

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY  
SOUTHERN DIVISION  
LONDON

Eastern District of Kentucky  
**FILED**  
MAY 17 2019  
AT LONDON  
ROBERT R. CARR  
CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

V.

INFORMATION NO. 6:19-CR-25-REW  
18 U.S.C. § 1344(2)

MITZI SHAWN SEARS

\* \* \* \* \*

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES:

**BACKGROUND**

From on or about December 18, 2009, and continuing through on or about July 7, 2018, in Pulaski County, in the Eastern District of Kentucky,

**MITZI SHAWN SEARS**

did knowingly and intentionally execute a scheme to fraudulently obtain money and property under the custody and control of a financial institution insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses and concealment of material facts.

As part of the scheme, between August 24, 2010 and November 13, 2010, **MITZI SHAWN SEARS** wrote 16 checks totaling \$17,610 drawn on a Citizens National Bank account. She represented the checks to Citizens National Bank as having been signed by M.N., the account owner, when in reality she had written and signed them herself without M.N.'s authority to do so.

As a further part of the scheme, on or about August 8, 2014, **MITZI SHAWN**

**SEARS** used materially false information and pretenses to convince M.N. and L.N. to take out a \$40,000 loan from Citizens National Bank. **SEARS** convinced M.N. and L.N. that the \$40,000 was needed in connection with a real estate transaction that **SEARS** then knew did not, in fact, exist. **MITZI SHAWN SEARS** knew or should have known that this false information would be passed on to Citizens National Bank by M.N. and L.N., who were unaware of its falsity. The false information provided by **MITZI SHAWN SEARS** to M.N. and L.N. induced the bank to loan \$40,000 to M.N. and L.N., who then provided it to **MITZI SHAWN SEARS**.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1344(2).

**FORFEITURE ALLEGATION**  
**18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(2)(A)**

In committing the felony offense alleged in this Information, the same being punishable by imprisonment for more than one year, **MITZI SHAWN SEARS** shall forfeit to the United States, any property constituting, or derived from, proceeds she obtained directly or indirectly as the result of the violation, including, but not limited to, the following:

**REAL PROPERTY:**

Real Property and residence at 860 Happy Ridge Road, in the name of Leslie Gene Ard, by deed from Mitzi Wood Sears, Guardian of Noah Wood, a minor, and recorded in Deed Book 948, page 662, records of the Pulaski County Clerk's Office.

By virtue of the commission of the felony offense charged in this Information,

any and all interest the above listed defendant has in the above-described property is vested in the United States and hereby forfeited to the United States pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(2)(A).

  
ROBERT M. DUNCAN, JR.  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

**PENALTIES**

Imprisonment for not more than 30 years, fine of not more than \$1,000,000 or twice amount of loss, and supervised release for not more than 5 years.

**PLUS:** Mandatory special assessment of \$100.

**PLUS:** Restitution, if applicable.