



U.S. Department of Justice

***United States Attorney
Eastern District of Arkansas***

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LITTLE ROCK WOMAN SENTENCED FOR MAIL FRAUD

Little Rock -- United States Attorney Tim Griffin announced that Mary Melissa Banks Orsini, 52, of Little Rock was sentenced Monday, February 5, 2007 by United States District Judge James Moody.

Ms. Orsini was sentenced to 36 months incarceration in a federal prison for mail fraud. She was also ordered to receive mental health counseling and to pay \$493,486.85 in restitution. Ms. Orsini was ordered to serve three years of supervised release following her release from prison.

"I am grateful to the dedicated professionals of the FBI and IRS who worked with the U.S. Attorney's Office to bring this case to a successful conclusion," stated Griffin.

On August 10, 2006, Ms. Orsini pled guilty to a mail fraud charge brought against her for a scheme she used to redirect funds from her former employer, MDH Builders (MDH). Orsini was the comptroller for MDH from early 1994 until the fall of 2003. During her employment, Ms. Orsini diverted company funds to pay for her personal expenses without authorization. As part of this scheme, she often mailed payments through the United States Postal Service to personal accounts.

This investigation was conducted jointly by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation.

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