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TWO CHARGED WITH EMBEZZLEMENT OF BINGO PROCEEDS

The Office of the Wayne County Prosecutor working in conjunction with the Westland Police Department charged Neal William Greenfield, 41 of Westland and Shari Kay Greenfield, 39 of Livonia with Embezzlement of \$20,000 or more. This offense carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison.

The defendants allegedly took in excess of \$20,000 in proceeds from the Wayne Ford Civic League over a period of years from 1999 until 2004. The Wayne Ford Civil League is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located at 1645 North Wayne in Westland. The organization has sponsored baseball programs, trade shows and up until August 2004 held weekly BINGO games. The Wayne Ford Civic League Seniors participated in the BINGO games and used the proceeds for social events including dances, lunches and dinners.

An investigation revealed that significant amounts of money were missing from the Wayne Ford Civic League over an approximately 5-year period. During the time the money came up missing Mr. Greenfield was the president of the League until June 2004. Ms. Greenfield was vice president of the League until she divorced Mr. Greenfield in July 2003. The Greenfield's are alleged to have used their position of trust with the League to take money and appropriate it for their personal use.

Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy said, "Playing BINGO with my grandmother is among the best of my childhood memories. Unfortunately, there are people in this country who will steal from anyone or anything at anytime. You have to shake your head in disgust when you hear about stealing BINGO money from our seniors."

According to Westland Chief of Police Daniel Pfannes, "The charter of the Wayne Ford Civic League states that its mission is to facilitate neighborliness and to promote the general welfare of the community. It is quite obvious that these two former officers of the league decided to ignore their own charter and to enrich themselves. It is unfortunate that their individual wants superceded the needs of the youth and senior activities that could have been funded by the League."

The arraignment will be held today August 10, 2006 before Judge Bokos in the 18th District Court located at 36675 Ford Road in Westland Michigan.

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