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For Immediate Release

Prosecutor Worthy and Robert Bobb Announce Charges in DPS Investigations

Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy has charged five more individuals in connection with the Detroit Public Schools Office of the Inspector General investigation recently conducted at the request of Detroit Public Schools Emergency Financial Manager Robert Bobb. These charges are in addition to 2 individuals who were previously charged, bringing the total to 8. (See attached chart of all defendants currently charged.)

Charges are issued today against Maria Roscoe aka Maria Starkey, 46 of Eastpointe, Sandra Carter, 46 of Harper Woods and Roscoe Smiley 42, of Detroit. These charges are issued in connection with unauthorized payroll transactions. Defendant Starkey was employed by DPS in the Controls Office; in charge of issuing payments for special projects. She allegedly facilitated unauthorized payments to Carter and Smiley in return for a kickback.

Starkey has been charged with Embezzlement by Public Official more than \$50 – a 10-year felony; False Pretenses more than \$20,000 – a 10-year felony; Embezzlement Agent more than \$20,000 – a 10-year felony; False Pretenses more than \$1,000 – a 5-year felony; and, Embezzlement more than \$1,000 – a 5-year felony.

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Carter has been charged with Embezzlement by Public Official more than \$50 – a 10-year felony; False Pretenses more than \$20,000 – a 10-year felony; and, Embezzlement Agent more than \$20,000 – a 10-year felony.

Smiley has been charged with Embezzlement by Public Official more than \$50 – a 10-year felony; False Pretenses more than \$1,000 – a 5-year felony; and, Embezzlement more than \$1,000 – a 5-year felony.

Charges have also been issued against Tammi R Henry, 39 of Detroit. Defendant Henry was employed by DPS as the Satellite Coordinator in charge of food services at Burns Elementary School. It is alleged that during April 2009 she stole lunchroom receipts totaling over \$400. She has been charged with three counts of Embezzlement by Public Official > \$50, a 10-year felony.

Lisa Williams, 41 of Detroit was employed as a Level III Clerical at Bow Elementary School. In her position she handled a checkbook and was one of two required signatories on checks and withdrawal slips. During the period October 23, 2007 to November 30, 2008 she allegedly wrote and cashed fifteen checks for herself, totaling \$10,600 and made seventeen withdrawals totaling \$14,650 making the total amount taken \$25,250. Williams has been charged with Embezzlement by Public Official > \$50 and Embezzlement > \$20,000. Both charges are ten-year felonies.

Robert Bobb said, "It's time we put a final stop to those who still view DPS as their own personal bank account. The relationships that our Office of Inspector General has built with other law enforcement agencies, including the strong partnership with the Wayne County Prosecutor, will be a very effective deterrent to anyone who has still not heard the message. That message is: leave the resources that are meant for the children, for the children."

"The common theme in these cases is that there was a culture of corruption in the Detroit Public School System. Unfortunately, that was not a surprise at all," said Prosecutor Worthy. "What continues to be a surprise is how overt, conspicuous, and downright barefaced a lot of it is."

Arrangements are being made for the defendants to turn themselves in for arraignment.

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DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHARGES

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charges</u>	<u>Potential Penalty</u>	<u>Next Action Date</u>	<u>Summary of Allegation</u>
*Lisa Corean Williams, 41, Detroit. Employed as a Level III Clerical at Bow Elementary School.	Embezzlement by Public Official > \$50; Embezzlement > \$20,000	Both charges are 10-year felonies		Wrote and cashed 15 checks for herself, totaling over \$10,000 and made withdrawals of nearly \$15,000.
*Maria Roscoe aka Maria Starkey, 46 of Eastpointe. Employed in Controls Office of DPS.	Embezzlement by Public Official > \$50; False Pretenses > \$20,000; Embezzlement by Agent > \$20,000; False Pretenses > \$1,000; Embezzlement > \$1,000	Embezzlement by Public Official > \$50 – 10-year felony; False Pretenses > \$20,000 – 10-year felony; Embezzlement by Agent > \$20,000 – 10-year felony; False Pretenses > \$1,000 – 5-year felony; Embezzlement > \$1,000 – 5-year felony		Her job included booking “coaches pay” for employees. She fraudulently authorized over \$50,000 for Sandra Carter and \$2,400 for Roscoe Smiley.
*Roscoe Smiley, 42, Detroit. Employed as a DPS truck driver.	Embezzlement by Public Official > \$50; False Pretenses > \$1,000; Embezzlement > \$1,000	Embezzlement by Public Official > \$50 – 10-year felony; False Pretenses > \$1,000 – 5-year felony; Embezzlement > \$1,000 – 5-year felony		Accepted unauthorized pay and gave “kickbacks” to Defendant Maria Starkey.

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charges</u>	<u>Potential Penalty</u>	<u>Next Action Date</u>	<u>Summary of Allegation</u>
*Sandra Carter, 56, Harper Woods. Employed as Teacher's Aide at Denby High School.	Embezzlement by Public Official > \$50; False Pretenses > \$20,000; Embezzlement by Agent > \$20,000	Embezzlement by Public Official > \$50 – 10-year felony; False Pretenses > \$20,000 – 10-year felony; Embezzlement by Agent > \$20,000 – 10-year felony		Accepted unauthorized pay and gave “kickbacks” to Defendant Maria Starkey.
*Tammi Henry, 39, Detroit. Employed as a Satellite Coordinator in charge of food services at Burns Elementary.	Embezzlement by Public Official > \$50 (3 cts)	All charges are 10-year felonies		Accused of stealing lunchroom receipts, totaling over \$400.

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charges</u>	<u>Potential Penalty</u>	<u>Next Action Date</u>	<u>Summary of Allegation</u>
Roshell Washington, 40, Detroit. Employed as a security officer at Sherrill Elementary.	Assault & Battery	93-day misdemeanor	Pre-trial Conference: 9/2/2009	Assault of a Special Ed 12-year-old student.
Sean Chandler, 17, Detroit.	<u>09-019351</u> - Assault w/intent to Rob while Unarmed; Assault w/intent to do Great Bodily Harm; Resisting a Police Officer (2 cts); Aggravated Assault. <u>09-019352</u> – Robbery – Unarmed; Assault w/intent to do Great Bodily Harm; Aggravated Assault; Assault & Battery (2 cts)	Assault w/intent to Rob while Unarmed – 15 year felony; Assault w/intent to do Great Bodily Harm – 10 year felony; Resisting a Police Officer (2 cts) – 2-year felony; Aggravated Assault – 1-year misdemeanor. <u>09-019352</u> – Robbery – Unarmed – 15-year felony; Assault w/intent to do Great Bodily Harm – 10 year felony; Aggravated Assault – 1-year misdemeanor; Assault & Battery (2 cts) – 93-day misdemeanor	Arraignment on the Information: 8/12/2009 – Judge Groner	Assaulted students at Denby High School on two separate occasions.
* - New charges				