



## *U.S. Department of Justice*

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### PRESS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

**December 29, 2010**

### **BANK EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL IDENTITY THEFT CHARGES**

This morning, **Roberta Dunsworth**, 53, a resident of Espanola, New Mexico, pleaded guilty to a federal aggravated identity theft charge before United States Magistrate Judge Lorenzo F. Garcia under a plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office. Dunsworth entered her guilty plea to Count 11 of a fourteen-count superseding indictment charging her with ten counts of bank fraud, two counts of aggravated identity theft, and two counts of fraudulent use of unauthorized access devices. Under the terms of Dunsworth's plea agreement, the remaining thirteen counts of the superseding indictment will be dismissed at the time of sentencing, which has yet to be scheduled. Dunsworth faces a two-year term of imprisonment at sentencing and will be required to pay restitution in the amount of \$26,159.60.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Dunsworth was employed as at the Wells Fargo Bank in Espanola, NM, when the offenses charged in the superseding indictment occurred. In her plea agreement, Dunsworth admitted that, between October 28, 2008 through March 24, 2009, while she was employed at the Wells Fargo Bank, she unlawfully used the identity of a bank customer, without the customer's knowledge or

authorization, to obtain a credit card and a debit card and to open bank accounts as part of the bank fraud violation charged in Count 1 of the superseding indictment.

In the plea agreement, Dunsworth explains that she transferred money belonging to the Wells Fargo Bank from a line of credit into a checking account and then withdrew the money through ATM transactions for her personal use. Dunsworth also explains that she used the credit card to obtain cash advances for her personal use. She admits unlawfully obtaining approximately \$16,766.19 by using the falsely acquired debit and credit cards. However, in the plea agreement, Dunsworth stipulates that the total loss suffered by Wells Fargo Bank as a result of her criminal conduct is \$26,159.60.

The case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspector Service and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mary L. Higgins.

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