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MEDIA RELEASE

The Honolulu Prosecutor's Office was successful in convicting a Kaneohe woman of embezzling more than \$1.3 million from the landscaping company where she worked. Tamila A. Alcoran was sentenced to a maximum term of 20 years in prison by state Circuit Court Judge Paul Wong in July.

Alcoran was indicted by an O'ahu grand jury in December, 2016 on 311 counts including Theft in the First Degree, Identity Theft in the First Degree, Computer Fraud in the First Degree, Theft in the Second Degree, Identity Theft in the Second Degree, and Forgery in the Second Degree. In April 2017 she pleaded no contest to more than 300 of those charges. The case was presented by Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Chris Van Marter.

In 2008, Alcoran was hired as the Office Manager of Greg Boyer Hawaiian Landscapes Inc. That same year, Alcoran embarked on a series of sophisticated and prolonged embezzlement schemes against the company. Alcoran used the owner's personal information to obtain numerous fraudulent credit cards, and thereafter used those cards to obtain hundreds of thousands of dollars in merchandise and services. Alcoran then diverted funds from the company bank account to pay off the credit card charges. In addition to the credit card scheme, Alcoran also accessed the owner's online investment account, sold off the stock, and thereafter used the funds for expenses that were of a purely personal nature. Alcoran also forged company checks and used those checks to pay the rent of her Kane'ohe residence. Further still, Alcoran forged checks and made them payable to a "dummy corporation" that she created and that "existed only on paper". Further yet, she forged checks and made them payable to herself. Alcoran also forged checks to drain the personal and business equity accounts of the owner and his wife. Lastly, Alcoran applied for about a dozen fraudulent loans using the personal information of the owner, and thereby obtained, and later spent, hundreds of thousands of dollars on expenses that were of a purely personal nature. In all, during the period from 2008 through 2014, Alcoran stole \$1.3 million dollars from the company and the company's owner. As a result, the company went bankrupt, the owner's credit was ruined, and the owner was sued by the lenders when the fraudulent loans were not repaid.

Prosecuting Attorney Keith Kaneshiro said, "It represents one of the worst cases of embezzlement against a small business that's been prosecuted in recent memory. The Prosecutor's Office takes embezzlement cases against small businesses very seriously, especially when the case involves the misuse of technology. In 2012, the Prosecutor's Office re-wrote Hawai'i's computer crime laws to strengthen the penalties for those who use technology to commit crimes."

The indictment and ensuing conviction was the result of a lengthy investigation conducted by HPD's Financial Crimes Detail.