

District Attorney Marc Bennett  
18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Kansas



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For Immediate Release, October 25, 2016

**Wichita, Kansas** - A woman was sentenced for stealing more than \$70,000 from a Wichita business where she worked as the office manager.

Cheryl Applegate, 42 of Goddard, pled guilty in March to felony theft in Sedgwick County District Court. Prosecutors dismissed a second count of computer crime in return for her guilty plea to the theft.

In sworn testimony during the sentencing hearing last Friday, employees of Decker Electric testified that Applegate used the company credit card on personal expenses and took cash from the company while employed there in 2010, 2011, and 2012. Decker Electric owner Steve Decker said the thefts caused a financial hardship for his business that took more than one year to correct.

District Court Judge David Dahl ordered Applegate repay \$72,000 in monthly payments to Decker Electric for the next five years.

Judge Dahl told Applegate that if she missed her restitution payments, she would have to come to court to explain why.

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CONTACT: DAN DILLON, MEDIA COORDINATOR  
316-660-3707 [Dan.Dillon@SEDGWICK.GOV](mailto:Dan.Dillon@SEDGWICK.GOV)