

## **Former Executive Director Sentenced for Misuse of Federal and State Grant Funds (March 2002)**

Mr. Donald S. Murdock, former Executive Director, Coosa Valley Regional Services & Development Corporation, pled guilty on March 8, 2002, in Floyd County Superior Court, Rome, GA, to one count of Theft by Taking. Mr. Murdock was sentenced by the Honorable F. Lany Salmon to five years supervised probation, assessed a \$23.00 per month probation fee, and required to make restitution of \$32,432.11, of which \$2,347.27 were Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) funds.

Coosa Valley Regional Services & Development Corporation is a non-profit organization that sponsors a RSVP. A program audit discovered that Mr. Murdock expended RSVP funds for questionable purchases. An investigation by the Corporation for National and Community Service's Office of Inspector General found evidence that Mr. Murdock used RSVP funds to make purchases for his personal use. The Office of Inspector General investigation caused State auditors to review State grants awarded to Coosa Valley Regional Services & Development Corporation. The State auditors found that Mr. Murdock awarded unauthorized pay increases and benefits to himself and his staff.