



Springboro Woman Indicted for Embezzlement from Youth Baseball Organization

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 2018

**DAVID P. FORNSHELL
(513) 695-1325**

Earlier today, Warren County Prosecutor David P. Fornshell announced the indictment of Renee K. Nichols, 46, of Springboro, Ohio, for aggravated theft, a felony of the 3rd degree, and tampering with records, also a felony of the 3rd degree, for allegedly embezzling funds from the Springboro Clearcreek Baseball Association (“SCBA”).

Nichols served as treasurer of SCBA starting in 2011 and continuing until 2017. From July 2013 through July 2017, Nichols is alleged to have stolen at least \$180,000 from SCBA’s bank account and used the funds for personal expenditures including a Disney vacation, personal credit card bills, and other personal expenditures. The scheme was discovered in 2017 when a new board member, who was a CPA and had experience in fraud investigations, began looking into the organization’s finances and discovered that Nichols had failed to file SCBA’s Form 990 with the IRS thereby threatening its tax-exempt status. When confronted, Nichols then doctored bank records to hide the nature of the expenditures. Investigators also believe that Nichols destroyed and disposed of the laptop containing SCBA’s historical financial information. Over the past several months, the board member worked closely with the Springboro Police Department and the financial institution to identify approximately 1,000 improper expenditures.

“The idea that funds that should have been used for things like replacing aging helmets to prevent concussions, instead were used as someone’s own personal slush fund, it’s infuriating,” said Fornshell.

Fornshell also reminded the public that the Warren County Prosecutor’s Office and the Warren County Police Chiefs Association are presenting their regular training for board members, officers, directors, and volunteers of church, school, youth, charitable, and other community organizations. During the training, Fornshell will discuss policies and procedures organizations can implement to protect themselves against internal theft. The one-hour training will be held Wednesday, October 24, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Warren County Prosecutor’s Office Multipurpose Room. Entry is through the main entrance of the Common Pleas Court Building, 500 Justice Drive, Lebanon, OH 45036.

“Over the past few years, we’ve had several high-profile theft cases from youth and community organizations. Every one of these thefts could have been prevented, or at least discovered very quickly, had these organizations implemented the policies and procedures we discuss in this presentation, which we have been offering for several years now. I strongly urge every community organization to send a representative to this training,” Fornshell said.



Warren County Prosecutor
David P. Fornshell
(513) 695-1325

<http://www.warrencountyprosecutor.com>

<http://www.co.warren.oh.us/clerkofcourt/>