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Leavenworth Woman Pleads Guilty to Federal Fraud Charge

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) A 53-year-old Leavenworth woman has pleaded guilty to federal bank fraud charges.

The U.S. Attorney's office for western Missouri says in a release Wednesday that Paula A. Cathey pleaded guilty to 15 counts of bank fraud. She is accused of embezzling more than \$561,000 from her Kansas City employer, Mega Industries Corp., a highway and general contractor construction company.

Cathey worked as controller for the company from 1997 through March 2011. In her plea, she admitted that she embezzled the money by depositing company checks in her personal bank account. The prosecutor's office said Cathey used the money for gambling.

A sentencing date hasn't been set. Cathey faces up to 30 years in prison, restitution and a \$1 million fine when sentenced.

Associated Press