



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian

Northern District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 20, 2011
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PRESS RELEASE

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced that BONNIE SIMSON, 41, of Manlius, N.Y. was arraigned today in U.S. District Court in Syracuse in connection with a sealed indictment charging her with one count of embezzlement from a program receiving federal funds, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 666(a)(1)(A). Magistrate Judge Andrew T. Baxter released her on conditions set by the court. If convicted, she faces a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years, a fine of \$250,000 and a term of supervised release of three years.

The indictment alleges that from about December of 2000 until March, 2011, during which time Simson was employed as the manager of the Patient Telephone and Television Services Program ("PTTSP") at St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse, New York, she appropriated to herself in excess of \$800,000 in currency from envelopes containing payments made by individual patients to the PTTSP and then inaccurately reported the amount of currency payments made by the patients in order to conceal her embezzlement.

This case resulted from an investigation conducted by the Electronic Crimes Task Force staffed by members of the United States Secret Service, Syracuse Resident Office, and

Syracuse Police Department. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney
Gwendolyn Carroll.

The charge is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and
unless proven guilty.

All press inquiries may be made to Executive Assistant United States Attorney John G.
Duncan, who may be reached at (315) 448-0672.