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FORMER FUGITIVE SENTENCED TO MORE PRISON TIME FOR FAILURE TO SURRENDER TO SERVE A PRIOR PRISON SENTENCE

Also failed to begin payment of 4.5 million dollars in restitution

PHOENIX – Sharen Lee Stewart, 65, of Laveen, Ariz., was sentenced here yesterday by U.S. District Court Judge Earl H. Carroll to eight months in prison for Failure to Surrender for Service of Sentence. Stewart had originally failed to turn herself in on August 5, 2006 to begin her prior federal prison sentence for Wire Fraud in <u>United States v. Sharen Stewart, et al.</u> and was arrested on November 5, 2007, as she attempted to reenter the U.S. from Mexico at the Andrade, Calif. Port of Entry.

In her guilty plea on the latest offense, Steward admitted that on May 5, 2006, she was ordered to self surrender to the U.S. Marshals Service in August 2006 to begin her 30 month federal prison sentence but had failed to turn herself in. Stewart also admitted that she was to pay \$4,516,527.32 in restitution as a result of the previous conviction. Judge Carroll ordered that Stewart's new sentence be served consecutively to her prior sentence for Wire Fraud. Stewart was in custody during her sentencing and will remain in custody until the completion of her sentences on both cases.

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the U.S. Marshals Service. The prosecution was handled by Frederick A. Battista, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBERS: CR-07-1267-PHX-EHC

CR-03-1269-001-PHX-NVW(previous case)

RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-030(Stewart)