

STATE OF MARYLAND

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STATE PROSECUTOR



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March 13, 2007

For Immediate Release

The Office of the State Prosecutor has announced that the Grand Jury for Washington County, Maryland has indicted Ricki Lynn Hemphill, of Hagerstown, Maryland, age 53, and his mother Constance Joan Rooke, of Hagerstown, Maryland, age 73.

The indictment of both defendants alleges that two stole and conspired to steal money from the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, also known as the Liquor Board, from 2001-2005. Ms. Rooke is the former office administrator of the Board of License Commissioners, and Mr. Hemphill is the former Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court for Washington County.

If convicted, the maximum penalty for theft is 15 years incarceration, a fine of \$25,000 or both, plus restitution. At this time, Mr. Hemphill and Ms. Rooke are only accused and are presumed innocent.

The two defendants are currently scheduled for arraignment on April 26, 2007.

The State Prosecutor, Robert A. Rohrbaugh, stated that the investigation is continuing.

21-K-07-38911
March Term, 2007

Criminal Trials

STATE OF MARYLAND

V.

Ricki Lynn Hemphill
DOB: 5/16/53

INDICTMENT

TRUE BILL

_____, Foreman

FILED

WITNESSES:

Erwin Burnick, Investigator
Office of the State Prosecutor

Sworn to the Grand Jury on this Bill of Indictment
This 13th day of March, 2007

_____, Clerk

PRESENTMENT—

March Term, 2007

Tracking No. 047021001086

The GRAND JURORS of the State of Maryland, for the body of Washington County, do on their oaths and affirmations present that RICKI LYNN HEMPHILL, from on or about June 1, 2001, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, and continuing through on or about July 20, 2005, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, in the County aforesaid, did willfully, knowingly and unlawfully steal by deception property belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, the value of which exceeded \$500.00, to wit: United States Currency (money) belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, in the form of unearned payroll checks payable to Constance Rooke and checks issued to Chalwyn, LLC, with the intent to deprive the Washington County Board of License Commissioners of the money, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Theft over \$500.00, *Criminal Law Article*, §§ 7-104; 7-103(f))
CJIS CODE 3 0521

STATE OF MARYLAND, COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, to wit:

The JURORS of the State of Maryland, for the body of Washington County, do on their oaths and affirmations present that RICKI LYNN HEMPHILL, from on or about June 1, 2001, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, and continuing through on or about July 20, 2005, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, in the County aforesaid, did willfully, knowingly and unlawfully steal by deception property belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, the value of which exceeded \$500.00, to wit: United States Currency (money) belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, in the form of unearned payroll checks payable to Constance Rooke and checks issued to Chalwyn, LLC, with the intent to deprive the Washington County Board of License Commissioners of the money, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Theft over \$500.00, *Criminal Law Article*, §§ 7-104; 7-103(f))
CJIS CODE 3 0521

SECOND COUNT

The GRAND JURORS of the State of Maryland, for the body of Washington County, do on their oaths and affirmations present that RICKI LYNN HEMPHILL, from on or about June 1, 2001, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, and continuing through on or about July 20, 2005, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, in the County aforesaid, did willfully, knowingly and unlawfully conspire with Constance Rooke to steal by deception property belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, the value of which exceeded \$500.00, to wit: United States Currency (money) belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, in the form of unearned payroll checks payable to Constance Rooke and checks issued to Chalwyn, LLC, with the intent to deprive the Washington County Board of License Commissioners of the money, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Conspiracy, *Common Law*)

Robert A. Rohrbaugh
State Prosecutor

21-K-07-38912
March Term, 2007

Criminal Trials

STATE OF MARYLAND

V.

Constance Joan Rooke
D.O.B.: 12/30/32

INDICTMENT

TRUE BILL

_____, Foreman

FILED

WITNESSES:

Erwin Burnick, Investigator
Office of the State Prosecutor

Sworn to the Grand Jury on this Bill of Indictment
This 13th day of March, 2007

_____, Clerk

PRESENTMENT—

March Term, 2007

Tracking No. 047021001090

The GRAND JURORS of the State of Maryland, for the body of Washington County, do on their oaths and affirmations present that CONSTANCE JOAN ROOKE, also known as Constance Joan Rook, from on or about June 1, 2001, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, and continuing through on or about July 20, 2005, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, in the County aforesaid, did willfully, knowingly and unlawfully steal by deception property belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, the value of which exceeded \$500.00, to wit: United States Currency (money) belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, in the form of unearned payroll checks payable to Constance Rooke and checks issued to Chalwyn, Inc., with the intent to deprive the Washington County Board of License Commissioners of the money, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Theft over \$500.00, *Criminal Law Article*, §§ 7-104; 7-103(f))
CJIS CODE 3 0521

STATE OF MARYLAND, COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, to wit:

The JURORS of the State of Maryland, for the body of Washington County, do on their oaths and affirmations present that CONSTANCE JOAN ROOKE, from on or about June 1, 2001, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, and continuing through on or about July 20, 2005, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, in the County aforesaid, did willfully, knowingly and unlawfully steal by deception property belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, the value of which exceeded \$500.00, to wit: United States Currency (money) belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, in the form of unearned payroll checks payable to Constance Rooke and checks issued to Chalwyn, Inc., with the intent to deprive the Washington County Board of License Commissioners of the money, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

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SECOND COUNT

The GRAND JURORS of the State of Maryland, for the body of Washington County, do on their oaths and affirmations present that CONSTANCE JOAN ROOKE, from on or about June 1, 2001, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, and continuing through on or about July 20, 2005, the exact date to the Grand Jury being unknown, in the County aforesaid, did willfully, knowingly and unlawfully conspire with Ricki Hemphill to steal by deception property belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, the value of which exceeded \$500.00, to wit: United States Currency (money) belonging to the Washington County Board of License Commissioners, in the form of unearned payroll checks payable to Constance Rooke and checks issued to Chalwyn, Inc., with the intent to deprive the Washington County Board of License Commissioners of the money, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Conspiracy, *Common Law*)

Robert A. Rohrbaugh
State Prosecutor