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Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office **NEWS RELEASE**

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Former MCSO Fiscal Clerk Pleads Guilty to Felony Misconduct in Office in Cash Register Tap Scheme

Milwaukee, WI – Yesterday, in the case *State of Wisconsin vs. Latoya M. Daniels*, the defendant, Latoya M. Daniels, age 39, of Milwaukee, appeared before Judge Christopher Dee and pleaded guilty to one count of Misconduct in Public Office, 946.12(2) as a Class I Felony, in a case investigated by the MCSO Detective Bureau. Ms. Daniels, who had also been charged with Fraudulent Writings 943.39(1) as a Class H Felony, had that charge dismissed and read in pursuant to plea negotiations. Her sentencing hearing is scheduled for September 8, 2016. This guilty plea carries an exposure of 3 ½ years.

In this investigation, Daniels, who had worked as a fiscal affairs clerk in the Milwaukee County Jail, worked out of a cashier's office accepting money to be applied to bail and money to be applied to inmate accounts for use by the inmate while being held in the jail. The Sheriff's Fiscal Office routinely runs reports that are designed to identify variances between the amount of a cashier's actual daily deposit of Inmate Money and the amounts of all Inmate Money which the cashier accepted during his or her shift for that day. In auditing those transactions, Fiscal Affairs' managers noted discrepancies that signaled that Daniels was manipulating the Inmate Money portion of the system by falsely making her daily Cash Drawer Verification Report Form reflect less cash that she actually accepted at her cashier window. She then stole an amount of cash equal to her false entries into the Sheriff's accounting system.

Upon referral and investigation by MCSO Detectives, the total theft amounts in this scheme were found to total \$1,230. Ms. Daniels was terminated by Sheriff Clarke, and resigned in December 2015, prior to the matter being heard by the Personnel Review Board.

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