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NEWS RELEASE

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Feb. 19, 2016

Woman Sentenced for Embezzling from Catholic School in San Pedro

A 49-year-old woman was sentenced yesterday to five years of probation and community labor for stealing Scrip fundraising gift cards from Holy Trinity School in San Pedro, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Last week, defendant Kimberly Rauch (dob 1/12/67) pleaded guilty to a felony count of grand theft by embezzlement in case NA099415.

At Thursday's sentencing, Rauch was ordered by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Laura Laesecke to perform 150 days of Caltrans service and pay \$1,600 in restitution to the school.

Additionally, the judge prohibited Rauch from holding any formal or informal job positions or roles where she can handle or affect the finances of any organization.

Deputy District Attorney Brian Kang, who prosecuted the case, said at the time of the crime, Rauch had been a secretary at Holy Trinity School for two years.

In January 2014, school office staff discovered a pattern in the disappearance of Scrip fundraising gift cards, the prosecutor said. The school then notified law enforcement about the offense.

Following months of investigation, authorities determined that Rauch had stolen the gift cards between Jan. 30, 2013 to Jan. 23, 2014. The defendant was subsequently charged by the district attorney's office on July 7, 2014.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Harbor Community Police Station.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.