



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Woman Convicted for PFD Fraud

Juneau – On August 29, 2012, Soldotna resident Sherrie Ace, 62 years old, was convicted in Juneau Superior Court of one count of attempted theft in the second degree, a class A misdemeanor. Ms. Ace was convicted for submitting false statements on her 2010 PFD application concerning her Alaska residency and her Oregon residential fishing licenses in order to obtain a PFD check. As a result of information received from Kenai Alaska Fish & Wildlife Troopers, the Permanent Fund Dividend Division conducted its own investigation and did not issue Ms. Ace a 2010 PFD check.

In order to be eligible to receive a PFD, an individual must be an Alaska resident for at least the entire year immediately preceding January 1 of the current dividend year. In addition, an individual is not eligible for a dividend if the individual obtained a resident hunting, fishing, or trapping license from another state or country.

As part of the plea agreement, Sherrie Ace was sentenced to 10 months in jail with 10 months suspended; a fine of \$1,000 with \$1,000 suspended; and she will be on probation for two years. The court also imposed a life time ban on Ms. Ace applying for or receiving a PFD check as required under AS 43.23.035 for all individuals convicted of a crime in connection with making a false statement in the certification section of a PFD application.

The conviction is a result of an investigation conducted by the Alaska Department of Revenue's Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU). The CIU is tasked with the responsibility of conducting statewide investigations of criminal crimes and civil violations of Alaska statutes and regulations for the Tax Division, Permanent Fund Dividend Division and Child Support Services Division.

For information about the Department of Revenue or to report suspected tax or PFD fraud, the public may contact the Department of Revenue in person, by phone (Anchorage: (907) 269-0385 and Juneau (907) 465-2654), via e-mail, on the Department of Revenue's website at <http://www.tax.state.ak.us/> or on the hot tip fraud line for the Permanent Fund Division: dor.pfd.fraud@alaska.gov.
