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**Prosecutor's employee accused of embezzlement****Suspected of taking money from Maleng's campaign**

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**By TRACY JOHNSON**  
P-I REPORTER

A longtime employee of the King County Prosecutor's Office who was arrested in an Internet sex sting is now accused of embezzling more than \$72,000 from Prosecutor Norm Maleng's election campaign.

Maleng's campaign referred the new allegations against Lawrence Corrigan to the Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office, which is already handling the attempted child-molestation charge against Corrigan. The Snohomish prosecutor is handling the case to avoid a conflict of interest.

Corrigan is accused of arranging to have a sexual encounter with someone he thought was a 13-year-old girl last week. The fictitious girl was actually a Seattle police detective working to catch online predators.

In a letter to Snohomish County prosecutors Thursday, campaign treasurer Mike McKay, a prominent local attorney, wrote that Corrigan "was asked to surrender the campaign financial records and to cease his Maleng campaign bookkeeping duties, which he had performed for many years. At that time, he revealed that he had, over a period from May 2004 until early 2005, misappropriated more than \$72,000 in campaign funds..."

Corrigan returned about \$10,000 last January and arranged to pay back more than \$67,000 this week, McKay wrote.

Corrigan handled budget and finance matters for Maleng's office between 1979 and early last year -- most recently negotiating leases for office space and equipment. He has also helped organize kick-off breakfasts and helped with bookkeeping duties for Maleng's usually unopposed campaigns.

Maleng and his wife, Judy, have considered him a friend and are shocked by the allegations against him, said Maleng's spokesman, Dan Donohoe.

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*Tracy Johnson can be reached at 206-467-5942 or [tracyjohnson@seattlepi.com](mailto:tracyjohnson@seattlepi.com).*

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