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December 29, 2011

**MADIGAN: CHICAGO AREA WOMAN CHEATED STATE'S DAY CARE PROGRAM**

**Chicago** — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today announced charges against a south suburban woman for defrauding the state of Illinois out of more than \$70,000 for day care services she never provided.

Defendant Yohvaughn Brown, 39, of Frankfort, appeared in court earlier today on charges of one count of theft of government money, a Class 1 felony punishable by four to 15 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections, and ten counts of wire fraud, a Class 3 felony punishable by two to five years in IDOC.

Madigan alleged that Brown submitted false billing to the state for \$71,243 for day care services she did not provide. Her bond was set at \$100,000 during a hearing before Judge Angela Petrone in the Circuit Court of Cook County, 2600 S. California Ave., Chicago.

"These charges allege that the defendant brazenly abused a vital service funded by taxpayers that hard-working parents rely on to help care for their children," Attorney General Madigan said.

Brown once served as the director of Starbright Learning Academy, which in November 2009 lost its lease to operate out of its location in south suburban Markham. Beginning in December 2009 through April 2010, Brown allegedly submitted false documents for services to the Illinois Department of Human Services, which administers the state's \$700 million annual program to subsidize day care costs for low-income, working parents.

Madigan brought the case based on information provided by Illinois Action for Children, which administers day care funding on behalf of IDHS in the Chicago area.

Deputy Bureau Chief Mary Bucaro, Assistant Attorney General David Navarro and Associate Director James S. Dorger, Jr. are handling the case for Madigan's Public Integrity Bureau.

The public is reminded that the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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