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Prosecutor Worthy Charges Michigan Lottery Employee

Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy charged Larry Lee Adams, 51, of Detroit in connection with an ongoing lottery theft scheme. Mr. Adams has been a District Sales Representative for the Michigan State Lottery Commission since 1998. Mr. Adams was the sole employee involved in a scheme where he would allegedly steal lottery tickets and profit from the winnings.

He redeemed the Michigan Lottery Instant game tickets worth approximately \$2929 at stores and gas stations around Detroit. Some of the instant lottery games were: "Wild Times", "Cash Word", "Holiday Magic" and "Merry Millions." The tickets stolen had a face value of \$1160. As a result the total amount stolen from the Michigan Lottery is \$4089.

Mr. Adams was charged in a 20 count information for conduct occurring between May 15, 2006, until June 29, 2006. There are five counts of Embezzlement by Public Official Over \$50.00, MCL 750.175, a charge that has a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. There are 13 counts of Misconduct In Office, MCL 750.505, a charge that has a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison. In addition, he has been charged with one count of Larceny in a Building, MCL 750.360, a charge that has a maximum penalty of 4 years in prison and one count of Attempted Embezzlement Over \$50.00, MCL 751.75, that has a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison.

Michigan Public Act 239 of 1972 strictly prohibits any Michigan Lottery employee or officer or their spouse or child, brother, sister or parent residing with the employee or officer from purchasing lottery tickets or receiving a lottery prize.

Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy stated: "Some may not realize that our vendors are an important part of the lottery program. At a time when we are desperate for resources to fund education around the state it is important that we prosecute a case of this type because this conduct is literally taking money from our children."

There will be a video arraignment today at 5:00 p.m. at the 36th District Court, located at 421 Madison Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

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