

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



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For Immediate Release, September 20, 2016

**Wichita, Kansas** - A former office worker of an electric utility based in Cheney was sentenced for embezzling nearly \$200,000 from her employer.

Jamie L. Martin, 48 of Cheney, was ordered to repay \$186,986.83 to the Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative's insurer and another \$96,989.80 to the electric co-op for the costs of auditing the losses.

District Court Judge Stephen Ternes granted Martin five years of probation in order to allow her to attempt to make payments on the restitution. The judge told Martin that she could serve 22 months in prison if she violated her probation. Based on her lack of criminal history, Martin fell in a "presumptive probation" category.

Martin pleaded no contest earlier this year to felony theft and felony computer crime. She was accused of taking cash from customers of the electric co-op and then altering computer records to conceal the losses. According to testimony in the case, Martin over-billed other customers to cover the losses from 2009 to 2014.

Martin's attorney told Judge Ternes Tuesday that his client is collecting unemployment because she was fired from her most recent job as a result of the criminal conviction. Martin did not comment during the hearing.

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