



NEWS RELEASE

**KAREN L. LOEFFLER
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
DISTRICT OF ALASKA**

Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse • 222 W. 7th Avenue • Room 253 • Anchorage, AK 99513 • (907) 271-5071

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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09-053

**FAIRBANKS WOMAN SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT
FOR EMBEZZLEMENT OF PUBLIC MONEY**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Karen L. Loeffler announced that on May 22, 2009, Morgan Lynn Barker, a resident of Fairbanks, Alaska, was sentenced in federal court in Fairbanks to five years of probation and a mandatory requirement of probation to pay \$12,315.20 in restitution for her conviction of embezzlement of public money.

United States District Court Judge Ralph R. Beistline imposed the sentence on Barker, age 20.

According to information presented to the court by Special Assistant United States Attorney Kelly Cavanaugh, who prosecuted the case, Barker was working at the Army and Air Force Exchange as a cashier. While working as a cashier Barker would fraudulently load gift cards full on her cash register, and then illegally take the gift cards and use them to purchase household items and to pay personal bills. Barker illegally loaded and used ten gift cards totaling \$12,315.20.

Prior to imposing sentence, Judge Beistline stated that this was a crime of a violation of trust and noted that Barker's actions were premeditated and intentional. He also informed Barker that she was fortunate to not receive any jail time for this offense and that her lack of criminal history played a large role in keeping her out of prison.

Mr. Loeffler commended the Air Force Office of Special Investigations for the investigation leading to the successful prosecution of Barker.

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