Francis M. Hamilton III Acting United States Attorney Eastern District of Tennessee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 26, 2021 www.justice.gov/usao/tne

CONTACT: Rachelle Barnes Public Information Officer (865) 545-4167

LENOIR CITY WOMAN SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR ELDER FRAUD SCHEME

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. – On March 25, 2021, Christina Erin Myers, 39, of Lenoir City was sentenced by the Honorable Katherine A. Crytzer, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee, to serve 63 months in federal prison for Myers' wire fraud and money laundering convictions arising from her investment fraud scheme to deceive elderly victims. Myers was also ordered to pay more than \$400,000 in restitution to her victims.

In 2019, Myers pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud and one count of money laundering. In her plea agreement filed with the Court, Myers admitted to defrauding elderly victims by diverting to her own use the funds that her victims had provided to her for the purchase of real estate from Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, marketing non-existent senior communities, and promoting fictitious investment opportunities. Myers further admitted that she failed to invest the funds as she promised and diverted those funds for her personal benefit without the knowledge or authorization of her victims. Myers also admitted to making financial transactions with the stolen funds, and that she did so to keep her fraud scheme going.

The investigation was conducted by the Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation, the Lenoir City Police Department, and the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Frank M. Dale, Jr. represented the United States in court.

###