



## U.S. Department of Justice

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### **FORMER BELVIDERE CREDIT UNION MANAGER SENTENCED TO 4 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR EMBEZZLING FUNDS**

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ROBERT D. GRANT, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and DUANE E. WIRTH, Boone County Sheriff, today made the following announcement:

Yesterday, July 20, 2006, United States District Judge Philip G. Reinhard sentenced **JAMES WELIN**, 61 (DOB: 8/9/44) 1015 Randall Drive, Rockford, Illinois, to four months in federal prison without parole, to be followed by four months of home detention and three years supervised release, for embezzling \$29,815.26 from ABD Federal Credit Union of Belvidere, Illinois. The court also ordered Welin to pay restitution of \$31,532.69, and a fine of \$500.00.

Welin was formerly employed as the branch manager of ABD's branch office located at 3204 U.S. Business Route 20 in Belvidere. In pleading guilty to the embezzlement charge on April 20, 2006, Welin admitted that from March 1999 through August 2001, he stole cash from his drawer. Welin further admitted that he concealed his embezzlement with unauthorized cash withdrawals from the accounts of credit union customers. Welin acknowledged that he made these unauthorized withdrawals by forging the customers' names on the withdrawal slips. Welin also admitted that he further attempted to conceal his embezzlement by marking some of the customers accounts "no mail" to prevent monthly statements from being mailed to those customers. Welin acknowledged he used the \$29,815.26 he embezzled for personal purposes.

The case was investigated by the Rockford office of the FBI, with the assistance of the Boone County Sheriff's Department, and was prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Monica V. Mallory.

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