



For Immediate Release
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MADIGAN: CHICAGO MAN FACES PRISON FOR THEFT FROM STEPMOTHER

Springfield - Attorney General Lisa Madigan today said a Chicago man will serve three years in prison after pleading guilty to forging and cashing thousands of dollars worth of checks from his elderly stepmother's account.

In Cook County Circuit Court on Wednesday, Judge Bertina Lampkin sentenced Renardo Means, 55, to the Illinois Department of Corrections on charges of Theft over \$10,000 and Forgery. According to Madigan, Means cashed \$19,000 in forged checks drawn earlier this year from his stepmother's account at the U.S. Employees Credit Union on South Dearborn in Chicago.

"My office vigorously prosecutes financial crimes committed by those who defraud sometimes vulnerable seniors out of their life savings," Madigan said.

Senior Assistant Attorney General Edward Snow prosecuted the case for Madigan's Financial Crimes Bureau. Special Agent Raymond Cheung of the Federal Protective Service (FPS), a division of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, conducted the investigation because Means' crimes were committed on federal property. FPS referred the case to Madigan's office.

"The mission of FPS is to provide law enforcement and security services to more than 8,800 federal facilities nationwide," said FPS Regional Director Kenton D. Terrell. "Our job is to fully investigate crimes that are committed on federal property, and we are pleased that justice was served in this case."

Madigan said FPS is working with the credit union to recover the money from the forged checks.

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