



**Rod Underhill, District Attorney**  
**1021 SW Fourth Avenue, Room 600**  
**Portland, OR 97204-1193**  
**Phone: 503-988-3162 Fax: 503-988-3643**  
**www.mcda.us**

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**White Collar Crimes investigation results in 50 month prison sentence**

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that 40-year-old Mark McCarran received a 50 month prison sentence after being convicted of stealing approximately \$180,500 from his former employer.

At trial, which was held in late May, the state presented evidence to show that on May 31, 2016, McCarran was fired from his job and given his final paycheck in the amount of \$301.77.

The check was later deposited into McCarran's bank account but had been altered to \$1,001. Over the next six months, nearly 100 additional forged checks made out to McCarran were drawn on his former employer's bank account for a total loss of \$180,343.45.

The thefts were not discovered until January 2017.

Sentencing in this case was held June 27, 2019.

During the investigation, the Portland Police Bureau's White Collar Crimes Unit determined that the forged checks had been deposited into several bank accounts between five separate financial institutions, all of which were in McCarran's name.

At trial, the state presented evidence to show McCarran had been employed as a machinist for approximately 15 months. He was terminated because of too many unexcused absences.

When contacted by law enforcement, McCarran denied any wrong doing and claimed he was the victim of identity theft.

At trial, the state was allowed to present McCarran's prior criminal conviction of uttering a forged instrument.

McCarran was convicted of two counts of theft in the second degree, one count of identity theft, six counts of aggravated theft in the first degree, and six counts of aggravated identity theft.

He was acquitted of three counts of identity theft.

This case was litigated by Multnomah County Deputy District Attorney Sean Hughey.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office and the [Portland Police Bureau's White Collar Crimes Unit](#) continue to advocate that all organizations take [preventative measures](#) to limit their exposure to potential embezzlement. Furthermore, any organization that suspects the intentional misuse or misappropriation of funds or property by an employee should report those suspicions to law enforcement immediately.

Additionally, the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office reminds the community that it is important that businesses and non-profit organizations have redundancies in place to ensure proper accounting for cash, checks and credit/debit card transactions. All businesses should undergo routine financial audits that are conducted by a person or organization separate from the primary accountant. If employees are expected to handle cash, including making nightly deposits, businesses should ensure that there is always more than one employee present during cash counts and drop offs.

#MCDA#

Contact: Brent Weisberg, Communications Director  
Phone: 503.988.6567