

The seal of the Warren County Prosecuting Attorney is centered in the background. It features a circular design with a sunburst at the top, a central figure, and the text "Warren County Prosecuting Attorney Ohio" around the perimeter.

FORMER COUNTY EMPLOYEE SENTENCED TO PRISON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 19, 2012

**DAVID P. FORNSHELL
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A former Warren County Department of Human Services employee pled guilty today and was sentenced to serve four years in prison for stealing tens of thousands of dollars from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

Rebecca Green (formerly Butcher) pled guilty to three counts of theft in office and two counts of tampering with records, all felonies of the third degree. The remaining charges were dismissed. Warren County Common Pleas Court Judge Robert Peeler immediately imposed a sentence of three years in prison on the theft charges, and one year in prison on the tampering charges. Judge Peeler also ordered Green to pay \$146,300.00 in restitution.

Authorities from the Ohio Attorney General's Office and United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General, investigated a report of discrepancies as a result of an audit report released last fall by the Auditor of State. The investigation disclosed Green stole cash payments made by Medicaid recipients to meet eligibility thresholds, and manipulated recipients' files to make it appear they were eligible for benefits when they were not. Those individuals received benefits they were not entitled to receive.

A Warren County grand jury returned a multi-count indictment against Green in April for theft, theft in office, and tampering with records. Green was arrested on April 13, 2012, and has been in the Warren County jail since.

"Without question, the overwhelming majority of public employees are honest, hardworking professionals who are dedicated to performing the services entrusted to them by the public," said Warren County Prosecutor David Fornshell. "Unfortunately, Ms. Butcher broke that trust, and in the process damaged the reputations of her co-workers, the Department of Human Services, and Warren County government itself."

"Ms. Butcher has now admitted to her conduct, received an appropriate prison sentence for her crimes, and is responsible for paying back the money she stole from the Department of Human Services. I am satisfied that justice has been served in this case," Fornshell added.

Assistant Warren County Prosecutor Keith Anderson and Assistant Ohio Attorney General Nate Smith prosecuted the case on behalf of the state.



Warren County Prosecutor
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