

Susana Martinez Governor

John Monforte, J.D. Acting Cabinet Secretary

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Former Eunice City Employee Sentenced for Embezzlement

Santa Fe, N.M. – A former Eunice City Employee has been sentenced for embezzling state funds from the municipal Eunice MVD Office.

Mercy Martinez, 43, pleaded guilty to one count of embezzlement, a third-degree felony. Martinez was sentenced to three years of confinement at the New Mexico Department of Corrections; all three years suspended. This is to be followed by two years of parole, in addition to three years of supervised probation. Martinez was sentenced by Fifth Judicial District Court Judge William G. W. Shoobridge.

"This sentencing says it loud and clear, New Mexico won't stand by while criminals try to take advantage," said John Monforte, Acting Cabinet Secretary for the Taxation and Revenue Department. "We will fight to punish offenders."

The Judge also ordered Martinez to make good faith efforts to pay restitution to the State of New Mexico during the time she is on probation.

Martinez submitted fraudulent deposit slips to the State of New Mexico during the time she was employed by the City of Eunice to process transactions for the Motor Vehicle Division. Martinez deposited the checks, but kept \$9694.30 in cash. The embezzlement occurred in May of 2015.

This case was investigated by the Tax Fraud Investigations Division of the Taxation and Revenue Department. To report tax fraud against the State of New Mexico, contact the Tax Fraud Hotline at 1-866-457-6789 or e-mail zero.fraud@state.nm.us.