

For Immediate Release
April 7, 2011

**FORMER ESPANOLA BANK EMPLOYEE SENTENCED TO 24-MONTHS
IMPRISONMENT FOR FEDERAL IDENTITY THEFT CONVICTION**

ALBUQUERQUE – This afternoon in federal court in Albuquerque, **Roberta Dunsworth**, 53, a resident of Espanola, New Mexico, was sentenced to a 24-month term of imprisonment to be followed by one year of supervised release for her aggravated identity fraud conviction. As a condition of her supervised release, Dunsworth must perform 100 hours of community service. Dunsworth also was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$26,131.00 to Wells Fargo Bank, her former employer and the victim of her fraud. Dunsworth, who was on release under pretrial supervision during the pendency of the case, was ordered to surrender to the U.S. Bureau of Prisons within 60 days to begin serving her prison sentence.

Dunsworth was charged on December 1, 2010 in a fourteen-count superseding indictment alleging ten counts of bank fraud, two counts of aggravated identity theft, and two counts of fraudulent use of unauthorized access devices. She entered a guilty plea to Count 11 of that indictment, charging her with aggravated identity theft, on December 29, 2010 under a plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office. Under the terms of the plea agreement, the court will dismiss the remaining thirteen counts of the indictment.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Dunsworth was employed as at the Wells Fargo Bank in Espanola, NM, when the offenses charged in the superseding indictment occurred. In her plea agreement, Dunsworth admitted that, between October 28, 2008 through March 24, 2009, while she was employed at the Wells Fargo Bank, she unlawfully used the identity of a bank customer, without the customer's knowledge or authorization, to obtain a credit card and a debit card and to open bank accounts as part of the bank fraud violation

charged in Count 1 of the superseding indictment. Dunsworth explained that she transferred money belonging to the Wells Fargo Bank from a line of credit into a checking account and then withdrew the money through ATM transactions for her personal use. Dunsworth also explained that she used the credit card to obtain cash advances for her personal use. Although Dunsworth admitted unlawfully obtaining approximately \$16,766.19 by using the falsely acquired debit and credit cards, the total loss suffered by Wells Fargo Bank as a result of her criminal conduct was \$26,131.00.

The case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspector Service and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mary L. Higgins.

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