Ex-worker Admits Theft from Leavenworth Company

(AP) - A woman who fled Kansas before she could be arrested on suspicion of stealing from her employer has pleaded guilty to forgery and theft from a Leavenworth County Company.

The Leavenworth Times reports 36-year-old Jaime Warhurst pleaded guilty Tuesday to 48 counts. Prosecutors dropped 24 other counts.

Warhurst was accused of stealing more than \$34,000 in 2010 and 2011 while working as a payroll accountant for National Cold Storage in southeast Leavenworth County. Prosecutors said she forged signatures on at least 56 checks, then cashed them.

The company reported the crimes in mid-2011, but Warhurst fled to Mississippi, New Mexico, Arizona and finally Utah, where she was arrested following an armed standoff.

Her plea agreement calls for a 30-month sentence, but the agreement is not binding on the judge.

Associated Press