



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Northern District of Illinois
Western Division*

*John G. McKenzie
Assistant United States Attorney*

*308 West State Street - Room 300
Rockford, Illinois 61101*

*PH: (815) 987-4444
FAX: (815) 987-4236*

May 9, 2008

ROCKFORD WOMAN SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS PROBATION FOR EMBEZZLING \$33,770 FROM TEAMSTERS UNION LOCAL

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, together with JAMES VANDERBERG, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Region of the United States Department of Labor, Office of Inspector General, Office of Labor Racketeering and Fraud Investigations, and MARY J. KEBISEK, District Director of the Chicago District, Office of Labor-Management Standards, today made the following announcement:

United States Senior District Judge Philip G. Reinhard today sentenced **KATHLEEN THOMPSON**, 48, Rockford, to 5 years on probation, of which she is to spend 7 months on home confinement, for embezzling \$33,770 from the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 325 (“Teamsters Local 325”), located in Rockford, Illinois. While confined to her home, Thompson will be electronically monitored to ensure she remains at her home. Thompson was also ordered to pay restitution to the Teamsters Local 325. The actual amount of restitution will be determined by the court within 60 days and will be at least \$33,770 and could be as much as \$50,000. The court ordered that Thompson liquidate a retirement account and apply the net proceeds towards restitution. Thompson had been charged with the embezzlement by an information filed in federal court on December 17, 2007, and had pleaded guilty to the offense on December 21, 2007.

In pleading guilty, Thompson had admitted that between April 18, 2004, and April 10, 2007, while an employee of the Teamsters Local 325, she had embezzled funds from the union local. According to the plea agreement, Teamsters Local 325 regularly used its offices for bingo games and to sell “pull tabs,” and would cash checks for players. Thompson acknowledged that one of the players (“Player”) would give her a check and she would give cash back to the Player. At that Player’s request, Thompson would not turn the check over to the Teamsters Local 325. At the end of the evening, Thompson admitted, she would embezzle funds from the sales of pull tabs to cover the amount of the Player’s check. Thompson admitted that she had hid the embezzlement by not reporting all of the sales of the pull tabs. According to the plea agreement, this practice continued until Thompson had embezzled more than \$33,000 from the union local.

The case was investigated by the Chicago offices of the Department of Labor, Office of Inspector General, Office of Labor Racketeering and Fraud Investigations, and the Office of Labor-Management Standards, and was prosecuted in United States District Court by Assistant United States Attorney JOHN G. MCKENZIE.

#####