



DAVID J. THOMAS
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Jefferson and Gilpin Counties

For Immediate Release – August 18, 2004

Contact: Pam Russell
Public Information
303-271-6905

RE: Linda Oday Pleads Guilty in Fraudulent use of LEAP Funds

Linda Jo Oday, DOB/11-12-56 of Arvada, appeared today in Jefferson County District Court and pled guilty to one count of forgery, a class five felony. Oday was one of seven women charged by Jefferson County District Attorney Dave Thomas last fall for fraudulently taking money from the Low Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) which was administered by the Jefferson County Department of Human Services.

Oday is a neighbor of Dolly Grismore-Davis, the lead worker for the program who approved LEAP applications. Oday fraudulently applied for, received and spent almost \$1,000 of the program's funds. Grismore-Davis pled guilty to theft, a class four felony; forgery, a class five felony; and embezzlement of public property, a class five felony on July 19. She will be sentenced on September 16.

The LEAP Program runs October through April and provides assistance for low-income residents of Jefferson County with their energy bills or for emergency furnace repairs. The total loss to the program was \$33,500.

Oday could potentially face between 1-3 years in prison and is scheduled to be sentenced on October 8, 2004 at 3:00 a.m. in Division 11 of the Jefferson County District Court.

-- end --

500 Jefferson County Parkway Golden, Colorado 80401 (303) 271-6800