



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, January 4, 2007

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**Former Director of Accounting for PhRMA
Pleads Guilty to Embezzling \$700,000**

Washington, D.C. - Marcia Campbell, the former Director of Accounting for the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America ("PhRMA"), has pled guilty to embezzling \$700,000 over a 16-month period between 2005 and 2006, U.S. Attorney Jeffrey A. Taylor, Joseph Persichini, Jr., Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI's Washington Field Office, Guy Cottrell, Postal Inspector in Charge for the Washington Division, and Cathy L. Lanier, Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department, announced today.

Campbell pleaded guilty earlier today in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia before the Honorable Royce C. Lamberth to a one-count Information charging Wire Fraud.

In pleading guilty, Campbell, 46, of the 1300 block of Clifton Street, NW, Washington, D.C., admitted that she embezzled more than \$700,000 from PhRMA between June 9, 2005 and September 26, 2006. During this time period, Campbell accessed PhRMA's financial accounting system to re-route payments intended for legitimate PhRMA vendors to bank accounts that she controlled.

In addition to ten electronic funds transfers, Campbell instructed PhRMA's bank via telephone to make two wire transfers totaling \$85,000. Campbell directed most of these transfers into a bank account that she opened in the name of a fictitious entity, Crossing Border's bank account. Campbell took additional steps to conceal her crime. For example, when the bank statements arrived at PhRMA's Washington, D.C. headquarters evidencing the two wire transfers, Campbell physically altered the statements to remove any reference to Crossing Border's Travel. She replaced those entries on the bank statements with the names of legitimate PhRMA vendors.

Campbell is scheduled to be sentenced on March 14, 2007. She faces a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years and a fine of \$1,412,000 under the statute and a likely sentence of 41 to 51 months in prison pursuant to the plea agreement. Campbell has agreed as part of her plea agreement to make restitution to PhRMA in the amount of \$706,344. She also has consented to an Order of Forfeiture of the assets that have already been seized by the government and a money judgment in the amount of \$552,652, which she agreed constituted the balance of the proceeds she derived from the wire fraud scheme.

In announcing the guilty plea, U.S. Attorney Taylor, FBI Assistant Director in Charge Persichini, U.S. Postal Inspector in Charge Cottrell, and MPD Chief Lanier commended the investigatory work of FBI Special Agent Debra LaPrevotte, Postal Inspector Kevin Towers and MPD Detective Richard Espinosa. They also praised Assistant U.S. Attorney Susan B. Menzer, who is prosecuting the case.

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