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**FORMER TECH BANK EMPLOYEE SENTENCED IN
FEDERAL COURT FOR EMBEZZLEMENT**

\$387,321.45 Stolen

Lafayette, La.: United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced today that a former customer service representative for Teche Federal Bank in New Iberia, La., was sentenced on Wednesday, June 6th, to 27 months in prison followed by five years of supervised release for embezzling \$387,321.45 from a number of bank customer accounts. U.S. District Judge Rebecca F. Doherty also ordered the defendant to pay full restitution.

Brandy Z. Rogers, 32, formerly of New Iberia, La., was charged in September of 2011 with embezzlement of bank funds while employed as a customer service representative for Teche Federal Bank. From June of 2008 through January of 2011, Rogers accessed customer accounts and certificates of deposits without the customers' knowledge or permission. She created a Teche Federal Bank account using a fictitious name and social security number. Some of the funds embezzled were deposited into this account and subsequently spent by Rogers who wrote checks using the fictitious identity. Another method used by Rogers was the creation and processing of loans in the names of Teche Federal Bank customers without their knowledge. She then issued and forged cashier's checks in the customer's name, and in an effort to conceal this scheme, Rogers altered the customers' IRS 1099 forms concerning interest that should have been earned by the victim bank customers.

Rogers acknowledged that she embezzled funds for her personal benefit, including the purchase of vehicles, home improvements, living expenses and entertainment. The total amount of money embezzled was \$387,321.45.

United States Attorney Finley stated, "Bank embezzlement is a serious offense that undermines society's trust that hard earned income and life savings are safe and secure in our financial institutions. We will use all the tools at our disposal to prosecute those who choose to commit such crimes and victimize the customers."

The case was investigated by Special Agent Kevin Bodden, United States Secret Service, and was prosecuted by Supervisory Assistant United States Attorney Richard A. Willis.

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