



# Department of Justice

**United States Attorney Gregory K. Davis  
Southern District of Mississippi**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2012  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mss](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mss)

CONTACT: SHEILA WILBANKS  
PHONE: (601) 965-4480  
FAX: (601) 965-4409

## **FORMER OFFICE MANAGER PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL BANK FRAUD**

Gulfport, Miss. -- Deanna Mickle, 42, of Florence, Mississippi, pled guilty in U.S. District Court today to federal bank fraud, U.S. Attorney Gregory K. Davis and FBI Special Agent in Charge Daniel McMullen announced.

Mickle was employed with the Jackson-based architectural firm Barlow Eddy Jenkins, P.A. ("BEJ") as bookkeeper and office manager. Beginning in 2004, Mickle stole money from the firm by writing checks to herself and forging the signature of a former employee who was authorized to sign checks on behalf of the firm. To conceal the fraud, she moved money around in various BEJ accounts at Trustmark National Bank. Over a seven year period, Mickle stole more than \$387,165.00 from the firm.

Mickle will be sentenced by Senior U.S. District Judge Tom S. Lee on August 16, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. and faces a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison and a \$1,000,000 fine.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mike Hurst.

###