

ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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Theodore F. L. Housel
Prosecutor

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
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2 Page(s)

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MAYS LANDING – A bookkeeper at a Northfield accounting firm and former treasurer of the “Friends of Dennis Levison” campaign fund, was arrested and charged today with two counts of theft by deception for allegedly writing checks to herself totaling over \$107,879 for personal use, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel announced.

It is alleged that Patricia Ahearn, 31, of Egg Harbor City, wrote checks from three clients of the firm and diverted most of the money to her own personal checking account. A few of the checks were written and cashed by her and the rest were deposited into her personal checking account, stated Financial Crimes Unit Detective Edwin Cintron, the lead investigator in the case.

Ahearn turned herself in to the Atlantic County Prosecutor’s Office Financial Crimes Unit this morning. She was released on a summons.

On May 28, 2009 Michael Goloff, Certified Public Accountant in Northfield, and his wife, Carol Goloff, contacted the Prosecutor’s Office to report the theft. They advised law enforcement that they fired Ahearn as soon as they suspected her of stealing money from their clients. It is alleged that Ahearn wrote out a check to herself in the amount of over \$25,000 for the Friends of Dennis Levinson account, and over \$25,000 for the Emma Mary Amato Trust account. Ahearn took the remaining of the \$107, 879 from the Island Medical Associates Pa account.

Ahearn was processed and released on a summons pending a July 1, 2009 court date. The alleged thefts occurred from December 2007 to March 2009, during the course of her employment.

Ahearn’s first appearance is scheduled for July 1 in Northfield Municipal Court.

*****These charges are merely an accusation and not proof of guilt. In all criminal cases, a charged defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.**

Anyone with information involving serious crimes is asked to call the Atlantic County Prosecutor’s Office at 609-909-7800 or go to the Prosecutor’s Office Web

site at <http://www.acpo.org/tips.html> and provide information by filling out the form anonymously on the Submit a Tip page. People can also call Crime Stoppers at 609-652-1234 or 1-800-658-8477 (TIPS). Crime Stoppers offers cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and indictment of those who commit crimes in Atlantic County.