

PRESS RELEASE

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Marcia M. Meshak, 47, of Marshfield, Wis., was sentenced yesterday afternoon by Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 33 months in prison, to be followed by an three-year term of supervised release, for defrauding the customers of her travel agency. On May 22, 2008, Meshak pleaded guilty to committing wire fraud on May 22, 2008.

Meshak was also ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$208,621.00 to her customers, though Judge Crabb ordered a hearing for November 5, 2008 at 1:00 pm to determine the final amount owed by Meshak. Meshak objected to the restitution amount claimed by two businesses who handled her credit card transactions.

Meshak ran a travel agency in Marshfield known as Travel Pro. Between May and September 2007, Meshak accepted payment for reservations for hotels, airlines and various vacation plans from her customers. She failed to make the arrangements as promised, but instead kept the money given to her by the customers and used it to operate her business.

The charges against Meshak were the result of an investigation conducted by the

Marshfield Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution of this case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Peter M. Jarosz.

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