who were employees of Samaritan North Health Center.

The defendants would scan the obituaries in the newspaper, and then use their access to patient records to determine if those recently deceased persons were ever patients at Good Samaritan Hospital. If they had been patients, they would use the hospital's computerized patient database to gather personal information needed to apply for small loans through online websites in the name of the deceased. The defendants would then open bank accounts using various names, and transfer the illegal funds through different accounts before withdrawing the money through an ATM.

Defendant McDermott has been indicted for:

- One count of Identity Theft, a fourth degree felony;
- 11 counts of Money Laundering, a third degree felony

Defendant Kidd has been indicted for:

- One count of Identity Theft, a third degree felony;
- 19 counts of Money Laundering, a third degree felony

These defendants face a potential of 5 years incarceration for each third degree felony and 18 months for the fourth degree felony count.

Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck said, "These defendants used their access to private, personal information in order to use the names of recently deceased citizens to benefit themselves financially. The grief and pain of the families of the deceased was added to by this despicable behavior."