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IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT ANCHORAGE

STATE OF ALASKA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ELISA JEAN VAKALIS

DOB: 08/16/1978

APSIN ID: 6558801

DMV NO.:

ATN: 117649485

Defendant.

No. 3AN-21-_____CR(Elisa Jean Vakalis)

Search Warrant Nos. 3AN-20-4549SW, 3AN-20-4916SW, 3AN-21-1143SW, 3AN-21-1144SW, and 3AN-21-1174SW

INFORMATION

I certify this document and its attachments do not contain the (1) name of a victim of a sexual offense listed in AS 12.61.140 or (2) residence or business address or telephone number of a victim of or witness to any offense unless it is an address identifying the place of a crime or an address or telephone number in a transcript of a court proceeding and disclosure of the information was ordered by the court. The following counts charge a crime involving DOMESTIC VIOLENCE as defined in AS 18.66.990: None

Count I - AS 11.46.600(a)(2)
Scheme To Defraud
Elisa Jean Vakalis - 001

Count II - AS 11.46.120
Theft In The First Degree
Elisa Jean Vakalis - 002

Count III - AS 11.46.630(a)(1)
Falsifying Business Records
Elisa Jean Vakalis - 004

Count IV - AS 11.46.630(a)(1)
Falsifying Business Records
Elisa Jean Vakalis - 007

Count V - AS 11.46.285(a)(3)

1 Fraudulent Use Of An Access Device Or Identification Document
2 Elisa Jean Vakalis - 003

3 Count VI - AS 11.46.285(a)(3)
4 Fraudulent Use Of An Access Device Or Identification Document
5 Elisa Jean Vakalis - 006

6 THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROSECUTIONS CHARGES:

7 COUNT I

8 That in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or between May 31, 2019
9 and January 10, 2020, at or near Anchorage, ELISA JEAN VAKALIS engaged in
10 conduct constituting a scheme to defraud one or more persons of \$10,000 or to obtain
11 \$10,000 or more from one or more persons by false or fraudulent pretense,
12 representation, or promise and obtained property or services in accordance with the
13 scheme.

14 All of which is a Felony class B offense being contrary to and in violation of
15 11.46.600(a)(2) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

16 COUNT II

17 That in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or between May 31, 2019
18 and January 10, 2020, at or near Anchorage, ELISA JEAN VAKALIS committed the
19 crime of theft and the value of the property or services was \$25,000 or more.

20 All of which is a class B Felony offense being contrary to and in violation of AS
21 11.46.120 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

22 COUNT III

23 That in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or about August 1, 2019,
24 at or near Anchorage, ELISA JEAN VAKALIS with intent to defraud, made or caused a
25 false entry in the business records of an enterprise.
26

1 All of which is a Felony class C offense being contrary to and in violation of
2 11.46.630(a)(1) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

3
4 **COUNT IV**

5 That in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or about August 7, 2019,
6 at or near Anchorage, ELISA JEAN VAKALIS with intent to defraud, made or caused a
7 false entry in the business records of an enterprise.

8 All of which is a Felony class C offense being contrary to and in violation of
9 11.46.630(a)(1) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

10 **COUNT V**

11 That in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or about September 23,
12 2019, at or near Anchorage, ELISA JEAN VAKALIS with intent to defraud, used an
13 access device or identification document to obtain property or services with knowledge
14 that for any reason her use of the access device or identification document was
15 unauthorized by either the issuer or the person to whom the access device or
16 identification document was issued, and the value of the property or services obtained
17 was \$75 or more but less than \$25,000.

18 All of which is a class C Felony offense being contrary to and in violation of
19 AS11.46.285(a)(3) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

20 **COUNT VI**

21 That in the Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or about September 26,
22 2019, at or near Anchorage, ELISA JEAN VAKALIS with intent to defraud, used an
23 access device or identification document to obtain property or services with knowledge
24 that for any reason her use of the access device or identification document was
25 unauthorized by either the issuer or the person to whom the access device or
26 identification document was issued, and the value of the property or services obtained
27 was \$75 or more but less than \$25,000.

1 All of which is a class C Felony offense being contrary to and in violation of
2 AS11.46.285(a)(3) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

3 The undersigned swears under oath this Information is based upon a review of
4 police report 20-506991 submitted to date.
5

6 On May 27, 2020, Matthew Tomter filed a report with the Anchorage Police
7 Department alleging embezzlement from is restaurants by contracted bookkeeper ELISA
8 VAKALIS. VAKALIS was hired in February 2019 and was terminated in January 2020.
9 VAKALIS was hired as an independent contractor bookkeeper to do the accounting and
10 payroll from the Eagle River Alehouse, LLC, the Matanuska Brewing Downtown, LLC,
11 the Anchorage Alehouse, LLC, the Matanuska Brewing Company, LLC, and Alaska Keg,
12 LLC.

13 After VAKALIS was terminated, Tomter hired an accountant to do a forensic
14 accounting of the books of the various companies. Melissa Steen, the accountant found
15 issues with the books of three of the companies - Eagle River Alehouse, Matanuska
16 Brewing Downtown, and the Anchorage Alehouse. No issues were found for the
17 Matanuska Brewing Company or Alaska Keg.

18 Steen found three methods in which VAKALIS stole money from the companies
19 - payroll, petty cash, and vendor misappropriations.

20 Payroll: VAKALIS was hired as a 1099-MISC independent contractor at \$385 a
21 week per restaurant (\$1,155 total a week). The week of October 11, 2019, VAKALIS
22 paid herself as both an independent contractor and as a W-2 employee of each restaurant.
23 She continued to pay herself as a W-2 employee until she was terminated in January
24 2020. Tomter did not realize V AKALIS was paying herself as an employee until he was
25 informed by Steen. VAKALIS also paid herself extra pay or bonuses on several
26 occasions and gave herself a pay raise. Between the three restaurants, the alleged amount
27 stolen categorized as "payroll" is \$9,379.73.

1 Petty Cash: VAKALIS made out several checks to "petty cash" even though the
2 restaurants do not use a petty cash system per se but had house bank tills. There were
3 several "petty cash" checks for which there were no receipts. The backs of four of the
4 "petty cash" checks appeared to be signed by Leanne Parsons, the general manager of the
5 midtown restaurant Anchorage Alehouse. However, according to Leanne Parsons, the
6 signatures were not her signatures, but forgeries. Between the three restaurants, the
7 alleged amount stolen categorized as "petty cash" is \$5,749.58.

8 Vendor: In reviewing the Key bank account statements for the restaurants,
9 STEEN found two checks in the bank accounts of the Matanuska Brewing
10 Downtown that were made payable to VAKALIS. However, when Steen looked at the
11 Quickbooks entry for the check, the entry showed the checks had been made out to
12 vendors -which would generally indicate that V AKALIS made the check out to herself
13 then went back into Quickbooks and changed the record to reflect the vendor's name. The
14 two checks were check 2399 on August 1, 2019 for \$2,500 and check 2407 for \$2,000 on
15 August 7, 2019.

16 Additionally, Steen identified various credit card charges on a business credit
17 card issued to VAKALIS for her bookkeeping duties. There were two large charges.
18 One, a \$3,000 charge to a local law firm on September 23, 2019. This was a payment
19 made on behalf of ELISA VAKALIS in her divorce proceedings. Second, on September
20 26, 2019, a charge for \$2,814.53 at L&M Motors for repairs on a 2013 GMC Yukon
21 owned by ELISA VAKALIS. There were numerous smaller charges on the card issued
22 to VAKALIS. The total amount of unauthorized credit card charges was \$7,069.90.

BAIL INFORMATION


23 Per the Alaska Public Safety Information Network, the defendant has the
24 following convictions in Alaska:

25 The defendant has no criminal convictions in Alaska.

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27 Dated at Anchorage, Alaska, this 19th day of August, 2021.

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TREG R. TAYLOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: 

Lisa C. Kelley
Assistant Attorney General
Alaska Bar No. 0905008