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## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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### **FORMER CREDIT UNION MANAGER SENTENCED FOR GRAND THEFT** Receives Eight Year Sentence for Embezzlement

Boise, Idaho ... Gavin Gee, Director of the Idaho Department of Finance, announced that the Honorable Joel Horton, District Judge of the Fourth Judicial District, has sentenced Dorothy Rich to up to eight years in prison for embezzling from ESA Credit Union, located in Boise, while she was its manager. She will not be eligible for parole for at least three years. Ms. Rich has also been ordered to pay restitution to the credit union in the amount of \$52,500.

According to testimony presented at the sentencing hearing, the embezzlement was committed over a series of years, with Ms. Rich misappropriating funds from various expense accounts of the credit union, paying family members' health insurance premiums with credit union funds, taking unapproved "bonuses", and paying for cell phones for herself and a family member with credit union money. She was able to steal the funds, in part, through the fraudulent use of other employees' identities.

Gee stated, "We are fortunate in Idaho that these types of crimes do not occur very often in our financial institutions and, when they do, our courts impose severe sentences. Stealing from a credit union is stealing from your neighbors. I hope the message is received by others who are entrusted with the hard-earned money of our citizens."

Department of Finance examiners, along with the Boise City Police Department

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and the Attorney General’s Office, conducted the investigation. “We appreciate the quick and appropriate response taken by the board of directors of the credit union after the crime was discovered, the cooperation we received in the investigation from the credit union and all the law enforcement agencies, and particularly the diligence of the Ada County Prosecutor’s Office in this case,” said Gee.

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