

Sheriff



Edward Spooner • Sheriff Okaloosa County



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CHURCH BOOKKEEPER CHARGED WITH GRAND THEFT

A bookkeeper employed by a Crestview church since 2003 has been arrested by the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office on charges she stole approximately \$316,616 dollars of the church's finances.

37-year old Jeana Michelle Adams of 4684 Cahokia Run in Crestview is charged with grand theft over \$100,000, uttering a forged instrument, forgery, and racketeering. Church deacons and accountants at Emmanuel Baptist Church on James Lee Road started uncovering indications of forgeries in late 2009. They then contacted the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office in October.

An investigation revealed that Adams had been writing numerous church checks to herself and then depositing the money in her personal bank accounts. They also found evidence that Adams made purchases with her credit cards and then electronically transferred church funds into her credit card accounts.

Adams was arrested Tuesday and booked at the Okaloosa County Jail in Crestview.

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