

4268

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF OKLAHOMA COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

CF - 2022 - 4 268

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Plaintiff,

vs.

JANET GAIL GRIGG
a/k/a Janet Gail Musick

Defendant.

TRUONG
INFORMATION

FILED IN DISTRICT COURT
OKLAHOMA COUNTY

SEP 27 2022

RICK WARREN
COURT CLERK

19 _____

David W. Prater, the District Attorney of Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, informs the District Court, that:

Count 1: From January 15, 2014, to June 20, 2019, in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, JANET GAIL GRIGG, did commit the crime of Embezzlement of Public Money, a felony, by willfully and knowingly embezzling public monies that came under her control and supervision as the Superintendent of Schools for Seeworth Academy and that were entrusted to her for the benefit of Seeworth Academy. JANET GAIL GRIGGS converted said public monies to her own use and benefit contrary to the provisions of Section 641 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma statutes and against the peace and dignity of the State of Oklahoma.

Count 2: From June 20, 2019, to April 28, 2020, in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, JANET GAIL GRIGG, did commit the crime of Embezzlement of Public Property, a felony, by willfully and knowingly embezzling the following public property, to-wit: a 2017 GMC Yukon automobile that was entrusted to her control and supervision and said defendant did appropriate and convert the same to her own use and benefit contrary to the provisions of Section 641 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma statutes and against the peace and dignity of the State of Oklahoma.

Count 3: From January 1, 2014, to June 20, 2019, in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, JANET GAIL GRIGG, did commit the crime of Embezzlement of Public Property, a felony, by willfully and knowingly embezzling the following public property, to-wit: computers and official records belonging to Seeworth Academy including financial and personnel records that were entrusted to her control and supervision and said defendant did appropriate and convert the same to her own use and benefit contrary to the provisions of Section 641 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma statutes and against the peace and dignity of the State of Oklahoma.

OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE:

Count 4: On or about March 8, 2022, the crime of Concealing Stolen Property was feloniously committed in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, by JANET GAIL GRIGG, who, willfully and knowingly concealed computers and official records belonging to Seeworth Academy, of a value in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00), which was in the possession and under the control of JANET GAIL GRIGG, while knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the property had been stolen, and which property had in fact been stolen, contrary to the provisions of Section 1713 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma statutes and against the peace and dignity of the State of Oklahoma.

Respectfully Submitted,
DAVID W. PRATER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY



JIMMY R. HARMON, OBA #17834
FIRST ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JRH 09/27/22

WITNESSES

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**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF OKLAHOMA COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA**

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.) Case No.
)
Grigg, Janet Gail)
Defendant.)

PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT FOR ARREST WARRANT

I, Investigator Phillips Hall, your Affiant, a Certified peace officer in the State of Oklahoma and employed by the Oklahoma County District Attorney's Office as a Criminal Investigator, due attest to the following facts as true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. The undersigned Affiant believes that probable cause exists for the arrest of the below named subject for the below listed crime(s) committed on the below listed date(s).

Name: Janet Gail Grigg
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race/Sex: W / F
H/W: 506/ 150
Address: [REDACTED]
City/State: Sentinel, OK 73664

Offense Address: [REDACTED]
Offense City, State: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73099
Offense Date: 03-04-2019

Offense(s) Committed/ Anticipated Charge(s):

1. 21 O.S. 1451.C Embezzlement by State Officer or Employee
2. 21 O.S. 1705 Grand Larceny
3. 21 O.S. 2001 Unlawful Proceeds Derived from Unlawful Activity
4. 47 O.S. 4-102 Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle
5. 21 O.S. 461 Theft of Records by a Custodian
6. 21 O.S. 463 Offering False Records for Recordation
7. 21 O.S. 348 Willful Neglect by a State Officer

Facts & Circumstances that support probable cause to arrest the above named subject are:

On November 16th, 2021 the Oklahoma State Auditor and Inspector's Office (SAI) completed a report detailing an audit of Justice Alma Wilson Seeworth Academy (Seeworth Academy). The audit concluded, in part, that the former director of Seeworth Academy, Janet Grigg, misappropriated approximately \$250,000 of public school funds over the course of more than a decade.

Following the public release of the report, SAI contacted and referred the case to the Oklahoma County District Attorney's Office to follow up on regarding further investigation into possible criminal charges.

On January 18, 2022, I met with SAI Senior Investigative Audit Supervisor/ Forensic Audit Division member Rainer Stachowitz. STACHOWITZ and I met for several hours regarding the SAI findings and was provided all relevant documentation from the SAI audit. Following our meeting I met with DA Investigator Stephen Ponder for a case briefing.

During our follow up investigation into the SAI audit findings, it was determined that GRIGG in fact had two main improper methods of obtaining school funds for personal use. The first method was through and from the Seeworth Academy "corporate account" (Bank Account #2). GRIGG allegedly opened this account with her own money however, the corporate account bears the Seeworth Academy name and was opened under the same tax ID number as the Seeworth Academy general fund account (Bank Account #1) and listed multiple Board Members as signers on the account. The corporate account was co-mingled with money obtained from the Seeworth Academy general fund and deposits were made into the corporate account from various sources including school sporting events and reimbursements for the school and checks were deposited into the corporate account from the school's general fund as "reimbursements". GRIGG used this "corporate account" as a personal spending account utilizing a debit card and checks as a means of purchasing goods, services and writing herself checks on the account to include withdrawing cash from ATM's at local casinos totaling more than \$4,500 and spending over \$9,950 on purchases from home shopping retailers (i.e. QVC, HSN) over a period of several years. Purchases from the corporate account (Bank Account #2) were not able to be verified as "board approved" or even known to the board to have been expenditures from general fund monies.

The second method GRIGG used to illegally obtain public school funds was through a merit-based monetary bonus system meant for Seeworth Academy staff members (other than herself). Through this system, the Seeworth Academy school board gave GRIGG a lump sum of funds with the understanding that GRIGG would pay bonuses to school staff based on their job performance, attendance record, etc. Instead, GRIGG would take a large percentage for herself and would usually pay the rest to the staff. From 2014-2019, GRIGG fraudulently awarded herself 31 bonuses totaling \$210,751. During those same years, GRIGG was awarded \$45,000 through 7 likely approved bonuses from the school board according to board minutes obtained.

A detailed example of GRIGG taking money from staff bonuses occurred in 2014 when the board allocated \$12,125 for staff bonuses but GRIGG paid herself \$7,000 of that amount (57%) leaving the rest for the staff. The lowest paid out staff bonus was \$25 and the highest was \$500. A second example showed that again in 2014, GRIGG paid out a lump sum of \$14,250 in bonuses. GRIGG took \$10,000 (70%) for herself and the other staff split the remaining \$4,250 among those who received bonuses.

It should be noted that GRIGG had the authority to determine the amount of money school staff would be bonused but she was NOT authorized to pay herself any bonuses. GRIGG's bonuses were voted on and approved separately by the Seeworth Academy school board typically in Executive Session. By all accounts, the school board was unaware that GRIGG was paying herself out of the staff bonuses while "double dipping" and receiving her own bonus throughout the year by the board separately.

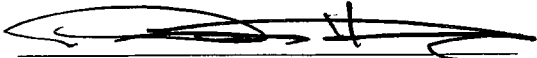
This trend of syphoning unauthorized payments from the school's general fund and spending from the corporate account continued until GRIGG was terminated from her position in 2019. As GRIGG continued to embezzle public funds through her termination in 2019, she also underreported her actual earnings to the State Department of Education (SDE) as required by law for several years. GRIGG falsely reported her income in what I believe was an attempt to hide her true earnings and not raise any red flags with the SDE. In her last full year in her position, she underreported her earnings by \$41,453. In 2017 she underreported by \$64,698 and in 2016 she underreported by \$59,743.

Evidence of these illegal financial transactions were confirmed in banking records obtained from the bank accounts of Seeworth Academy and from the personal banking account of GRIGG as well as transaction records from retailers such as HSN, QVC and Evine (ShopHQ). Further accounting records from Seeworth Academy, documented minutes from Seeworth Academy Board meetings and statements provided from board members further gave confirmation of the information we obtained. Based on this information and evidence, I believe GRIGG to have committed *Embezzlement by a State Officer or Employee*, received *Unlawful Proceeds Derived from Unlawful Activity*, committed *Willful Neglect by a State Officer* and *Offered False Records for Recordation* while acting in her official capacity as the Seeworth Academy Superintendent.

On March 8, 2022 Investigator Ponder and I executed a search warrant at GRIGG's residence located in Oklahoma City after receiving information about possible stolen Seeworth Academy computers and official documents that likely would be located there. Statements obtained from GRIGG'S co-workers indicated that GRIGG likely kept and/or destroyed Seeworth Academy documents, had stolen multiple computers and concealed property belonging to Seeworth Academy and/or Oklahoma City Public Schools (OKCPS) at her residence. A prior inventory of Seeworth Academy by State Auditors and Oklahoma City Public Schools (OKCPS) revealed multiple documents and other items were unaccounted for and missing as part of that audit.


Upon execution of the search warrant, we seized a large box of official documents pertaining to Seeworth Academy including financial records and personnel information. We also seized multiple computers/ electronic devices having belonged to Seeworth Academy and verified as such by the IT Director for Seeworth Academy at the time of their issuance. Based on his examination, he verified the computers were Seeworth Academy devices. He used his assigned administrative login credentials and GRIGG'S personal login credentials to access the devices I provided to him. He recalled the history of many of the items and gave specifics on where some of the devices were originally located and then moved to after GRIGG had been terminated from Seeworth Academy. Upon him accessing the computers, I observed several documents of interest located on their 'desktop' locations that had gone missing or were otherwise destroyed when they were paper copies per the State Auditor findings and through interviews. This observation led me to believe that electronic copies of otherwise missing/destroyed documents were maintained on these computers, specifically a desktop computer used by GRIGG in her office that was seized. I further ascertained that GRIGG had likely backed up documents to her computer, USB storage devices and/or to cloud storage. Based on this information and evidence, I believe GRIGG to have committed *Grand Larceny* and *Theft of Records by a Custodian*.

Following the closing of Seeworth Academy and absorption of monies and property by OKCPS, it was determined during the audit by SAI that a vehicle (described as a 2007 GMC Yukon) had been in the possession of GRIGG while she was employed by the school. This vehicle was found to have been unaccounted for and OKCPS was unaware of its existence. Subsequently in February 2020 the vehicle was located while parked in the driveway at the residence of GRIGG in Oklahoma City eight months after GRIGG was terminated and Seeworth ceased to exist as a public school. OKCPS was forced to repossess the vehicle from GRIGG's residence on or about April 28th, 2020 (10 months after GRIGG's termination). No Seeworth Academy documents exist that indicate the vehicle was a "gift" or otherwise show GRIGG was authorized to have the vehicle in her possession after she was terminated and following the dissolution of Seeworth Academy. The vehicle had no current insurance issued to it and it displayed a State of Oklahoma license plate indicative of a public school district vehicle. Based on this information and evidence, I believe GRIGG to have committed *Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle*.

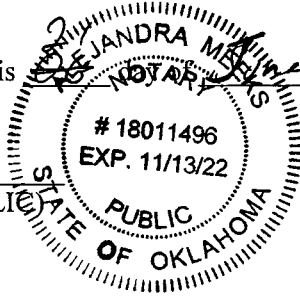


(SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ 20 22.



(SIGNATURE OF NOTARY PUBLIC)



This Court, having conducted a probable cause determination for the above named subject finds:

- That **probable cause does exist** for an arrest warrant for the subject.
- That **probable cause does not exist** for an arrest warrant for the subject.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20__ at _____m.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT