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Alabama Attorney General



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## **Attorney General Steve Marshall Announces Conviction of Former Department of Public Health Employee Convicted of Stealing from Agency**

(MONTGOMERY)—Attorney General Steve Marshall announced the conviction of a former employee of the Alabama Department of Public Health for stealing more than \$18,000 from that agency. Crystal Laschell Fountain, 45, of Montgomery, pleaded guilty yesterday to first-degree theft of property. She was sentenced in Montgomery County Circuit Court to two years imprisonment and was ordered to pay full restitution.

Fountain, a former administrative support assistant with the Alabama Department of Public Health, stole the money over a five-year period during her employment with the agency. She worked for the Office of Emergency Medical Services division of the Alabama Department of Public Health between February 2012 and July 2017, where she was responsible for collecting emergency personnel application fees. One month after she began work, she began pocketing some of the cash emergency personnel application fees. An audit found that over five years, Fountain stole \$18,398.30. Fountain has since resigned and must repay the entire amount. Fountain's sentence will be suspended, and she will be placed on two years' probation to allow her to pay full restitution and all associated court costs and fees.

"The people of Alabama deserve to have confidence that taxpayers' money will be used for its proper public purpose," said Attorney General Marshall. "I am pleased that this defendant has been held to account and will be punished for abusing her position and betraying the public trust. Our citizens may be assured that, while most government employees are honest and dedicated public servants, those who commit violations will be prosecuted."

Attorney General Marshall thanked the Department of Public Health for its investigative assistance in this case. He commended Assistant Attorney General Jasper Roberts and Peggy Rossmanith as well as Special Agents of the Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Division, for their outstanding work to achieve this conviction.

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