

EDITOR'S PICK

Fredericksburg bank teller gets two years in jail for stealing from elderly customer

Keith Epps

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A woman who abused her position as a teller to steal nearly \$50,000 from an elderly woman was ordered Wednesday to serve two years in prison.

Allison Anne Crasco, 29, was sentenced in Fredericksburg Circuit Court to a total of 18 years with all but two years suspended. Judge Gordon Willis said he would have given Crasco more time had she not already repaid the money.

According to prosecutor Travis Bird, Crasco worked at the NSWC Federal Credit Union in the city. While employed there, she stole \$48,850 over a 10-month period that covered parts of 2013 and 2014.

After a family member noticed discrepancies in the 87-year-old victim's account, a complaint was filed with the credit union.

Crasco, who was arrested in December, was no longer working for the company when the complaint was filed. But the investigation showed that she was the only teller involved in the suspicious transactions.

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The money was taken in about 37 different transactions and the victim's name had been forged on withdrawal slips. Recorded surveillance film showed that the victim wasn't even in the credit union when the transactions took place.

Defense attorney Mark Murphy asked for a sentence toward the lower end of the recommended state sentencing guidelines, which called for a penalty of between a year and 10 months to four years and nine months. Murphy noted that the money had been repaid.

Crasco said the thefts were in part attributable to her substance abuse problems.

Bird said that while he is pleased the victim got her money back, Crasco still deserved punishment.

“She simply targeted an elderly woman with Alzheimer’s and thought she’d get away with it,” Bird said. “She wanted to lead a lifestyle she couldn’t afford.”

Bird said he had already rewarded Crasco for paying back the money by dropping four felony charges. She pleaded guilty to six felony counts of embezzlement.

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Covers crime for Fredericksburg region
