

Department of Justice

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## PRESS RELEASE

Sentencing in <u>United States v. Norman J. Stefanik</u>

United States Attorney Andrew T. Baxter announced today that Norman J. Stefanik, 52, of Watertown, New York, was sentenced on October 30, 2009 in Federal Court in Albany as the result of him plea of guilty to a one-count Indictment charging a violation of Title 29, United States Code Section 501(c) - Embezzlement From a Labor Union. U.S. District Judge David N. Hurd sentenced Stefanik to one year and one day of imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release. In addition, Stefanik was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$47,865.04.

Stefanik served as Treasurer of Steelworkers Local 1450 ("Local 1450"), a labor organization engaged in an industry affecting commerce. As Treasurer, his duties included handling funds owned or controlled by Local 1450 and disbursing these monies on behalf of the union for union business and paying expenses. The sentencing was in connection with Stefanik's admission that he had embezzled Local 1450 funds by not depositing cash realized from soda bottle redemptions and by writing checks for cash, which funds he then kept for his own use. The total amount of Local 1450 monies embezzled by Mr. Stefanik was \$47,865.04.

This case was investigated by the United States Department of Labor, Office of Labor-Management Standards in Buffalo, New York.

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