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# **News Release**

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## **Coon Rapids woman pleads guilty to obtaining controlled substance illegally**

A 40-year-old Coon Rapids woman pleaded guilty today in federal court to obtaining a controlled substance for her own use by fraud while employed as a registered nurse at a home health care agency.

Julie Crystal Fronk pleaded guilty to one count of obtaining a controlled substance by fraud. Fronk entered her plea on March 23 in Minneapolis before United States District Court Judge James Rosenbaum. Fronk was charged on March 4.

According to Fronk's plea agreement, she admitted that from May 2008 through July 2008, she knowingly and intentionally obtained Vicodin by misrepresentation, fraud and deception after the pills had been prescribed to others. Fronk also admitted she failed dispose of the Vicodin properly. Instead, she acquired the pills for her own use and benefit.

Fronk faces a potential maximum penalty of four years in prison. Judge Rosenbaum will determine Fronk's sentence at a future date. This case is the result of an investigation by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration-Office of Criminal Investigations, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Minneapolis Police Department. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Erika R. Mozangue.