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## **Former Citizens Bank Teller Pleads Guilty to Embezzlement**

JANUARY 11, 2013

BOSTON - A Rhode Island woman was convicted today of embezzling more than \$375,000 from the accounts of Citizens Bank customers.

Maria DaSilva, 44, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Richard Stearns to violating the federal bank fraud statute.

From February 2008 through January 2012, while she was working as a bank teller at the North Attleboro branch of Citizens Bank, DaSilva embezzled over \$375,000 from the accounts of three elderly bank customers by forging withdrawal slips on various accounts held by these customers.

Sentencing is scheduled for May 8, 2013. DaSilva faces up to 30 years in prison, to be followed by five years of supervised release and a \$1,00,000 fine.

United States Attorney Carmen M. Ortiz and Richard DesLauriers, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Boston Field Division, made the announcement today. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeremy Sternberg of Ortiz's Economic Crimes Unit.

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