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Plea deal in Weber school foundation embezzlement case

Former secretary pleads guilty on several counts, agrees to repay

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Posted: 10:11 AM- OGDEN - A former Weber School District Foundation secretary has pleaded guilty to reduced charges in the alleged embezzlement of nearly \$1 million in donations intended for students.

As part of a 2nd District Court plea deal, Denise Aughney, 47, agreed to repay all of the stolen funds.

She initially was charged with 57 counts of theft, money laundering and forgery.

Investigators alleged Aughney, an 11-year employee of the nonprofit foundation before she was terminated in December, forged more than 100 foundation checks and paid them to herself or personal credit or loan accounts she held with her husband.

She then allegedly created false check stubs showing the money went to various projects in the Weber School District.

Aughney later acknowledged she had taken the money.

The South Ogden woman said nothing in court this morning beyond entering her guilty plea to numerous counts.

She will remain in custody in the Weber County Jail until Judge Parley Baldwin sentences her on June 7.