



June 9, 2010

**MADIGAN: COOK COUNTY MAN SENTENCED AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO
THEFT IN DuPAGE COUNTY**

Prison Term Concurrent with Earlier Cook County Conviction

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today announced that she has secured convictions of a Cook County man on multiple counts of theft stemming from false representations he made on loan applications in 2007.

Warren Nickel, 60, a disbarred attorney, pleaded guilty in DuPage County Circuit Court on Friday, June 4, to four counts of Theft over \$100,000, a Class 1 felony. Judge Blanche Fawell sentenced Nickel to five-and-one-half years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Between March and August 2007, Nickel defrauded IndyMac Bank of more than \$900,000 by misrepresenting his financial situation on loan applications in order to purchase four residential properties in Chicago and Evanston.

Attorney General Madigan said Nickel will serve his sentence concurrent to the sentence of five-and-one-half years handed down May 6, 2010, in Cook County Circuit Court where he pleaded guilty to two counts of Theft over \$10,000, Class 2 felonies. Nickel entered the pleas before Judge Douglas Simpson on that date in connection with theft from an elderly widow by forging a series of documents and in the second, admitting guilt to theft from the estate of an elderly Chicago man.

"Repeated financial crime and theft, particularly against seniors, are not tolerated and are vigorously pursued by my office," said Attorney General Madigan.

Senior Assistant Attorney General Neal Goodfriend of Madigan's Special Prosecutions Bureau and Inspector General Diane Saltoun prosecuted the case. The prosecution was the result of a joint investigation by the Attorney General's office and the Illinois State Police.

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